

YOUR 2024 WATER QUALITY CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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Coachella Water Authority vigilantly safeguards its water supply, and once again, we are proud to report that our system has not violated any maximum contaminant levels.

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.

WHERE DOES COACHELLA'S DRINKING WATER COME FROM?

The Coachella Water Authority (CWA) uses groundwater as its drinking water source. The groundwater is drawn from the Whitewater River Subbasin, part of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin, located within the Colorado River Hydrologic Region. Water is pumped from several municipal wells, including Well 11, Well 12, Well 16, Well 17, Well 18, and Well 19, which are located throughout the City of Coachella's service area.

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.

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.

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. Coachella Water Authority is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in customer 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 before using water for drinking or cooking. You can capture this flushed water in a container and use it for water plants. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Coachella Water Authority at (760) 501-8100. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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

Source water assessments for the Coachella Water Authority public water system were complete in March 2003, June 2007, and February 2008. The sources are most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants; gas stations, low density septic system, machine shops, cement/concrete plants, highways and railroads. If you would like to review the [Source Water Assessments](#), please feel free to contact our office during regular office hours at (760) 501-8100.

CONTAMINANT, UNITS	MCL OR (MRDL)	PHG OR (MCLG)	RANGE (AVERAGE)	VIOLATION?	MAJOR SOURCES IN WATER
MICROBIOLOGICAL					
E-coli (State Revised Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	0	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
RADIOACTIVE					
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L) †	15 pCi/L	(0)	3.7-5.9 (4.7)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20 pCi/L	0.43	2.86-4.22(3.5)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
INORGANIC					
Arsenic (µg/L) †	10 µg/L	0.004	2.1-3.20 (1.31)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium [Total] (µg/L) †	50 µg/L	(100)	13.0-24.0 (19.3)	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (µg/L)	10,000 (as N)	10	ND-0.68 (0.35)	NO	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L) †	2 mg/L	1	ND-0.88 (0.38)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; additive to promote strong teeth; fertilizer and aluminum factory discharge
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS & DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS					
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L)	(80 µg/L)	0	0.68-0.85(0.763)	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L)	(60 µg/L)	0	ND	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (mg/L)	(4 mg/L)	4	0.2-0.77 (0.43)	NO	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

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 (08)	NO	Naturally occurring organic materials.
Copper (mg/L) †	N/A	N/A	N/A	NO	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Iron (µg/L) †	300 µg/L	N/A	ND-110 (18)	NO	Leaching of natural deposits; industrial waters.
Turbidity (NTU) †	5 NTU	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	ND-420 (113.2)	NO	Naturally or leaching from natural deposits.
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃) (ppm) †	N/A	N/A	41-70 (52.5)	NO	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring.
pH (units) †	N/A	N/A	7-8.1 (7.7)	NO	Naturally occurring; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (mg/L) †	N/A	N/A	32-59 (39)	NO	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Odor (TON) †	3 TON	N/A	ND	NO	Naturally occurring organic material
Chloride(mg/L) †	500 mg/L	N/A	8-190 (62)	NO	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits.
Alkalinity, Total (as CaCO ₃) †	N/A	N/A	67-75 (69)	NO	Naturally occurring: typically from carbonate rocks and soils.
Calcium (mg/L) †	N/A	N/A	13-25 (17.6)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; commonly found in limestone formations.
Magnesium (mg/L) †	N/A	N/A	1.7-2.6 (20)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; often present in igneous and sedimentary rocks.
Specific Conductivity (µmhos/cm)†	1600 µmhos/cm	N/A	270-360 (298.3)	NO	Presence of dissolved minerals, and salts; naturally occurring in soil and rock.

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.

MONITORING & REPORTING VIOLATIONS

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During November 2024 we collected 48 of the required 50 coliform samples and on January 2025, we did not monitor for coliform bacteria from Well 12 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. Consequently, samples were collected to confirm our compliance with drinking water standards.

MONITORING AND REPORTING - CWA POPULATION SERVED: 46,000					
VIOLATION	TIER	DATE	DURATION	EXPLANATION	CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN
Routine Sampling Monitoring	3	Nov 2024	Nov 2024	CWA is required to collect monthly samples. However 48 out of the 50 samples were collected for November	The sampling schedule has been adjusted to collect 13 samples per week ensuring a minimum of 52 samples are collected each month.
Ground Water Rule Monitoring	3	Jan 2025	Jan 2025	A triggered source sample from Well 12 was not collected following a routine total coliform positive result	We have since taken the required samples as described. The samples show we are meeting drinking water standards.

Secondary Notification Requirements: Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]: **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors). **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities):** Must notify tenants. **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

LEAD AND COPPER RULE MONITORING RESULTS

In 2023, CWA completed Lead and Copper Rule monitoring by collecting tap water samples from 38 residences. The table below summarizes the results. The 90th percentile levels for both lead and copper were below their respective action levels, and no action level exceedances occurred.

In accordance with 40 CFR Sections 141.84(a)(7) and 141.153(h)(8)(ii), the City of Coachella has completed a comprehensive Lead Service Line Inventory as required by federal regulations. The inventory is available to the public and may be accessed upon request at the City's Corporate Yard, located at 53462 Enterprise Way, Coachella, CA.

LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVELS AT RESIDENTS TAPS								
LEAD & COPPER	SAMPLE DATE	AL EXCEEDANCE?	90 TH PERCENTILE LVL. DETECTED	RANGE	NO. SITES EXCEEDING AL	MCL	PHG	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Lead (ppb)	2023	NO	ND	ND-0.011 mg/L	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2023	NO	0.05	ND-0.19 mg/L	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

† 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, are more than one year old. *Data sourced in 2024*

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.conservecoachella.com/water-quality-reports/

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 or call City Hall at (760) 398-3502 for more information.