California Source Water Quality

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 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 may be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic waste, or the discharge of raw sewage.
- 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 production, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California 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. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Sacramento’s Water Source Assessment

The City of Sacramento has two independent water sources. Our primary water source is river water from the American and Sacramento Rivers, which provide 85 percent of our water supply. Groundwater provides the remaining 15 percent. Assessments of potential contaminant activities for the City's Sacramento River and American River water sources were completed in December 2000 and April 2001. These reports indicated that both rivers are most vulnerable to contaminants from recreational activities and that the Sacramento River is also most susceptible to agricultural contaminants. The City of Sacramento, along with several other water utilities, updates assessments of the river water sources every five years.

An assessment of the City’s groundwater wells was completed in December 2002. Due to the proximity to potential contaminant sources, the wells north of the American River are considered most vulnerable to sewage collection systems, leaking underground storage tanks, known contaminant plumes, agricultural drainage, gas stations, dry cleaners, metal plating and chemical processing storage facilities, electrical/electronic manufacturing, and automobile repair and body shops. Wells south of the American River are considered vulnerable to leaking underground storage tanks and sewage collection systems.

Copies of the complete assessments are available for review at the City of Sacramento, Department of Utilities, 1395 35th Avenue, or call 808-5454 to request a summary of the assessments.

Teamwork: Together We Can Protect Our Water Resources

The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities works hard to bring you quality drinking water. Please be careful as you live, work and play to limit what goes into the storm drains and rivers, so we can continue to preserve the quality of the water and our diverse river ecosystem.

Special Information Available

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-suppressed persons such as patients 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. For consumers concerned about this issue, there are regulations that protect the public health.

Información Técnica Adicional

 Según la Federal Guidance, tipos de contaminantes que se pueden encontrar en el agua de consumo incluyen:

- Microbianos: microorganismos como virus y bacterias, que pueden provenir de plantas de tratamiento de residuos de alcantarillado, sistemas de desagüe, plantas de producción y empresas que producen productos químicos.
- Inorgánicos: metales y sales naturales y que resultan del uso de pesticidas y herbicidas.
- Orgánicos: productos químicos sin procesados y que forman parte de la actividad industrial.
- Radiactivos: contaminaiones que pueden provenir de la actividad nuclear.

Información del Consumidor

Se le recomienda a los consumidores que sean conscientes de los posibles contaminantes en la agua de consumo. Es importante que los consumidores tomen medidas para proteger el agua de consumo, especialmente en áreas donde hay actividad industrial o en áreas rurales.

Información adicional disponible:

- Información sobre contaminantes en agua de consumo.
- Información sobre medidas para proteger el agua de consumo.
- Información sobre cómo contactar al Departamento de Ocupaciones del Agua de la Ciudad de Sacramento.

Referencias:

- USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-808-5454
- City of Sacramento Department of Utilities: 1395 35th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95819
- Sacramento Water Source Assessment: 1395 35th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95819

Sacramento Water Source Assessment Report

The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities is committed to providing clean, safe, and high-quality drinking water to all residents. The City of Sacramento has two independent water sources: the American River and the Sacramento River, which provide 85% and 15% of the city's water supply, respectively. The City conducts regular assessments of potential contaminant activities in the rivers, and the results are used to inform decisions about water treatment and distribution. The assessments include an evaluation of the vulnerability of the water sources to different types of contamination, such as bacteria, viruses, metals, and pesticides. The City of Sacramento has also implemented measures to reduce the risk of contamination, such as improving water treatment processes, monitoring water quality, and providing education to residents on how to protect their water supply. The City of Sacramento is committed to ensuring that all residents have access to safe and clean drinking water, and continues to work towards this goal through ongoing evaluation and improvement of its water supply system.
The following table shows the detected contaminants in your drinking water and compares them with drinking water standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW). To request a complete report, including non-detected items, please call 311 or (916) 264-5011.

### WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS RESULTS FOR 2014

| DETECTED PRIMARY DRINKING WATER CONSTITUENTS regulated to protect your health |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CONSTITUENT | UNITS | PHG or MCLG [MCLG] | MCL or [MCL] | RANGE | YEAR OF SAMPLING | MAJOR SOURCES |
| ALUMINUM | ppm | 0.6 | 1 | ND - 0.05 | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits and water treatment chemicals added to water |
| ARSENIC | ppm | 594 | 1 | ND | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits |
| BROMIDE | ppm | 5 | 5 | ND | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits |
| FLUORIDES (g) | ppm | 1 | 2.0 | 0.6 - 3.0 | 0.8 | 2014 | Water add-in that promotes strong teeth |
| GROSS ALPHA (α) | μCi/L | 16 | 16 | ND | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits |
| NEXUSAGNTH CHLORIDE | ppm | 0.02 | 0.02 | ND | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits |
| NITRATE (AS NITRATE) | ppm | 45 | 45 | ND | ND | 2014 | Source or handling of natural deposits |
| CONTROLLED DISRUPTION BY-PRODUCT MONITORING (UCMR) (f) | ppm | N/A | N/A | treatment if average 100C-12 | 1.9 | 2014 | Various natural and man-made sources |
| TURBIDITY | NTU | N/A | TT = 1 | 0.3 - 10 | N/A | 2014 | Sediment

### WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS RESULTS FOR 2014 (CONT.)

| DETECTED SECONDARY DRINKING WATER CONSTITUENTS regulated for aesthetic qualities |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CONSTITUENT | UNITS | PHG or MCL [MCL] | MCL OR [MCL] | RANGE | YEAR OF SAMPLING | MAJOR SOURCES |
| COLOR | μG/FT | 15 | 15 | ND | ND | 2014 | Naturally occurring organic materials |
| TOTAL TRAFLUORIDES | ppm | 80 | 80 | 10 - 123 | 73 | 2014 | Reproduction of drinking water disinfection |
| HALOCARBOXY ACIDS | ppm | 60 | 60 | 3 - 48 | 39 | 2014 | Reproduction of drinking water disinfection |
| TURBIDITY | NTU | N/A | 5 | 0.04 - 1.1 | 0.12 | 2014 | Sediment

### TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONSTITUENT</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>PHG or MCL [MCL]</th>
<th>MCL OR [MCL]</th>
<th>RANGE</th>
<th>YEAR OF SAMPLING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA</td>
<td>CFU (TOTAL COLIFORM RUS)</td>
<td>samples positive</td>
<td>49 - 67</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lead

| DETECTED UNREGULATED DRINKING WATER CONSTITUENTS (b) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CONSTITUENT | UNITS | PHG or MCL [MCL] | MCL OR [MCL] | RANGE | YEAR OF SAMPLING |
| LEAD | ppm | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.005 - 0.012 | 0.007 | 2014 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharge from industrial or manufacturing processes |

### Water Quality Table Abbreviations

- **AL:** Action Level
- **DLR:** Detection Limit for purposes of Reporting
- **DDW:** Division of Drinking Water
- **MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level
- **MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- **MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
- **MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
- **ND:** Not Detected
- **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- **pCi/L:** Picocuries per Liter
- **ppb:** Parts per billion
- **ppm:** Parts per million
- **Ppm:** Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
- **μCi/L:** Microcuries per Liter
- **μS/cm:** Microsiemens per centimeter

### Important Definitions

#### Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

#### Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHG (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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

#### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):

The level of 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.

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

#### 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.

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

#### Water Quality

- **N/A:** Non-Applicable
- **ND:** Not Detected
- **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- **μCi/L:** Picocuries per Liter
- **ppb:** Parts per billion
- **ppm:** Parts per million
- **μS/cm:** Microsiemens per centimeter

The State 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, may be more than one year old.

### What you should know about Lead

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. City of Sacramento Department of Utilities 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 may minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for cooking or drinking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may want 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/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).