



**COACHELLA**

**WATER AUTHORITY &  
SANITARY DISTRICT**

*SERVICE. VALUE. QUALITY.*

Issued July 2023

**YOUR 2022**

# **WATER QUALITY**

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**



Pictured here, Dateland Park, Coachella, CA.

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. EPA and State drinking water health standards. **Coachella Water Authority and Sanitary District** vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again, we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

## WHAT ARE DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS?

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.

**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.

**PESTICIDES & 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 byproducts 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.

## QUALITY STANDARD DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

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 Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

State Water Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water standards established by U.S. EPA and State Division of Drinking Water set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The following definitions are used throughout this consumer confidence report:

**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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**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.

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

**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 which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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

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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. U.S. EPA/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)**.

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

| CONTAMINANT, UNITS  | MCL                             | PHG OR (MCLG)                    | RANGE (AVERAGE)  | VIOLATION? | MAJOR SOURCES IN WATER  | HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE  |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|--|
| <b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>  |                                 |                                  |                  |            |   |  |
| Coliform Assessment and/or Corrective Action Violations   | TT                              | N/A                              | ND               | NO         | N/A   | Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found. |
| <i>Giardia lamblia</i> , Viruses, Heterotrophic Plate Count Bacteria, <i>Legionella</i> , <i>Cryptosporidium</i> (CFU/ml)<br>Surface water treatment = TT | TT                              | N/A                              | ND-6 (1.92)      | NO         | Naturally present in the environment  | Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.   |
| <b>RADIOACTIVE</b>  |                                 |                                  |                  |            |   |  |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)   | 15                              | (0)                              | 3.7-5.9 (4.7)    | NO         | Erosion of natural deposits   | Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.   |
| <b>INORGANIC</b>  |                                 |                                  |                  |            |   |  |
| Arsenic (µg/L)  | 10                              | 0.004                            | 2.1-3.20 (1.31)  | NO         | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes                      | Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.   |
| Chromium [Total] (µg/L)   | 50                              | (100)                            | 13.0-24.0 (19.3) | NO         | Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits                             | Some people who use water containing chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.   |
| Copper (µg/L)   | AL= 1.3                         | 0.3                              | < 0.05           | NO         | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives | Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.  |
| Nitrate (mg/L)  | 10 (as N)                       | 10 (as N)                        | ND-86 (0.47)     | NO         | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits     | Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.  |
| Nitrite (mg/L)  | 1 (as N)                        | 1 (as N)                         | < 0.4            | NO         | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits     | Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.  |
| <b>DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS &amp; DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS</b>   |                                 |                                  |                  |            |   |  |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L)  | 80                              | N/A                              | ND-2.2 (0.51)    | NO         | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection  | Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.  |
| HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L)   | 60                              | N/A                              | ND               | NO         | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection  | Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.   |
| Chlorine (mg/L)   | [MRDL = 4 (asCl <sub>2</sub> )] | [MRDLG = 4 (asCl <sub>2</sub> )] | 0.38-10          | NO         | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment   | Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.   |

SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

| CONTAMINANT, UNITS                            | MCL        | PHG OR (MCLG) | RANGE (AVERAGE) | VIOLATION? | MAJOR SOURCES IN WATER  |
|---|------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|---|
| Color (color units)                           | 15 units   | N/A           | ND-5 (0.8)      | NO         | Naturally occurring organic materials.  |
| Copper (mg/L)                                 | 1.0 mg/L   | N/A           | ND-6 (1)        | NO         | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.              |
| Iron (µg/L)                                   | 300 µg/L   | N/A           | ND-100 (18)     | NO         | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.  |
| Turbidity (NTU)                               | 5 units    | N/A           | ND-0.78 (0.29)  | NO         | Soil runoff.  |
| Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (mg/L)           | 1,000 mg/L | N/A           | 170-230 (188)   | NO         | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.  |
| Sulfate (mg/L)                                | 500 mg/L   | N/A           | 21-71 (34)      | NO         | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.   |
| Hardness, Total (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) (ppm) | N/A        | N/A           | 41-70 (52)      | NO         | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring. |
| Sodium (mg/L)                                 | N/A        | N/A           | 32-59 (39)      | NO         | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.   |

Note: There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.

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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



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This report contains very important information about your drinking water. For more information or translation, please contact customer service by phone at (760) 501-8100 or visit [www.coachellaccr.com](http://www.coachellaccr.com).

Join the conversation!

We encourage you to have an active role in issues concerning the city's water. Meetings of the Coachella City Council take place at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at City Hall, 1515 Sixth St., Coachella. Check the city's website at [www.coachella.org](http://www.coachella.org) or call City Hall at (760) 398-3502 for more information.