



MAY 2024

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER

Strict Federal and State Quality Regulations

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 (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

How You Can Get Involved

The District Board of Directors normally meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the District Board Room at 4699 Hollister Avenue in Goleta. The public is encouraged to attend.

For more information about your water, contact Chris Borges at (805) 879-4693.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Goleta Water District a (805) 964-6761 para asistirlo en español.

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

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ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Results of Water Quality Testing for 2023

This report explains how water quality is measured, defines common terms, and reports on the results of the District's water quality testing. **The District is pleased to report that it is in compliance with all primary State and Federal drinking water standards.**

The District relies on a diverse water supply portfolio to meet customer needs and sustain the Goleta Valley.



[Photo: View of Lake Cachuma – Fall 2023]

The majority of your water comes from Lake Cachuma and is treated at the Corona Del Mar Water Treatment Plant. In addition, the District maintains a number of groundwater wells as a backup supply. In 2023, Berkeley, El Camino, San Antonio, San Marcos, San Ricardo, and Shirrell wells were used throughout the year.

The District's state-certified water treatment facilities monitor water quality around-the-clock so that customers are provided with high-quality and reliable water.

How The District Provides Quality Water

State-Certified Operators and Round-the-Clock Monitoring. District water treatment operators are state-certified water treatment professionals and are on the job every day to ensure that water always meets quality standards.

Extensive Testing. The District conducts thousands of tests each year using automated test equipment that continually analyzes water at different steps in the treatment process. Testing is conducted in the District's own laboratory and by independent state-certified laboratories.

Modern Updated Treatment Plant. The District invested in significant improvements to the Corona Del Mar Water Treatment Plant in 2000 and 2007. The District continues to implement upgrades and operational improvements that are necessary to provide cost-effective, high-quality water service.

Backup Systems to Ensure Quality. The treatment plant includes backup equipment for key systems to increase reliability during emergencies, high-water-use days, and during maintenance or interruptions.

For water softener settings, the hardness for District customers averages 20 grains per gallon.

The District's water quality testing is extremely accurate. Depending on the substance, the District can detect to the equivalent of one part per trillion parts of water. This is roughly the equivalent to finding one drop of a substance in 13 million gallons of water.

Results of the 2023 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables below list drinking water contaminants and other substances detected during 2023. The District also tested for many additional substances that were not detected and therefore are not listed in this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data is for testing done January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. The test results show that all water met or was better than all primary State and Federal water quality standards.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS

INORGANIC	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	ND	ND-0.07	ND	ND-ND	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1	0.33	N/A	0.34	0.19-0.46	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	0.5	N/A	ND	ND-ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	30	8	N/A	ND	ND-6	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)

RADIOLOGICAL	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/l)	15	(0)	ND	ND-ND	ND	ND-4.6	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta particle activity (pCi/l)	50 ¹	(0)	ND	N/A	ND	ND-6.1	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/l)	5	0.019	ND	N/A	ND	ND-1.1	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.43	1.2	N/A	1.0	ND-1.4	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER RULE	AL	PHG (MCLG)	90th Percentile Value	# of Sample Sites	# of Sites Exceeding AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.56	35	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) ²	15	0.2	0	35	0	Internal corrosion of household and other private water plumbing systems; discharge from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

MICROBIOLOGICAL ³	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Percentage of Samples Meeting TT	Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity ⁴ (NTU)	TT ⁵	N/A	0.22	100%	Soil runoff

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTION RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	System Average	System Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	N/A	44	22-62	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	27	13-43	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	[MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[MRDLG = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	1.26	0.23-2.0	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors (TOC in ppm)	TT ⁶	N/A	2.1	1.6-2.8	Various natural and manmade sources

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH REQUIRED MONITORING⁷

CONSTITUENT	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorate (ppb)	90	81-98	290	75-560	N/A
Germanium (ppb)	1.1	0.48-1.9	ND	ND-0.55	N/A
HAA6Br ⁸ (ppb)	20	13-24	N/A	N/A	N/A

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLS

CONSTITUENT	Secondary MCL	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	500	16	N/A	52	18-210	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	15	ND	ND-7.5	ND	ND-7.5	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron (ppb)	300	ND	N/A	ND	ND-150	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	50	ND	N/A	ND	ND-70	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor-Threshold (units)	3	1	1-3	1.4	1-2	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	1600	880	550-1200	1040	860-2450	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500	220	180-280	340	270-640	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	670	N/A	790	610-1600	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	0.05	0.02-0.22	0.09	0.05-0.13	Soil runoff

OTHER CONSTITUENTS

CONSTITUENT	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range
Alkalinity (ppm as CaCO ₃)	170	130-190	205	160-380
Bicarbonate (ppm)	170	170-170	210	160-410
Boron (ppb)	0.35	0.28-0.42	0.18	0.11-0.34
Calcium (ppm)	85	70-96	111	91-200
Hardness ⁹ (ppm as CaCO ₃)	400	N/A	460	370-820
Magnesium (ppm)	39	N/A	43	33-77
pH (units)	7.74	6.83-8.31	7.27	6.96-7.98
Potassium (ppm)	2.6	N/A	3.2	2.4-6.1
Sodium (ppm)	45	N/A	64	44-150

Variance: Goleta Water District (District) serves unfiltered Lake Cachuma water to 36 connections on the Goleta West Conduit. The water receives chlorination treatment but does not comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR). The State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water allows the District to provide bottled water to these customers for drinking and cooking. The District notifies these consumers quarterly that the water delivered is not in compliance with SWTR and should not be consumed.

Definitions Used in the Chart

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.

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.

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

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

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

N/A: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

pCi/l: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

µmhos/cm: Micromhos per centimeter (an indicator of dissolved minerals in the water).

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity units.

Variances and Exemptions: State Water Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a TT under certain conditions.

Footnotes to the Chart

- SWRCB considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
- 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. Goleta Water District 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 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>. Results for the Lead and Copper Rule are from 2021 sampling.
- This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2023. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.
- Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
- Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1) Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month; 2) Not exceed 1.0 NTU.
- Conventional surface water treatment plants must remove a certain percentage of the TOC in their raw intake water using a specialized enhanced coagulation treatment technique. The percentage removal required depends on raw water quality characteristics. For Goleta Water District's Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant's raw water source, the required percentage was 15% - 25% through 2023. Due to the nature of Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant's raw water, the water is non-amenable to removal of TOC via enhanced coagulation. Goleta Water District has a permitted waiver from this treatment requirement from the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water.
- Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
- HAA6Br: Bromochloroacetic acid, bromodichloroacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid, dibromochloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid and tribromoacetic acid.
- For water softener settings, the hardness for District customers averages 20 grains per gallon.

Note: The State allows the District 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. All of the surface water data presented in the tables are from samples taken in 2023, except for the following: The chlorate data is from 2018. The germanium data is from 2018 and 2019. All of the groundwater data presented in the tables are from samples taken from 2022 and 2023, except for the following: The chlorate data is from 2014 and 2015. The germanium data is from 2018. The boron data is from 2016 and 2019.



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Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment is an important tool for protecting water quality. It identifies how potential contaminants can affect a water source, and potential contamination vulnerabilities.

A source water assessment is required for surface water every five years.

The most recent assessment was completed for Lake Cachuma in September 2021. An assessment of all active District groundwater wells was completed in January 2002, an assessment of the Sierra Madre Well was completed in April 2003, and an assessment of the San Ricardo Well was completed in April 2013. Operating conditions surrounding the wells have not changed since that time, so an updated assessment has not been necessary.

Copies of the completed assessments are available at the District main office. You may request a summary of the assessments by contacting the Goleta Water District at (805) 964-6761.

Drinking Water Info

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 at (800) 426-4791.

Water in the Environment

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.
- **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 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.

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.

People with Sensitive Immune Systems

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. 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)**.