

# Yermo Water Company 2013/2014 Consumer Confidence Report and Annual Water Quality Report

# APPLE VALLEY RANCHOS WATER COMPANY™

Yermo Water Company is pleased to provide you with a copy of this year's Annual Water Quality Report. Please feel free to contact us should you ever have any questions about service or quality.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

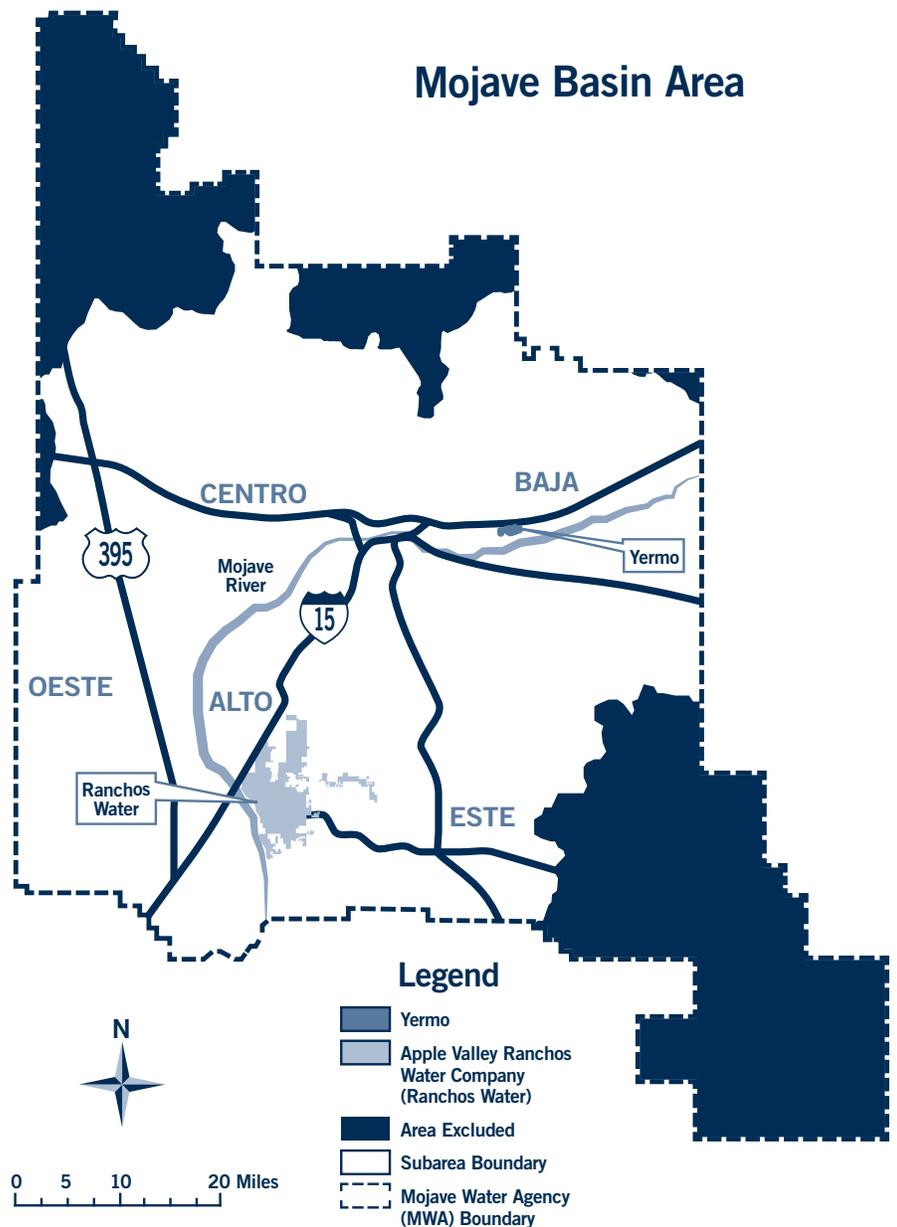
## Yermo Water Company Sources

Yermo Water Company (Yermo Water) pumps 100% of our source water from 3 wells, located throughout the community. Last year, only two wells operated, the Marine 1 well which operated in the main Yermo water system and the Helbro 1 well which operates in the smaller system along Frontier Avenue to the West. These wells draw water from the deep Baja subunit of the Mojave ground water basin. This high quality aquifer is recharged from snowmelt from the San Bernardino Mountains to the south and the Mojave River to the west. Also, the Mojave Water Agency (MWA) imports water from the California State Water project to spread in the Mojave River to help recharge the ground water. The map below depicts the location of the Yermo Water service area near the intersection of Interstate 15 and CA 40 in the Baja subunit. Also shown is the service area of Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (Ranchos Water), who is now operating Yermo Water.

## Sensitive Populations May Be More Vulnerable

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Persons with compromised immune systems such as those 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 provider. The USEPA and the national Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants. These are available by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## Mojave Basin Area



## What EPA Says About the Kinds of Contaminants That Might Be Found In Drinking Water

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB-DDW) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and SWRCB-DDW regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in untreated source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas productions and mining activities.

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. The tables in this report indicate which minerals and substances have been detected in the water provided by Yermo Water. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. You can also go to the following websites for more information:

**USEPA** – [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater)

**SWRCB, Division of Drinking Water** – [waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/publicwatersystems.shtml](http://waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/publicwatersystems.shtml)

## What are drinking water standards?

Drinking water standards are regulations that the EPA sets to control the level of contaminants in the nation's drinking water. EPA, the SWRCB-DDW and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) are the agencies responsible for establishing drinking water quality standards in California. These standards are part of the Safe Drinking Water Act's "multiple barrier" approach to drinking water protection, which includes assessing and protecting drinking water sources; protecting wells and surface water; making sure water is treated as needed by the appropriate treatment technology by qualified operators; ensuring the integrity of distribution systems; and making information available to the public on the quality of their drinking water. With the involvement of EPA, SWRCB-DDW, the CPUC, drinking water utilities, communities and citizens, these multiple barriers ensure that tap water is safe to drink. The water delivered to your home meets standards required by EPA, SWRCB-DDW and CPUC.

If you would like more information about water quality, or to find out about upcoming opportunities to participate in public meetings, please call Adam Ambrose of Ranchos Water at 760-240-8332.

**This report describes those contaminants that have been detected in the analysis of almost 200 different potential contaminants, nearly 100 of which are regulated by EPA and the California Department of Public Health. Dozens of samples analyzed every year by Yermo Water contract certified laboratories assure that all primary (health related)**

**and secondary (aesthetic) drinking water standards are being met. See the tables on the following pages to see how your water quality rates.**

This report is intended to provide information for all water users. If received by an absentee landlord, a business, or a school, please share the information with tenants, employees or students. We will be happy to make additional copies of this report available. Complete records of water quality analyses are open for inspection by the public upon request. You may also access this report on the Ranchos Water web site at [avrwater.com](http://avrwater.com).

## Source Water Assessment Completed and Available

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments required states to perform an assessment of potentially contaminating activities near drinking water sources of all water utilities. The SWRCB-DDW completed the Source Water Assessment in 2003 and updated it in 2011. Yermo Water wells are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with potential contamination of ground water: housing – low and high density, septic systems – low and high density, and transportation corridors – roads/streets. Additional activities that are potentially vulnerable for our wells are: transportation corridors – freeways/state highways, schools, railroad yards/maintenance/fueling areas, and underground storage tanks.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at Ranchos Water and at the SWRCB-DDW San Bernardino office. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Adam Ambrose of Ranchos Water at 760-240-8332 or by calling the SWRCB-DDW San Bernardino office at 909-383-4328.

You may also access these summaries on the world-wide-web at: [swap.des.ucdavis.edu/TSinfo/TSsources.asp?mySystem=3610118](http://swap.des.ucdavis.edu/TSinfo/TSsources.asp?mySystem=3610118)

## Issues to Know About

**Lead and Copper** The USEPA and SWRCB-DDW require the following information be presented in this report. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health 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. Yermo Water 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Special Notice – Notification to Yermo Water Company customers

On September 8, 2014, the operation of Yermo Water Company (Yermo Water) was transferred to Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (Ranchos Water). Ranchos Water is providing public notification on several violations of the California Health and Safety Code and California Safe Drinking Water Act that occurred prior to Ranchos Water's operation of Yermo Water. As required by law, notice of these violations to customers were never provided by the prior operator. None of these violations are viewed as a health hazard. Other than compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule, none of these violations require further action. Ranchos will begin compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule, which includes the proper collection of samples in December 2014, as instructed by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.

1) During the months of October 2012 and August 2013 routine total coliform bacteria samples were positive for total coliform bacteria, but negative for fecal coliform and *E. coli* bacteria. Two or more samples were positive for coliform bacteria during these months, which require notification to consumers. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health

standards. In October 2012 and August 2013, we did not monitor or test for total coliform bacteria, and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environments and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

2) When a water system has one or more total coliform positive samples, it is required to collect five routine samples the following month. Yermo Water Company failed to collect five repeat samples following a month with a positive total coliform sample during the months of March 2012, August 2012, October 2012 and August 2013. Such a failure to collect follow-up samples requires notification to consumers. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. In August and October of 2012 and again in March and August of 2013, Yermo Water did not properly perform follow up monitoring or test for total coliform bacteria, and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

3) Water systems are required to submit a monthly summary of distribution system coliform monitoring report to the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) of the State Water Resources Control Board. Yermo Water Company consistently failed to submit such reports to the DDW during 2012. Such a failure requires notification to consumers.

4) Water systems are required to collect a pre-approved number of total coliform samples each month. During the month of January 2013, Yermo Water Company failed to collect the required number of samples. Such a failure requires notification to consumers. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. In January 2013, we did not monitor or test for total coliform bacteria, and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

5) The Ground Water Rule requires water systems to collect a groundwater source sample within 24 hours of the distribution system routine total coliform positive sample. Yermo Water Company failed to collect such a sample in August 2013. Such a failure requires notification to consumers.

6) Since 1991, all water systems have been required to comply with monitoring requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule. Yermo Water Company has never correctly performed the initial required monitoring for lead and copper. Such a failure requires notification to consumers.

7) In December, 2013 Yermo Water Company collected 20 samples for lead and copper to initiate the first of two required monitoring periods for lead and copper. Three samples for lead exceeded the Action Level (AL) of 15 ug/L (or parts per billion). The DDW requested Yermo Water Company to perform follow-up sampling to confirm the three high lead samples. Yermo Water Company failed to collect the follow-up samples. Of all samples collected, the 90th percentile sample (1 in 10) must not exceed the AL. Three of twenty samples exceeded the AL and exceed the 90th percentile level. Such an exceedance requires notification to consumers.

8) In June of 2014, Yermo Water Company failed to collect the required second round of lead and copper samples to comply with the initial monitoring requirements of the Lead and Copper Rule. Such a failure to monitor requires notification to consumers. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. From 1991 to present, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for lead and copper, and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Under the management and ownership of Ranchos Water, Yermo Water will begin to comply with all monitoring and reporting requirements of the California Safe Drinking Water Act. Compliance will begin immediately in September 2014.

Should you have any questions regarding these violations or other water quality concerns, please contact our Water Quality Department of Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company at 760-247-6484. Apple Valley Ranchos is located at 21760 Ottawa Rd., Apple Valley, California, 92308.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this public notice directly, such as tenants. You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place, like a mail room, community board or distributing copies by hand or mail.

## WATER RESULTS Yermo Water Company 2013/2014 Annual Water Quality Report

### Water Quality Parameters Detected in Yermo Water Company Wells

PRIMARY STANDARDS – Mandatory (health related)	State MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Units of Measurement	Marine Well #1	Helbro Well #4	(a) Yermo Date of last Measurement	Potential Sources of Contamination
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>							
Fluoride	2.0	1.0	ppm	0.62	0.77	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes strong teeth (not added by AVR)
Nitrate (as NO3)	45	45	ppm	6.3	3.9	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewers
Nitrite/Nitrate (as N)	10	10	ppm	1.4	0.88	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewers
<b>RADIONUCLIDES</b>							
Gross Alpha	15	(0)	pCi/L	12.9	9.7	2013	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	20	0.43	pCi/L	12.8	11	2013	Erosion of natural deposits

2013 LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING	Action Level (AL)	PHG or (MCLG)	Units of Measurement	Number of Samples Collected	No. of Sites Exceeding Action Level	90th Percentile Level Detected	Potential Sources of Contamination
Copper*	1.3	0.17	ppm	20	1	8.8	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
Lead*	15	2	ppb	20	3	1000	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
SECONDARY STANDARDS Aesthetic standards (non-health related) CHEMICAL PARAMETERS	State MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Units of Measurement	Marine Well #1	Helbro Well #4	(a) Yermo Date of last Measurement	Potential Sources of Contamination
Chloride	500	none	ppm	20	26	2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	15	none	units	1	0	2012	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor Threshold	3	none	units	0	1	2012	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	1,600	none	micromhos per centimeter	440	500	2012	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	500	none	ppm	24	35	2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	1,000	none	ppm	250	280	2012	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity/clarity	5.0	none	NTU	0.1	0.00	2012	Soil runoff

The Marine #1 well and the Helbro #4 well each supply separate, unconnected water systems at Yermo Water Company, therefore no averaging of water quality has been performed in this report.

### Water Quality Parameters Measured in the Distribution System

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	State MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Units of Measurement	AVR Range (including highest value)	Average for AVR	(b) AVR Date of last Measurement	Potential Sources of Contamination
Color	15	none	units	<3 - 5	1	monthly	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor Threshold	3	none	units	1	1	monthly	Naturally occurring organic materials
Turbidity	5	none	NTU	<0.1 - 1.8	0.55	monthly	Soil runoff
Total Coliform Bacteria	No more than 1 positive	(0)	positive/negative	0 to 3 +	0	monthly	Naturally present in the environment

### Detected Unregulated Chemicals That May be of Interest to Consumers

ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS —unregulated	State MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Units of Measurement	Marine Well #1	Helbro Well #4	(a) Yermo Date of last Measurement
Aggressiveness Index (b)	NS	none	units	12.1	12.3	2012
Alkalinity (as Ca CO3)	NS	none	ppm	150	170	2012
Boron	NS	NL = 1,000	ppb	170	180	2012
Calcium	NS	none	ppm	39	39	2012
Corrosivity (Langelier Index) (c)	Non-corrosive	none	positive/negative	+0.07	+0.10	2012
Hardness (Ca CO3)	NS	none	ppm	130	150	2012
Hardness (grains)	NS	none	grains	7.6	8.8	2012
Hexavalent Chromium**	NS**	0.020	ppb	6.8	5.6	2013
Magnesium	NS	none	ppm	8.3	8.7	2012
pH	6.5 - 8.5	none	units	7.9	8	2012
Potassium	NS	none	ppm	1.6	1.5	2012
Sodium	NS	none	ppm	36	45	2012
Vanadium	NS	none	ppb	6.4	6.6	2012

## Key To Abbreviations and Footnotes

- ND = Not detected  
 NL = Notification Level  
 NS = No Standard  
 NA = Not Applicable at this time or not required to analyze for  
 NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units. This is a measure of the suspended material in water  
 ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter  
 ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter  
 pCi/L = picoCuries per liter  
 umho/cm = micromho per centimeter  
 < = less than (essentially equivalent to ND)
- \* = Lead and Copper are regulated as a Treatment Technique (TT) under the Lead and Copper Rule. It requires water systems to take samples at "most vulnerable" consumer taps every three years and treatment steps must be taken if more than 10% of tap samples exceed the AL. Ranchos Water has not exceeded this level.
- \*\* = An MCL of 10 ppb was established on July 1, 2014.
- (a) = The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants in groundwater sources do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.
- (b) = An aggressiveness index of 11 or greater indicates that the water is not aggressive (noncorrosive)
- (c) = A positive number Langelier Index indicates that the water is noncorrosive

## Definitions

**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 EPA.

**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 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 the EPA.

**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.

**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.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Primary Drinking Water Standard:** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standard:** Requirements that ensure that appearance, taste and smell of drinking water are acceptable.

**Notification Level (NL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers notification to local political jurisdictions and customers.

## APPLE VALLEY RANCHOS WATER COMPANY™

21760 Ottawa Road  
 Apple Valley, CA 92308