

Presented By



# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2015

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PWS ID#: 5610011

## Meeting the Challenge

Once again we are proud to present our annual drinking water report, covering all drinking water testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2015. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to your homes and businesses. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

Please remember that we are always available to assist you, should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Sam Hutton, Chief Water Operator, at (805) 933-4282.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



## Testing for Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal if the level of radon in your air is 4 pCi/L of air or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call California's radon program at (800) 745-7236, the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or the National Safety Council Radon Hotline at (800) 767-7236.

## Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include: Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife; Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and Herbicides, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Santa Paula's source of water is 100 percent groundwater, pumped from the Santa Paula Basin. The basin is made up of hundreds of feet of sands and gravels deposited in the Santa Clara Valley and the mouth of the Santa Paula Canyon. It contains millions of gallons of water between sand and gravel particles. The Santa Paula Basin extends from the Hallock Drive area on the east to the Wells Road area on the west.

The City of Santa Paula owns and operates five deep wells: Well 1-B, Well 11, Well 12, Well 13, and Well 14. With these five wells, the water system can produce up to 10.6 million gallons of potable water per day.

The City operates two water conditioning facilities: the Well 12 Water Conditioning Facility and the Steckel Water Conditioning Facility. Both facilities remove iron and manganese from the water. Although neither iron nor manganese is a health concern in itself, water containing high levels of iron will look rusty and stain fixtures and laundry. Similarly, water with high levels of manganese will contain black particles that may stain laundry and fixtures and plug appliance screens. The Well 12 Water Conditioning Facility treats water produced by Well 12. The Steckel Water Conditioning Facility treats water produced from Wells 11, 13, and 14.

## Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.

- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## Community Participation

The City of Santa Paula Water System is managed as an enterprise function by the City of Santa Paula. The Water Operation and Water Distribution Divisions of the Public Works Department conduct the operations. Comments about the water system can be forwarded to the City Council, which meets on the first and third Monday evenings of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, 970 Ventura Street, Santa Paula, California.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

## Source Water Assessment

The City of Santa Paula's source water assessment was completed in September 2002, with the assistance of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Our source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities, although they are not associated with any detected contaminants: Sewer collection systems, wells-agricultural/irrigation, NPDES/WDR permitted discharges, automotive-body shops, machine shops, metal plating/finishing/fabricating, historic gas stations and underground storage tanks-confirmed leaking tanks.

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at either the CDPH Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013 or at the City of Santa Paula, Public Works Water Division, 180 South Palm Avenue, Santa Paula, CA 93060. To request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you, call Jeff Densmore, District Engineer, at (805) 566-1326.

## Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Contact us for more information on this program.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Arsenic</b> (ppb)	2015	10	0.004	0.8	0.0–2.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
<b>Barium</b> (ppb)	2015	1,000	2,000	19.7	15.5–27.5	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Cadmium</b> (ppb)	2015	5	0.04	0.1	0.0–0.3	No	Internal corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from electroplating and industrial chemical factories, and metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
<b>Chlorine</b> (ppm)	2015	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	0.79	0.32–1.22	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
<b>Chromium</b> (ppb)	2015	50	(100)	2.5	0.0–4.0	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	2015	2.0	1	0.5	0.4–0.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Gross Alpha Particle Activity</b> (pCi/L)	2010	15	(0)	5.6	4.5–6.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b> (ppb)	2015	60	NA	2.5	2.0–3.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Nickel</b> (ppb)	2015	100	12	0.0	0.0–2.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
<b>Nitrate [as nitrate]</b> (ppm)	2015	45	45	7.4	1.1–23.1	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Nitrate + Nitrite [as nitrogen]</b> (ppm)	2015	10	10	2.16	0.3–5.2	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Nitrite [as nitrogen]</b> (ppm)	2015	1	1	0.8	0.0–5.0	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radium 226</b> (pCi/L)	2010	5	0.05	0.1	0.1–0.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Selenium</b> (ppb)	2015	50	30	7.5	1.0–13.0	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
<b>TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]</b> (ppb)	2015	80	NA	18.1	15.7–20.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Uranium</b> (pCi/L)	2010	20	0.43	4.0	3.0–4.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Copper</b> (ppm)	2013	1.3	0.3	0.367	0/37	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
<b>Lead</b> (ppb)	2013	15	0.2	2.9	0/37	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

## SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	EXCEEDANCE	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2015	500	NS	44.2	41.0–47.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	2015	300	NS	18.1	0.0–250	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2015	50	NS	8.8	0.0–150	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2015	1,600	NS	1,326.1	1,200–1,470	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2015	500	NS	404.9	340.0–480.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2015	1,000	NS	940.7	840–1,040	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Units)	2015	5	NS	0.1	0.0–0.2	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2015	5.0	NS	0.0015	0–0.03	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

## OTHER SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Boron (ppb)	2015	466	400–500
Sodium (ppm)	2015	88.2	76–92
Calcium (ppm)	2015	139.4	112–168
Hardness [as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ] (ppm)	2015	505.4	399–592
Hardness (grains/gal)	2015	29.6	23.3–34.6
Potassium (ppm)	2015	3.6	3–4

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE PART 3 (UCMR3)

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Chlorate (ppb)	2014	120.6	100–400
Molybdenum (ppb)	2014	10.4	7.7–12
Strontium (ppb)	2014	1,153.2	1,053.2–1,300
Vanadium (ppb)	2015	2.0	0.0–3.0

<sup>1</sup> Manganese and total dissolved solids were detected in Santa Paula's source water supply at levels exceeding the established state secondary MCLs (SMCLs), which are set to protect against unpleasant aesthetic effects such as color, taste, odor, and staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs or sinks) or clothing during laundering. There are no adverse health effects expected with these exceedances. In 2015, 97.3 percent of the water served was treated at our two iron and manganese removal facilities prior to delivery. The remaining 2.7 percent was from Well 1-B and was used to meet peak demands during summer months.

## Definitions

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

**µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**grains/gal (grains per gallon):** Grains of compound per gallon of water.

**LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average):** The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as LRAAs.

**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 (SMCLs) 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 U.S. EPA.

**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 for control of 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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**NS:** No standard

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

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

**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 EPA.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).