CITY OF ARCADIA

Water QUALITY Report

2014

CITY OF ARCADIA

The City of Arcadia is committed to keeping you informed on the quality of your drinking water and is dedicated to providing you with a safe and reliable supply of high quality water. This report is provided to you annually and 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. The drinking water provided by the City of Arcadia in 2014 complies with all Federal and State drinking water standards.

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

The water supply for the City of Arcadia comes from two sources: (1) groundwater from wells in the Main San Gabriel Basin; and (2) groundwater from wells in the Raymond Basin.

Groundwater comes from natural underground aquifers that are replenished with local rainwater and imported water. The groundwater basins which the City of Arcadia pumps its water lay beneath the San Gabriel Valley. More than 30 retail water systems draw from the basins to provide water to residents and businesses.

What Are Water Quality Standards?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DDW regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and DDW 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 pathogens.
- **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.
- **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).

What Is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and DDW 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.

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

What Contaminants May Be Present in Sources of Drinking Water?

- **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.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

What Is in My Drinking Water?

Your drinking water is regularly tested using DDW-approved methods to ensure its safety. The table in this report lists all the constituents detected in your drinking water that have Federal and State drinking water standards. Detected unregulated constituents and other constituents of interest are also included.

ARSENIC

The following advisory is issued because in 2014 we recorded an arsenic measurement in the drinking water supply between 5 and 10 micrograms per liter (µg/l). While your drinking water meets the 10 µg/l MCL for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and in linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

NITRATE

The maximum level of nitrate measured in the City of Arcadia's drinking water was 35 milligrams per liter (mg/l) in 2014. 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. 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.

23 Ways to Conserve Water Indoors

In the Kitchen

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water.

2. Dishwashers typically use less water than washing dishes by hand. Now, Energy Star dishwashers save even more water and energy.

3. Designate one glass for your drinking water each day, or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.

4. Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.

5. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Instead, compost vegetable food waste and save gallons every time.

6. Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.

7. Don't use running water to thaw food. For water efficiency and food safety, defrost food in the refrigerator.

8. Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.

9. Reuse leftover water from cooked or steamed foods to start a nutritious soup, it's one more way to get eight glasses of water a day.

10. If you accidentally drop ice cubes, don't throw them in the sink. Drop them in a house plant instead.

11. Collect the water you use while rinsing fruit and vegetables. Use it to water house plants.

In the Laundry Room

12. When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.

13. Washing dark clothes in cold water saves water and energy, and helps your clothes retain their color.

In the Bathroom

14. If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a WaterSense® labeled model.

15. Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1,000 gallons per month.

16. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the bowl without flushing, there's a leak. Fix it and start saving gallons.

17. When running a bath, plug the bathtub before turning on the water. Adjust the temperature as the tub fills.

18. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save up to 4 gallons a minute. That's up to 200 gallons a week for a family of four.

19. Plug the sink instead of running the water to rinse your razor and save up to 300 gallons a month.

20. Turn off the water while washing your hair and save up to 150 gallons a month.

21. Drop tissues in the trash instead of flushing them and save water every time.

22. While you wait for hot water, collect the running water and use it to water plants.

23. Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.

Are There Any Precautions The Public Should Consider?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo-therapy, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Courtesy of useitwisely.com

CITY OF ARCADIA 2014 WATER QUALITY TABLE

Constituent and (units)	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	DLR	LOCAL GROUNDWATER Result (a)	LOCAL GROUNDWATER Range (Min-Max)	Typical Origins
***Primary Drinking Water Standards** - Health-Related Standards*						
Microbiological						
Total Coliforms **(b)**	5.0%	(0)	NA	1.2%	--	Naturally present in the environment
Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts (c)						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (µg/l)	80	NA	0.5	15	3.8 - 19	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5) (µg/l)	60	NA	1 - 2	2.1	ND - 2.2	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Residual (mg/l)	[4]	[4]	NA	0.72	0.23 - 1.4	Drinking water disinfectant
Organic Chemicals						
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (µg/l)	5	0.06	0.5	<0.5	ND - 2.2	Discharge from industrial activities
Trichloroethylene (TCE) (µg/l)	5	1.7	0.5	0.51	ND - 3.3	Discharge from industrial activities
1,1-Dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) (µg/l)	6	10	0.5	<0.5	ND - 0.59	Discharge from industrial activities
Inorganic Chemicals						
Arsenic (µg/l)	10	0.004	2	<2	ND - 5.6	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium, Hexavalent (µg/l)	10	0.02	1	4	ND - 8.9	Industrial discharge or erosion of natural deposits
Chromium, total (µg/l)	50	(100)	10	<10	ND - 13	Industrial discharge or erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/l) Naturally-occurring	2	1	0.1	0.67	0.25 - 1.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as NO3 (mg/l)	45	45	2	15	2 - 35	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use
Radioactivity (c)						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/l)	15	(0)	3	<3	ND - 6.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.43	1	2.5	ND - 5.3	Erosion of natural deposits
***Secondary Drinking Water Standards** - Aesthetic Standards, Not Health-Related*						
Chloride (mg/l)	500	NA	NA	21	7.4 - 32	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Foaming Agents (MBAS) (µg/l)	500	NA	NA	14	ND - 77	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Odor (threshold odor number)	3	NA	1	1	1	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (mg/l)	500	NA	0.5	41	17 - 64	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1600	NA	NA	490	320 - 710	Substances that form ions in water
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	1000	NA	NA	300	180 - 440	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	NA	0.1	<0.1	ND - 0.41	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (mg/l)	5	NA	0.05	<0.05	ND - 0.067	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Unregulated Constituents of Interest						
Boron (mg/l)	NL = 1	NA	0.1	0.18	ND - 0.38	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness as CaCO3 (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	170	26 - 320	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	33	16 - 66	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Vanadium (µg/l)	NL = 50	NA	3	13	3.4 - 39	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Lead and Copper Testing at Residential Taps

Lead/Copper	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile Value	Typical Origins
Copper (mg/l) **(e)**	1.3	0.3	0.29	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Lead (µg/l) **(e)**	15	0.2	ND	Corrosion of household plumbing system

Notes

mg/l = parts per million or milligrams per liter
µg/l = parts per billion or micrograms per liter
pCi/l = picoCuries per liter
µmho/cm = micromhos per centimeter
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
AL = Action Level
DLR = Detection Limit for the Purpose of Reporting
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
ND = Not Detected at DLR
NA = No Applicable Limit
NL = Notification Level
PHG = Public Health Goal
< = Detected but average is below the DLR

(a) The results reported in the table are average concentrations of the constituents detected in your drinking water during year 2014 or from the most recent tests done in compliance with regulations (2006-2014), except for TTHM, HAA5, lead and copper which are described below.

(b) The result is the highest percentage of positive samples collected in a month during 2014. Coliforms are bacteria used as an indicator that if present, indicates other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. In March 2014, Total Coliforms were detected in one sample collected in the distribution system. However, all follow-up confirmation samples were negative for Total Coliforms and Fecal/E. coli bacteria. No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be Total Coliform-positive. A routine sample and a repeat sample that are Total Coliform positive, and where one of these is also Fecal/E. coli positive constitutes an MCL violation. Therefore, the MCL was not violated in 2014.

(c) Four (4) locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for disinfection byproducts. The highest locational running annual averages for TTHM and HAA5 are reported as "Result." The maximum and minimum of the individual results for TTHM and HAA5 are reported as "Range." Twenty (20) locations are tested weekly for chlorine residual.

(d) Not all sources were sampled for radioactivity in 2014; sources were sampled between 2006 to 2014. The most recent results are included.residual.

(e) Thirty (30) residences were sampled in August 2013. Concentrations were measured at the tap. Copper was detected at twenty-nine (29) locations; none exceeded the copper Action Level. Lead was detected at two (2) locations; none exceeded the lead Action Level. The next round of lead and copper samples will be collected in 2016.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

The City of Arcadia is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During April 2015, we did not collect one confirmation sample from Longley Well 3 for di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What happened? What is being done?

In March 2015, a routine sample collected from Longley Well 3 indicated the detection of di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate above the Maximum Contaminant Level, which required the collection of monthly samples from Longley Well 3 for di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate for six months, beginning in April 2015. The required April 2015 confirmation sample was not collected.

We have since taken the required monthly samples starting in May 2015. The results of May and June 2015 sampling indicated di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate were not detected and therefore we are meeting drinking water standards.

If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

For more information, please contact Mr. Michael Thai at (626) 256-6554.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the City of Arcadia.

State Water System ID#: 1910003.
Date distributed: June 2015.

DROUGHT

Time to Save Every Drop

California is entering the fourth year of a drought; as a result, the Governor issued an Executive Order requiring California to reduce water usage by 25%. In May 2015 the State Water Resources Board reissued mandatory water regulations that include tiers that urban water users were placed in to be in compliance with mandatory 25% water reductions. Arcadia's residential per capita water use placed Arcadia in tier 9, which means the **City has to reduce overall water use by 36%.** The City's mandatory water conservation prohibitions prohibit outdoor watering/irrigation between the hours of 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., daily. Additionally, **residents are allowed to water only 3 days per week: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays**. To see a full list of prohibitions, visit www.ArcadiaCA.gov.

Successful water conservation is a community effort. Simply making minor changes to your outdoor irrigation practices can add up to substantial savings. Here are some tips to start conserving outdoors:

Good

Place mulch around your plants to reduce water loss and prevent weeds.

Better

Consider removing some or all of your lawn. At the very least, make sure you have a water-efficient sprinkler system.

Best

Plant drought-tolerant plants in your yard. There is a large variety of native plants that thrive and look beautiful with minimal water usage.

For more information and questions on the City's Water Conservation program, visit www. ArcadiaCA.gov or call City of Arcadia Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554. Residential and commercial rebates are available through www.socalwatersmart.com.

Landscape Audit Request

Every day thousands of gallons of water are wasted through poorly functioning sprinklers and excess watering. The City offers free irrigation audits to residential water customers. The irrigation audits provide a careful evaluation of your irrigation system to identify water waste. Call the City of Arcadia Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554 to schedule a residential irrigation audit today.

SMART Irrigation Controllers

Weather-based "SMART" Controllers for irrigation provide the appropriate watering schedule, adjust for weather changes and irrigate based on the needs of the landscape and soil conditions. A smart controller will automatically reduce the watering times as the weather gets cooler and less water is needed. Then as the weather warms up, the controller will add more watering time. Rebates and additional information can be found at www.socalwatersmart.com. Now that is a SMART idea!

Saves 40 gallons a day

Courtesy of www.socalwatersmart.com

How Much Water Are You Saving?

Starting this summer Arcadia water customers will receive a bi-monthly "Home Water Report" that we hope you find useful in your efforts to reduce water consumption and combat the drought. The report will contain information such as the average amount of water you and your neighbors used in a billing period, how much more you could save if you took certain actions, and it may even provide data that could lead to the discovery of a water leak. In addition to the written report that will be mailed two-three weeks after your water bill, an interactive web portal is being established that customers can access for information about rebates and customized tips on how to reduce water use. It's true, every drop does count, and we need your help to reach Arcadia's water reduction goal of 36%.

Personalized Home Water Reports Track Water Usage

City of Arcadia
240 W. Huntington Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007

Pre-sorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 255
Arcadia, CA

Lead in Tap Water

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. The City of Arcadia is dedicated to 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 http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm.

Good Idea A lot of water will be wasted while you run your tap. **Don't let that happen!** Collect the excess water and use it to water your garden.

Fluoride in Drinking Water

Our local groundwater is not supplemented with fluoride. Fluoride levels in drinking water are limited under California state regulations at a maximum dosage of 2 parts per million (ppm).

QUESTIONS?

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Mr. Michael Thai at the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Para mas información ó traducción, favor de contactar the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department. Telefono: (626) 256-6554.

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

Drinking Water Source Assessment

In accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of Arcadia was completed in December 2002. The purpose of the drinking water source assessment is to promote source water protection by identifying types of activities in the proximity of the drinking water sources which could pose a threat to the water quality. The assessment concluded that the City of Arcadia's sources are considered vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: gasoline stations, automobile repair shops, chemical/petroleum pipelines, utility stations, electrical/electronic manufacturing, waste dumps/landfills, high density housing and dry cleaners. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: sewer collection systems, car washes, transportation corridors, junk/scrap/salvage yards and above or below ground storage tanks. A copy of the complete drinking water source assessment is available at the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department located at 11800 Goldring Road, in Arcadia. You may request a summary of the assessment to be sent to you by contacting the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554.

City Council meetings provide an opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of your water. Regularly scheduled meetings of the City Council are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 240 West Huntington Drive in Arcadia.