

2013 Water Quality Report





Your 2014
Water Quality
Report

Introduction The City of South Pasadena (City) is committed to keeping you informed about the quality of your drinking water. This report is provided to you annually. It includes information describing where your drinking water comes from, the constituents found in your drinking water and how the water quality compares with the regulatory standards.

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From? The water supply for the City comes from three sources: (1) groundwater pumped from wells in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin, (2) surface water imported by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) from the Colorado River and from Northern California, and (3) groundwater from the City of Pasadena, which includes Metropolitan water, that is supplied to only the City's Pasadena Zone. Metropolitan filters imported surface water and adds chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, as a residual disinfectant. The City adds chlorine without ammonia, called free chlorine, to groundwater pumped from wells. A residual amount of free chlorine and chloramines in the distribution system helps prevent microorganisms from growing in the pipes.



The Quality of Your Water is Our Primary Concern

Local Groundwater

Pumping Station

What Is in My Drinking Water?

Your drinking water is tested by certified professional water system operators and certified laboratories to ensure its safety. The City routinely tests drinking water from its wells and distribution system pipes for bacterial and chemical contaminants while Metropolitan is responsible for testing its treated surface water purchased by the City. The City of Pasadena

is responsible for testing its groundwater purchased by the City for only the Pasadena Zone. The chart in this report shows the average and range of concentrations of the constituents tested in your drinking water during year 2013 or from the most recent tests.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) allows the City to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants in groundwater do not change frequently. Some of our data, although representative, are more than one year old.

The chart lists all the contaminants detected in your drinking water that have federal and state drinking water standards. Detected unregulated contaminants of interest are also included.

We are proud to report that during 2013, the drinking water provided by the City to your home met or surpassed all federal and state drinking water standards. We remain dedicated to providing you with a reliable supply of high quality drinking water.

What Contaminants May be Present in the Sources of My Drinking Water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

ABOUT SOUTH PASADENA PUBLIC WORKS We Provide Far More than Just Water!

The Public Works Department is responsible for streets, public buildings, water, sewer systems, street lighting and park maintenance. For a name change, or to start water service, call the Finance Department

at (626) 403-7259.

Because California's main water sources have been severly impacted by record dry conditions in recent years, we encourage everyone to become more conservation conscious. Visit **bewaterwise.com** to learn more about water savings, and the South Pasadena Public Works website for additional information about smart gardening and drought tolerant plants: cityofsouthpasadena.us/publicworks/water.html

• Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturallyoccurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gasoline stations, urban storm-

water runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

Are There Any Precautions the Public Should Consider?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing

chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ

transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

Conservation Tips for Inside Your Home

Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes

Saves up to 50 gallons per week

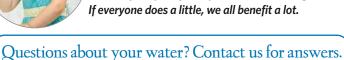
Fix household leaks promptly Saves up to 20 gallons per day

Spend only 5 minutes in the shower Saves up to 8 gallons each time

Turn off the water while you brush your teeth Saves up to 2.5 gallons per minute

> Buy water-saving devices like high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers. You'll save many gallons of water per day, and many of them are eligible for rebates. To learn more, visit www.bewaterwise.com.

Talk to your family and friends about saving water.



For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Mr. Anteneh Tesfaye at (626) 441-4024.

Regularly scheduled meetings of the City of South Pasadena City Council are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California 91030. The meetings provide an opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of your drinking water.



Important Information the EPA Would Like You to Know

Issues in Water Quality that Could Affect Your Health

Drinking Water Fluoridation

Metropolitan joined a majority of the nation's public water suppliers by adding fluoride to drinking water in order to prevent tooth decay. The average fluoride level in Metropolitan's treated water is 0.8 milligram per liter (mg/L). The City does not add additional fluoride to the local water because fluoride occurs naturally in groundwater. As shown on the water quality chart, the average fluoride concentration in the City's groundwater is 0.75 mg/L, while the average fluoride concentration in the City of Pasadena's groundwater that is supplied to only the Pasadena Zone is 0.9 mg/L.

About Lead in Tap Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline, at (800) 426-4791, or on the web at http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm.

Nitrate in Tap Water

Although nitrate in your drinking water never exceeds the MCL of 45 mg/L, nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity.



Conservation Tips for Outside Your Home

Water your lawn 1 to 2 days a week instead of 5 days a week

Saves up to 840 gallons per week

Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads and repair promptly

Saves up to 500 gallons per month

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks

Saves up to 150 gallons each time

Water your plants in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation and ineffective watering due to wind

Saves up to 25 gallons each time

Additional water saving steps and devices are also available, and some of these are eligible for substantial rebates. Consider replacing your lawn with drought tolerant plants, synthetic turf, or permeable hardscape. Or add rotating sprinkler nozzles, a weather-based controller, or a drip line to enhance your automated irrigation system. And mulch. Hundreds of gallons a year can be saved by simply using organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation.

Further conservation ideas, and complete rebate information, are available on the web at www.bewaterwise.com.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Source Water Assessments Groundwater Assessment

In accordance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City was completed in December 2002. The assessment concluded that the City's groundwater wells are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: dry cleaners, gasoline stations, automobile repair shops, high density housing and medical/dental office/clinics. In addition, the groundwater wells are considered most vulnerable to the following facility not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: leaking underground storage tanks. A copy of the complete assessment is available at the City of South Pasadena Water Department at 1414 Mission Street. South Pasadena, California 91030. You may request a summary of the assessment to be sent to you by contacting Mr. Anteneh Tesfaye at (626) 441-4042.

Imported (Metropolitan) Water Assessment

Every five years, Metropolitan is required by CDPH to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination in its State Water Project and Colorado River source waters. In 2012, Metropolitan submitted to CDPH its updated Watershed Sanitary Surveys for the Colorado River and State Water Project, which include suggestions



for how to better protect these source waters. Both source waters are exposed to stormwater runoff, recreational activities, wastewater discharges, wildlife, fires, and other watershed-related factors that could affect water quality.

USEPA also requires Metropolitan to complete one Source Water Assessment (SWA) that utilizes information collected in the watershed sanitary surveys. Metropolitan completed its SWA in December 2002. The SWA is used to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed.

A copy of the most recent summary of either Watershed Sanitary Survey or the SWA can be obtained by calling Metropolitan at (213) 217-6850.



What are Water Quality Standards?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and CDPH prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and CDPH set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The chart in this report shows the following types of water quality standards:

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible.
- Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance
 of drinking water.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level
 of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing
 evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of
 microbial contaminants.
- Primary Drinking Water Standard: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.
- Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Notification Level (NL): An advisory level which, if exceeded, requires the drinking water system to notify the governing body of the local agency in which users of the drinking water reside (i.e. city council, board of directors, and county board of supervisors).

How are Contaminants Measured?

- parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L);
 (3 drops in 42 gallons a large bathtub)
- parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L);
 (1 drop in 14,000 gallons an average swimming pool)
- parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L); (1 drop in 14,000,000 gallons - an average lake)

What is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and CDPH have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices. The chart in this report includes three types of water quality goals:

- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by USEPA.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level
 of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or
 expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use
 of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Continue continue 1	City of South Pasadena 2013 Water Quality Table													
Controller Con														
Property Name		or	(MCLG) or	DLR	Result ^(a)	Range	Recent	Result ^(a)	Range	Recent	Result ^(a)	Range	Recent	Typical Origins
Part	Primary Drinking Water Stan	dards – Hea	alth-Relate	d Standa	rds									
Microbiological Microbiolo	Filter Effluent Turbidity (NTU) (b)	TT = 1 NTU									0.05	-		
Process Proc	,, ,	samples	NA	NA	NR			NR			100%	-		Soil runoff
This is the second process of the control in the second process of the second process	Microbiological													
Restancia Antiform (Service) 20	Total Coliforms	5%	(0)	NA	0%	0%	Weekly				MCL Complia in the South F	nce Determined Pasadena Distrib	I from Testing oution System	Naturally present in the environment
Historica case Control Med Med	Disinfectant and Disinfection	n Byproduct	s ^(c)											
Common C	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (μg/L)	80	NA	0.5	3.3	ND - 4.5	Quarterly		MCI Complian		,	ACI Compliana		By-product of drinking water disinfection
Characteristic and act (Crignic) 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1								D ₄			Determined from Testing			
Control Cont										5				
Substitution (pg) Property (pg) Fig. Substitution (pg) Fig. Fig	Chlorine Residual as Cl2 (mg/L)	[4]	[4]	NA	0.56	0.15 – 1	Weekly							Drinking water disinfectant
Control Cont	Organic Chemicals													
Place Plac							Weekly							
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Number Content Conte														
Authorizon (mg/L) 1		5	1.7	0.5	1.3	ND - 2.2	Weekly	0.93	ND - 3.6	2013	ND	ND	2013	Discharge from industrial activities
Part	Inorganic Chemicals													
Company Mar 13 03 0.50 0.		1												
Company Comp	Barium (mg/L)	1	2	0.1							ND	ND	2013	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluride (mg/L) Marually-occurring 2						Exceeded the AL		in the Sout	h Pasadena Distri	bution System				
Flucidis (ingli) Teachemin-related Optimal Range 0.7 - 1.3 mg/L Cead (ignt) Optimal Range 0.7 - 1.3 mg/L Optimal Range 0.7 - 1.3 mg/L Cead (ignt) Optimal Range 0.7 - 1.3 mg/L Cead (ignt) Optimal Range 0.7 - 1.3 mg/L Cead (ig			. ,								ND		2013	·
Lead (gg)			<u>'</u>		0.75		2013	0.9		2013	0.0		2012	
Netae and No (mg1) M		Ориппат К	ange 0.7 – 1.		ND		2012	MCI Comp		d from Tostina	0.8	0.7 - 1.0	2013	water additive for dental fleatiff
Note as NO; (mg)1 9	Lead (µg/L) ^(e)	AL = 15	0.2	5	ND							NR		Corrosion of household plumbing system
Redioactivity Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCIV) 15	Nitrate as NO ₃ (mg/L) (d)	45	45	2	25						2.2	2.2	2013	Leaching from fertilizer use
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCit) 15 (0) 3 <3 ND − 7.5 2007 2.7 ND − 7.4 2013 ND ND 3 2011 Erosion of natural deposits Gross Sea Particle Activity (pCit) 50 (0) 4 NR NR 4 3 − 5 2013 4 ND − 6 2011 Decay of natural and man-made deposits Unaintificity 20 0.43 1 2.2 ND − 6.5 2011 4.6 4.2 − 5.6 2013 2 1 − 2 2011 Erosion of natural deposits Unaintificity 10 20 0.43 1 2.2 ND − 6.5 2011 4.6 4.2 − 5.6 2013 2 1 − 2 2011 Erosion of natural deposits Unaintificity 10 20 0.43 1 2.2 ND − 6.5 2011 4.6 4.2 − 5.6 2013 2 1 − 2 2011 Erosion of natural deposits Unaintificity 10 20 0.0 0 50 ND ND ND 2012 ND ND 2013 ND ND 2013 140 95 − 220 2013 Used for treatment of MVIO surface water Color (Units) 15 NA NA ND ND 2012 ND 2013 ND ND 2014 ND ND 2014 ND ND 2015 ND ND 2016 ND ND 2018 ND ND 201	Perchlorate (µg/L) (d)	6	6	4	ND	ND	2013	14	ND - 46	2013	ND	ND	2013	Discharge from industrial activities
Gross Bear Particle Activity (pC(IL) 50 (i) 4 NR	Radioactivity										-			
Gross Bear Particle Activity (pC(IL) 50	Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	3	<3	ND - 7.5	2007	2.7	ND - 7.4	2013	ND	ND - 3	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Drinking Water Standards - Aesthetic Standards, Not Health-Related		50		4		NR		4	3 – 5	2013	4	ND - 6	2011	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Aluminum (grg1) (**) 200	Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	1	2.2	ND - 6.5	2011	4.6	4.2 - 5.6	2013	2	1 – 2	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
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Color (Units) 15	Aluminum (µg/L) ^(f)	200	600	50	ND	ND	2013	ND	ND	2013	140	95 – 220	2013	Used for treatment of MWD surface water
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Suffate (mg/L) Soo NA O.5 Soo 31 - 78 2012 84 48 - 143 2013 180 170 - 190 2013 Runoff/leaching from natural deposits								1						
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) 1,000 NA NA 340 250 – 500 2013 405 260 – 566 2013 530 520 – 540 2013 Runoff/leaching from natural deposits														
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Strontium (µg/L) NA NA NR in 2013 351 300 – 440 2013 NR Runoff/leaching from natural deposits														71
Vanadium (μg/L) NL = 50 NA NA NR in 2013 11 6.8 – 15 2013 NR Naturally-occurring industrial waste discharge	Strontium (µg/L)													
	Vanadium (µg/L)	NL = 50	NA	NA		NR in 2013		11	6.8 – 15	2013		NR		Naturally-occurring industrial waste discharge

Want Additional Information?

There's a wealth of information on the internet about Drinking Water Quality and water issues in general. A good place to begin your research is the City of South Pasadena public works website:

www.cityofsouthpasadena.us/publicworks/water.html

In addition to extensive information about your local water and the support and services we offer, you'll find links for many other local, statewide, and national resources.

mg/L = parts per million or milliorams per liter: AL = Action Level: ND = Not Detected at DLR: mg/L = parts per billion or minigrams per niet, nZ = Action Ever, nZ = Not Detected a LDLY, mg/L = parts per billion or micrograms per liter; DLR = Detection Limit for Purposes of Reporting; NA = No Applicable Limit; ng/L = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter; pCi/L = picoCuries per liter; MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; NL = Notification Level; mho/cm = micromhos per centimeter; MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; PHG = Public Health Goal; NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units; NR = Not Required to be Sampled; MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

- (a) The results reported in the table are average concentrations of the constituents detected in your drinking water during year 2013 or from the most recent tests, except for filter effluent turbidity, TTHM, HAA5, chlorine residual, chloramine residual, lead, and copper which are described below.
- Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, an indication of particulate matter, some of which might include harmful microorganisms that are difficult to detect, such as the parasites Giardia and Cryptosporidium. Consistently low turbidity in Metropolitan's filtered water indicates complete removal of any harmful microorganisms that may be present. The table gives the highest single turbidity measurement that was recorded and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the requirements of the surface water treatment technique.
- (c) Samples were collected in the City of South Pasadena distribution system. The running annual averages and the range of the individual results for chlorine residuals, TTHM and HAA5 are reported.
- (d) The City of Pasadena well water is either blended with Metropolitan water or treated at the Monk Hill Treatment System before being delivered to the customers. Once blended or treated, the chemical was well below the MCL.
- Thirty-one lead and copper samples were collected in September 2012 at residential taps. The 90th percentile concentration is reported in the table. Out of 31 residences sampled, copper was detected at or above the DLR in 21 samples but none exceeded the Action Level. Lead was not
- detected and above the DLR in Z-samples but none exceeded the Action Level. Lead was not detected in any sample at or above the DLR. Aluminum also has a secondary MCL of 200 µg/L. 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TC) was detected at two wells at concentrations above the Notification Level (NL). The NL is an advisory level which, if exceeded, requires the drinking water system to notify the governing body of the local agency in which users of the drinking water reside. Water from these wells was blended with water that had no 1,2,3-TCP detection. The highest concentration of 1,2,3-TCP detected in the distribution system was about five times the NL CDPH recommends source removal if 1,2,3-TCP is detected over 100 times the NL.

For more information or questions, please contact Mr. Anteneh Tesfaye, City of South Pasadena, 825 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California 91030. Telephone: (626) 441-4024



It's official: California is in a drought.

2013 was the driest year on record, and as dry conditions continue, some regions throughout the state are being severely impacted.

On January 17, 2014, Governor Brown declared a drought emergency and asked that all Californians voluntarily reduce their water use by 20%. While there is no immediate danger of water supply interruptions here in Orange County, we must use our water supplies as efficiently as possible because we don't know how long the drought will last.

Southern California is well-prepared and in better shape than many of those in other parts of the state because we made investments for dry periods like this. Over the past 20 years, we have invested more than \$15 billion in water storage and infrastructure improvements that will help sustain us now, and will help ensure reliability in the future. The drought is a serious reminder that we must continue to invest in water infrastructure and reliability projects.



City of South Pasadena Public Works Department

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This report contains important information about your drinking water.

Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Para mas información ó traducción, favor de contactar a Mr. Anteneh Tesfaye, (626) 441-4024.

這份報告包含有關閣下飲用水水質的重要資訊, 請找他人寫你翻譯及解釋淸楚 如果您有任何問題,或是須要更多資訊,請聯絡