

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER COMPANY  
-ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT-  
-YEAR 2015-**

**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.**

**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 source of water provided to San Gabriel Valley Water Company's customers, except those located in the Whittier/Santa Fe Springs area, was groundwater produced from the Main San Gabriel Basin. The source of water provided to customers in the Whittier/Santa Fe Springs area south of Beverly Boulevard may be a blend of groundwater from the Main San Gabriel Basin and the Central Basin.

All water samples are collected by state-certified employees of the water company or independent engineering firms. Samples are analyzed by state-certified independent laboratories and the results are forwarded to the State Water Resources Control Board ("State Board"). The following report provides detailed information about the quality of the water delivered to customers. The water supplied by San Gabriel Valley Water Company complies with all state and federal safe drinking water standards and regulations.

**DETECTED WATER QUALITY CONSTITUENTS - GROUNDWATER**

**Primary Standards**

<b>Microbiological</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Highest Percentage of Positive Samples Collected</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Likely Source of Detected Constituent</b>
Total Coliform Bacteria	%	(0)	(a)	0.52%	2015	Naturally present in the environment

**Radiological**

<b>Water Quality Constituent</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Sample Year</b>	<b>Likely Source of Detected Constituent</b>
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	(0)	15	ND - 11.8	2.5	2007 - 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	0.43	20	ND - 9.5	2.8	2007 - 15	Erosion of natural deposits

**Inorganics**

Aluminum	ppb	600	1000	ND - 88.0	4.8	2013-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	0.004	10	ND - 3.1	1.5	2013-15	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	ppb	2,000	1,000	ND - 190.0	61.0	2013-15	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	1	2	0.2 - 0.8	0.4	2013-15	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Hexavalent Chromium	ppb	0.02	10	ND - 7.3	2.9	2013-15	Naturally-occurring metal; industrial byproduct
Nitrate as (N)	ppm	10	10	ND - 8.4	5.7	2015	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

**Organics**

Tetrachloroethylene	ppb	0.06	5	ND - 0.9	0.03	2015	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
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**Secondary Standards (Aesthetic Standards)**

Aluminum	ppb	NS	200	ND - 88.0	4.8	2013-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	NS	500	4.0 - 110.0	31.4	2013-15	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Color	units	NS	15	ND	ND	2015	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor-Threshold	units	NS	3	1.0	1.0	2015	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µmho/cm	NS	1,600	330.0 - 940.0	563.3	2013-15	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	NS	500	17.0 - 130.0	55.6	2013-15	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	NS	1,000	200.0 - 600.0	414.4	2015	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (b)	NTU	NS	5	ND - 0.1	0.01	2015	Soil runoff

**Additional Constituents (Unregulated)**

Alkalinity (CaCO3)	ppm	NS	NS	140.0 - 270.0	186.8	2013-15	Unknown
Calcium	ppm	NS	NS	32.0 - 110.0	63.3	2013-15	Unknown
Chlorodifluoromethane	ppm	NS	NS	ND - 0.1	0.03	2014-15	Unknown
Cobalt	ppb	NS	NS	ND - 1.3	0.04	2014-15	Unknown
Hardness (CaCO3)	ppm	NS	NS	100.0 - 350.0	215.0	2013-15	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium	ppm	NS	NS	5.2 - 24.0	13.7	2013-15	Unknown
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	ppb	NS	NS	ND - 16.0	1.0	2015	Unknown
Molybdenum	ppb	NS	NS	1.0 - 19.0	4.2	2014-15	Unknown
pH	units	NS	NS	7.4 - 8.0	7.8	2013-15	Unknown
Potassium	ppm	NS	NS	1.2 - 5.1	2.9	2013-15	Unknown
Sodium	ppm	NS	NS	10.0 - 82.0	32.9	2013-15	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Strontium	ppb	NS	NS	240.0 - 660.0	484.8	2014-15	Unknown
Vanadium	ppb	NS	NS	ND - 9.3	3.6	2014-15	Unknown

**Disinfectant / Disinfection By-Products**

Water Quality Constituent	Units	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	MCL [MRDL]	Range	Average	Sample Year	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	NS	80	ND - 11.0	9.9	2015	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	NS	60	ND - 5.5	2.1	2015	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Residual	ppm	[4]	[4]	0.6 - 1.9	1.1	2015	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chlorate	ppb	NS	NS	55.0 - 460.0	178.6	2014-15	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Lead and Copper Monitoring (El Monte/Whittier System)**

Water Quality Constituent	Units	Regulatory Action Level (c)	Sample Year	90th Percentile	Number of Samples Exceeding The Action Level	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Lead	ppb	15	2014	ND	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1300	2014	320.0	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

**Lead and Copper Monitoring (Montebello System) (d)**

Water Quality Constituent	Units	Regulatory Action Level (c)	Sample Year	90th Percentile	Number of Samples Exceeding The Action Level	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Lead	ppb	15	2013	ND	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1300	2013	210.0	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Pursuant to Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Lead and Copper monitoring for the El Monte/Whittier System was completed in 2014 with the collection of 50 samples. The next sampling event is in 2017. Lead and Copper monitoring for the Montebello System was completed in 2013 with the collection of 20 samples. The next sampling event is in 2016.

**THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ("USEPA") AND STATE BOARD REQUIRE US TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 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).

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, and mining.
- 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, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. San Gabriel Valley Water Company 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm 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 10 ppm 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 advice from your health care provider.

*In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the 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.*

#### **Additional Water Quality Information**

San Gabriel Valley Water Company completed groundwater source assessments in 2002 and new assessments were completed in 2005 and 2008 for new sources added to the system. Groundwater sources are considered vulnerable to discharge from industry, factories, landfills, dry cleaners, automobile repair shops, gas stations, high density housing, fleet truck and bus terminals, underground storage tanks, and sewer collection systems. Copies of the groundwater source assessments are available for review at San Gabriel Valley Water Company's main office. All groundwater sources are treated and disinfected before the water is distributed to the customers.

In addition to the constituents listed in this report, San Gabriel Valley Water Company conducted monitoring for over 100 additional constituents and the results show none of those constituents detected in the water. Included in this additional monitoring were constituents for which Division of Drinking Water and USEPA have not yet set standards. The State Board allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. For additional water quality information, contact: David Van, Water Quality Superintendent, at [dvan@sgvwater.com](mailto:dvan@sgvwater.com) or at (626) 448-6183, or write to San Gabriel Valley Water Company, Post Office Box 6010, El Monte, California 91734-2010.

#### **Definitions and Footnotes:**

- 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 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 USEPA.
- 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 to control 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.
- ND = None Detected
- NS = No Standard
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units: A measurement of the turbidity of water as determined by the methods in 40 Code of Federal Regulations, part 141.74(a)(1) (67 Fed. Reg. 65888 (October 29, 2002), which is incorporated by reference.
- pCi/L = picocuries per Liter
- 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 Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.
- ppb = parts per billion
- ppm = parts per million
- TT = Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- µmho/cm = micromhos per centimeter
  - (a) = When 40 or more routine samples are collected per month, no more than 5% of the samples may be total coliform positive.
  - (b) = Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.
  - (c) = Regulatory Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
  - (d) = The Montebello System is that portion of the City of Montebello south of the Pomona Freeway.

This report along with other important information can be found on the company's website at [www.sgvwater.com](http://www.sgvwater.com).