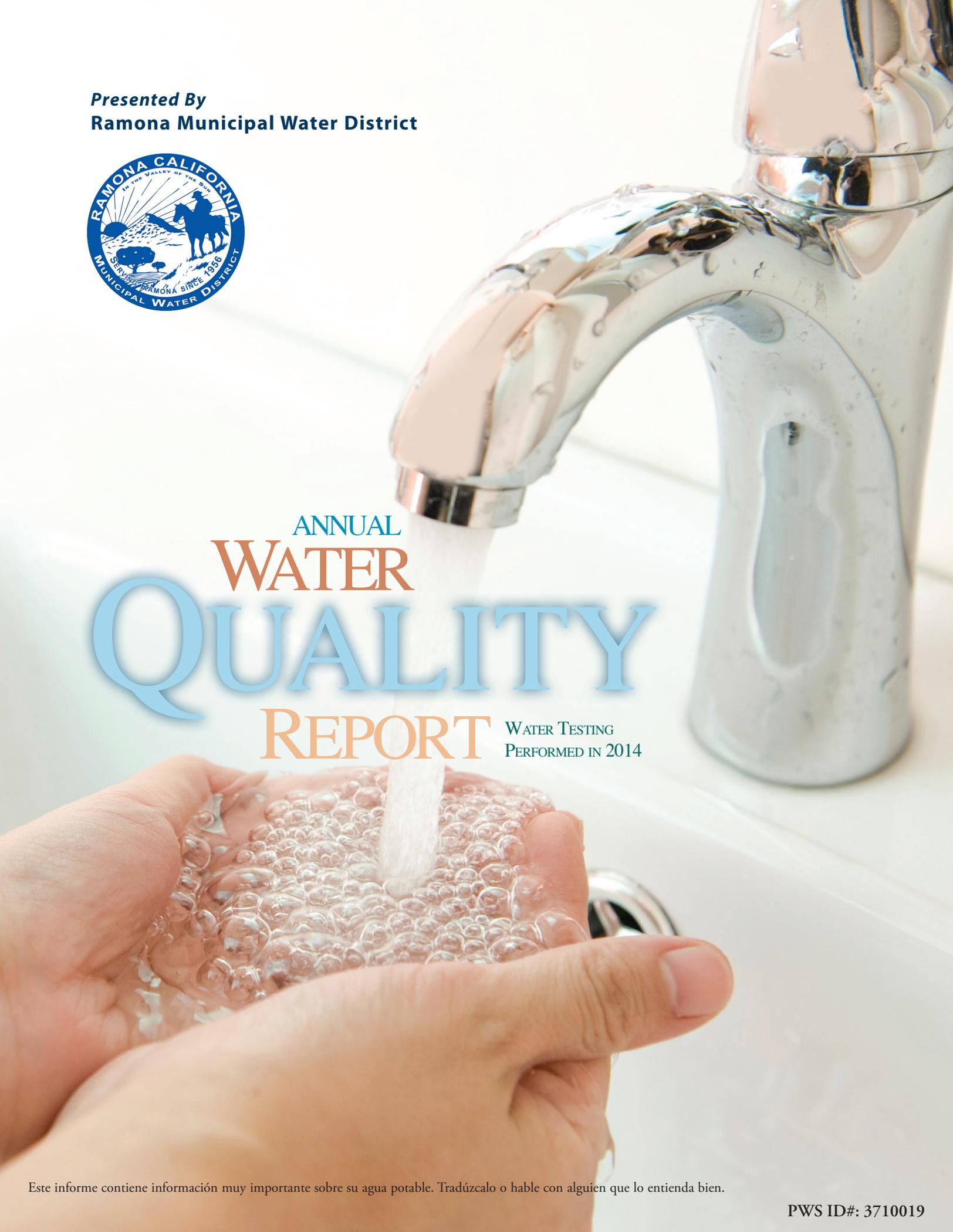


Presented By
Ramona Municipal Water District



ANNUAL
WATER
QUALITY
REPORT

WATER TESTING
PERFORMED IN 2014

Our Mission Continues

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. Most notably, last year marked the 40th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This rule was created to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply. We celebrate this milestone as we continue to manage our water system with a mission to deliver the best quality drinking water. By striving to meet the requirements of SDWA, we are ensuring a future of healthy, clean drinking water for years to come.

Please let us know if you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Public Meetings

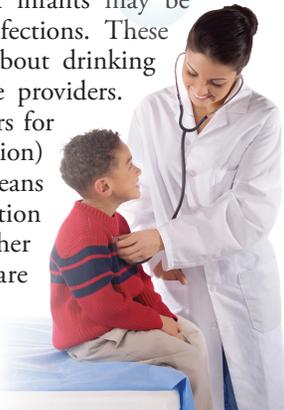
You are invited to attend our district board meetings. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane, Ramona.

Board of Directors:

- Darrell Beck, *President*, Division I
- Joe Zenovic, *Vice President*, Division IV
- George Foote, *Secretary*, Division V
- Jim Hickle, *Treasurer*, Division II
- Thomas Ace, *Director*, Division III
- David Barnum, *General Manager*

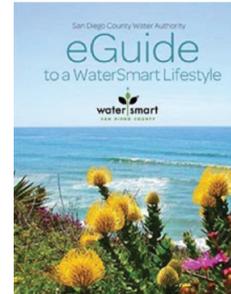
Important Health Information

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



Water Conservation Tools

- The “**eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle**”, www.watersmartsd.org, is a FREE, 140-page digital flipbook full of water-saving information! From efficient irrigation and landscape design to water-efficient plants or fixing leaks, this eGuide is extremely valuable.



- **Turf Removal Program** rebates are based on the square footage of turf grass removed. The average residential customer spends about 60% of their water on outdoor irrigation. By changing turf to a California Friendly™ yard of drought tolerant plants, you can save water and money. For program, details visit www.socalwatersmart.com.
- **Product rebates** for residential and commercial customers. To view the list of approved, indoor and outdoor, water-saving products eligible for customer incentives/rebates go to www.socalwatersmart.com.
- **WaterSmart Checkup!** A WaterSmart Checkup is your free opportunity to receive site-specific, water-saving recommendations by a certified water professional. Services are provided by Mission Resource Conservation District. Go to www.Watersmartcheckup.org for program particulars.
- **WaterSmart San Diego County**, www.watersmartsd.org, provides valuable information and resources on customer incentives and important water-saving tools.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Greg Marty, Water Quality Lab Analyst, at (760) 789-1330.

Source Water Assessment

In December 2002, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) completed its source water assessment of its Colorado River and State Water Project supplies. Colorado River supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to recreation, urban/stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban/stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting the Metropolitan Water District by phone at (213) 217-6850.



Help Keep Sewer Costs Down

Never put these items down the drain!

- Prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications
- Flushable/disposable wipes
- Condoms and dental floss
- Fats, oils, and grease (FOG)
- Food
- Coffee grounds, eggshells, and hair
- Household hazardous materials



Protect our sewers and the environment!

Save every day, every way!
www.WhenInDrought.org

Water-Saving Tips

- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth
- Spend only 5 minutes in the shower
- Fix household leaks promptly
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes
- Buy water-saving products
- Water your lawn only 1 or 2 days per week
- Check your irrigation system for leaks, overspray, or sprinkler heads
- Install a smart irrigation controller
- Water in the early morning or evening
- Use a broom not a hose to clean sidewalks & driveways

For more information, visit www.bewaterwise.com.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhme) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management has a Web site (www.waterboards.ca.gov) that provides complete and current information on water issues in California, including valuable information about our watershed.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) purchases water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This water is a blend of surface water from the Colorado River and runoff from the Northern California Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is treated at the Twin Oaks Valley Treatment Plant, located in San Diego County, and the MWD Lake Skinner Filtration Plant located in Riverside County.

Does your water softener use salt?

Is your water softener adding salty brine to the public sewer? Water softeners that use salt create sewage and recycling treatment issues. They also waste a significant amount of water! Salty brine discharged by this type of water softener goes in to the sewer and must be removed by a very expensive process. RMWD Legislative Code prohibits the use of water softening units that discharge brine in to the public sewer. Portable water softeners exchanged by a professional water service company do not discharge brine.

Use Water Wisely

Water conservation has always been a way of life in Southern California. Recent drought conditions and water supply reductions have increased the need for additional conservation efforts by all of us. We are in this together. Using water efficiently is our responsibility. Now is the time to examine your water use and habits and commit to use water wisely whenever possible.

Due to Ramona's remote location and elevation, the community's primary water supply is pumped up, over 1,000 feet from Poway to Ramona, making every drop a precious commodity. The Ramona Municipal Water District (RMWD) encourages using water wisely; every day, every way!

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Substances That Could Be in 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.

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

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 can result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

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

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality.

| REGULATED SUBSTANCES | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Ramona Municipal Water District | | Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant | | San Diego County Water Authority | | | |
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 2014 | 10 | 0.004 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 3.4 ¹ | NA | No | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes |
| Barium (ppm) | 2014 | 1 | 2 | NA | NA | 0.103 | 0.103–0.103 | 0.12 ¹ | NA | No | Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Bromate (ppb) | 2014 | 10 | 0.1 | NA | NA | 3.6 | ND–8.0 | 3.1 | 1.4–5.6 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Chloramines (ppm) | 2014 | [4.0 (as Cl ₂)] | [4 (as Cl ₂)] | 2.85 | 0.2–3.80 | NA | NA | NA | NA | No | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |
| <i>Cryptosporidium</i> (Units) | 2014 | Surface water treatment=TT | HPC=NA; Others = (0) | NA | NA | ND | NA | NA | NA | No | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Fecal coliform and <i>E. coli</i> [Total Coliform Rule] (# positive samples) | 2014 | a routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive | (0) | 0 | NA | ND | NA | NA | NA | No | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 2014 | 2.0 | 1 | NA | NA | 0.8 ² | 0.7–0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5–0.8 | No | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| <i>Giardia Lamblia</i> (Units) | 2014 | Surface water treatment=TT | HPC=NA; Others = (0) | NA | NA | ND | NA | NA | NA | No | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L) | 2014 | 15 | (0) | NA | NA | ND | ND–5 | NA | NA | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta Particle Activity³ (pCi/L) | 2014 | 50 | (0) | NA | NA | 5 | 5–5 | NA | NA | No | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |
| Haloacetic Acids–Stage 2 (ppb) | 2014 | 60 | NA | 19.2 ¹ | 4.6–26.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Heterotrophic Plate Count Bacteria (Units) | 2014 | Surface water treatment=TT | HPC=NA; Others = (0) | ND | ND–23 | NA | NA | NA | NA | No | Naturally present in the environment |
| Hexavalent Chromium (ppb) | 2014 | 10 | 0.02 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0.06 | ND–0.36 | No | Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm) | 2014 | 45 | 45 | NA | NA | NA | NA | ND | ND–9 | No | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb) | 2014 | 80 | NA | 29 ¹ | 18–45 | NA | NA | NA | NA | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Coliform Bacteria [Total Coliform Rule] (% positive samples) | 2014 | More than 5.0% of monthly samples are positive | (0) | 0 | NA | 0.3 | NA | NA | NA | No | Naturally present in the environment |
| Turbidity (NTU) | 2014 | TT | NA | NA | NA | 0.09 | 0.09–0.09 | 0.03 | 0.01–0.03 | No | Soil runoff |
| Uranium (pCi/L) | 2014 | 20 | 0.43 | NA | NA | 2 | 1–2 | 2 | 1.7–2.3 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | AL | PHG (MCLG) | AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE) | SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Copper (ppm) | 2013 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.12 | 0/30 | No | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (ppb) | 2013 | 15 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0/30 | No | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

| | | Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant | | | | San Diego County Water Authority | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---|
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | SMCL | PHG (MCLG) | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| Chloride (ppm) | 2014 | 500 | NS | 92 | 90–93 | 92 ¹ | NA | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Color (Units) | 2014 | 15 | NS | 1 | 1–1 | NA | NA | No | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Iron (ppb) | 2014 | 300 | NS | NA | NA | 0.7 | ND–33 | No | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Manganese (ppb) | 2014 | 50 | NS | NA | NA | 0.3 | ND–14 | No | Leaching from natural deposits |
| Odor–Threshold (TON) | 2014 | 3 | NS | 1 | 1–1 | 1 ¹ | NA | No | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Specific Conductance (µS/cm) | 2014 | 1,600 | NS | 930 | 913–947 | 1,000 ¹ | NA | No | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence |
| Sulfate (ppm) | 2014 | 500 | NS | 199 | 187–211 | 230 ¹ | NA | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) | 2014 | 1,000 | NS | 575 | 570–579 | 660 ¹ | NA | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES

| | | Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant | | San Diego County Water Authority | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR SAMPLED | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | AMOUNT DETECTED | RANGE LOW-HIGH | TYPICAL SOURCE | |
| Alkalinity (ppm) | 2014 | 125 | 123–127 | 120 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| Boron (ppb) | 2014 | 110 | 110–110 | 130 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| Calcium (ppm) | 2014 | 68 | 65–70 | 72 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| Chlorate (ppb) | 2014 | 69 | 21–105 | 218 | 160–270 | NA | |
| Corrosivity [as Aggressiveness] (Units) | 2014 | 12.4 | 12.4–12.4 | 13 ¹ | NA | Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors | |
| Corrosivity [as Saturation] (Units) | 2014 | 0.57 | 0.53–0.61 | 0.83 ¹ | NA | Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors | |
| Hardness (ppm) | 2014 | 270 | 264–276 | 290 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| Magnesium (ppm) | 2014 | 25 | 24–25 | 27 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| N-Nitrosodimethylamine [NDMA] (ppt) | 2014 | 2.0-2.9 | 2.0–2.9 | NA | NA | By-product of drinking water chloramination; industrial processes | |
| Potassium (ppm) | 2014 | 4.4 | 4.3–4.5 | 4.6 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2014 | 88 | 86–90 | 98 ¹ | NA | NA | |
| TOC (ppm) | 2014 | 2.3 | 2.0–2.8 | 2.0 | 1.8–2.3 | Various natural and man-made sources | |
| Vanadium (ppb) | 2014 | NA | NA | 3.2 ¹ | NA | Naturally-occurring; industrial waste discharge | |

¹ Represents the results from a single sample.

² Control range 0.7 - 1.3 ppm, optimal fluoride level 0.8 ppm. This water system treats your water by adding fluoride to the naturally occurring level to help prevent dental caries in consumers. State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a range of 0.7 - 1.3 ppm with an optimum dose of 0.8 ppm. This water system's monitoring showed that the fluoride levels in the treated water ranged from 0.5 - 0.9 with an average of 0.8 ppm. Information about fluoridation, oral health, and current issues is available from http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml.

³ The State Water Resources Control Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

⁴ Highest locational running annual average (LRAA).

Definitions

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

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

PHG (Public Health Goal): 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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.