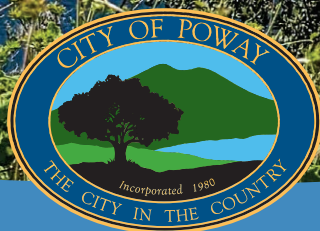


CITY OF POWAY

REPORTING FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023

Water Quality Report



THE DISINFECTION PROCESS

The City of Poway employs two methods of disinfection. The first, chlorine, effectively eliminates water-borne diseases from the public water supply. The second, chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, further improves the quality of our water supply and reduces the formation of disinfection byproducts. This disinfection process chemically deactivates and physically removes bacteria, viruses and other contaminants. There is no evidence that the virus COVID-19 is transmitted through treated water.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is responsible for enforcing Drinking Water Quality Regulations, as set forth by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The USEPA regulations are composed of primary and secondary standards: Primary standards relate to the protection of public health. These standards specify limits for substances in water that may be harmful to humans if consumed in excess of those limits.

Secondary standards relate to aesthetic qualities of water such as taste, odor, or clarity. These standards specify limits for substances that may influence consumer acceptance of the water.



Be Waterwise



Reducing the amount of water you use inside your home is as easy as turning off the faucet.



SAVE UP TO
35
GALLONS
PER WEEK

Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes



SAVE UP TO
8
GALLONS
PER WEEK

Spend only five minutes in the shower



SAVE UP TO
2.5
GALLONS
PER MINUTE

Turn off water while you brush your teeth



SAVE UP TO
500
GALLONS
PER MONTH

Check sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads



SAVE UP TO
25
GALLONS
PER DAY

Fix household leaks promptly



SAVE UP TO
500
GALLONS
PER WEEK

Water your landscape 1 to 2 days each week



SAVE UP TO
100
GALLONS
EACH TIME

Use a broom (not hose) to clean driveways, sidewalks



SAVE UP TO
40
GALLONS
PER DAY

Install a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on weather, soil type and shade



SAVE UP TO
5
GALLONS
EACH TIME

Water plants in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation

Up to 60% of your annual water use is outside your home.

ABBREVIATIONS:	ppb = parts per billion (ug/L)
AL = Action Level	ppm = parts per million (mg/L)
NA = Not Applicable	TT = Treatment Technique
NC = Not Collected	TON = Threshold Odor Number
ND = None Detected	umhos/cm = micromhos/centimeter
NL = Notification Level	CFU/mL = Colony-Forming Units per Milliliter
NS = No Standard	
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units	
pCi/L = picocuries per liter	

FOOTNOTES TO TABLE:

- (a) **TURBIDITY:** A measure of the cloudiness of water; indicates effectiveness of the filtration system. Must be less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly readings, and always less than 5.0 NTU.
- (b) SWRCB considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
- (c) **MICROBIOLOGICAL:** No more than 5.0% of monthly samples may be total coliform-positive. Two consecutive positives, one being E. coli, is a violation. No MCL violations occurred in 2023.
- (d) TTHM, HAA, and Chlorine Residual averages are for the highest running annual average (RAA) for 2023. RAA is the average of the four most recent quarters' results.
- (e) Lead and copper testing is performed on a triennial basis. The 2022 sampling results are based on the 90th percentile as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. The next sampling is due in 2025.

DEFINITIONS AND NOTES:

- 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.
- 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 that a water system must follow.
- 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.
- Locational Running Annual Averages (LRAA):** The highest of all locations collected (LRAA) for 2023.

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 run-off, 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 run-off, and residential uses.
 - Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or a result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
 - Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater run-off, agricultural application, and septic systems.

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 compounds associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Poway 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/safewater/lead>.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When all Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were or Will Be Taken
1,2,3 - TCP	Annual Sample ¹	1	2020-2022	12/18/2023
Nitrate	Quarterly Sampling ²	4	2020	2023
Perchlorate	Annual Sample	1	2023	11/2023
DBPs*	Quarterly Sampling ³	8	2023	2023
Asbestos ⁴	Once Every Nine Years	1	2023	11/6/2023
Foaming Agents	Annual Sample	1	2023	11/2023

- 1/ The state certified laboratory responsible for 1,2,3-TCP sample analysis conducted analyses using EPA Method 524.2 versus SRL 524M Method, a testing method not accepted by DDW for compliance monitoring from 2020 -2022.
- 2/ All required Nitrate sampling was performed and samples met all state and federal standards, however, the contract laboratory did not electronically submit the sample results with the proper PS Code.
- 3/ All required sampling was performed and samples met all state and federal standards, however, the contract laboratory did not electronically submit the sample results via CLIP.
- 4/ Asbestos was sampled in the distribution system as required in November 2023 and results were provided to DDW on February 1, 2024. No asbestos types or fibers were detected.
- * Includes Haloacetic Acids (five), monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid.

the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The SWRCB regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Public Notification

The City of Poway (Poway) received a Notice of Violation on January 26, 2024, for monitoring and reporting violations from 2020-2023, corrected all violations, and returned to compliance. Poway uses a state certified commercial laboratory to collect samples and electronically report analytical results to the SWRCB Division of Drinking Water (DDW) website via the California Laboratory Intake Portal (CLIP). However, the contract laboratory did not electronically submit the analytical results for several constituents to DDW with the correct Primary Station Codes (PS codes), which properly identify the samples.

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Poway monitors Lake Poway surface water annually for (61) volatile and synthetic organic chemicals. A contract laboratory conducted 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) sample analysis using United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Method 524.2 for annual samples taken from Lake Poway from 2020 to 2022. EPA Method 524.2 for 1,2,3-TCP analysis is no longer an acceptable analytical method for this test, pursuant to State of California DDW regulations. Poway returned to compliance with 1,2,3-TCP monitoring by collecting a sample from Lake Poway on December 18, 2023, and electronically reported a non-detect result via CLIP using an acceptable analytical method (SRL 524M).

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 2020 through 2022, we did not complete required testing for 1,2,3-TCP, from Lake Poway, and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Poway has corrected all monitoring and reporting violations and is in compliance with state and federal drinking water regulations. See the table below for a summary of referenced constituents.

		STATE	PHG	TREATMENT PLANT		DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		LAKE POWAY WATER		IMPORTED WATER		SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER
PARAMETER	UNITS	MCL [MRDL]	(MCLG) [MRDLG]	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	
PRIMARY STANDARDS- Mandatory Health Related Standards Established by the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water.												
CLARITY												
Turbidity (a)	NTU	0.3 (TT)	NA	Highest Reading = 0.08		0.044	<0.1 - 0.400	0.20	0.20	ND	ND	Soil runoff
	%	95	NA	% < 0.3: 100%		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
INORGANIC CHEMICALS												
Aluminum	ppm	1	0.6	0.056	ND<0.025 - 0.140	NA	NA	<0.05	<0.05	113	ND - 110	Residue from treatment processes
Arsenic	ppb	10	0.004	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.83	1.83	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (naturally-occurring)	ppm	2.0	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.211	0.211	0.7	0.6 - 0.8	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	NA	NA	0.335	<0.113 - 0.834	0.111	ND<2 - 0.206	ND	ND	Run-off & leaching from fertilizer use
RADIOACTIVITY												
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	(0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.53±0.923	1.53±0.923	ND	ND - 4	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (b)	pCi/L	50	(0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.67±1.07	4.67±1.07	ND	ND - 8	Decay of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.69	2.69	2	ND - 3	Erosion of natural deposits
MICROBIOLOGICAL												
Total Coliform Bacteria	(c)	5.0%	(0)	0.00%	<1	Highest % positive = 0%		679	15 - 2420	NA	NA	Naturally present in environment
E. coli	(c)	(c)	(0)	# positives = 0		# positives = 0		14.1	ND - 70	NA	NA	Human and animal fecal waste
Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC)	CFU/mL	TT	NA	0.096	ND - 2	0.06	ND - 4	NA	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in environment
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS												
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) (d)	ppb	80	NA	NA	NA	47	17.2 - 58.7	NA	NA	31	21 -37	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (d)	ppb	60	NA	NA	NA	18.0	2.6 - 29	NA	NA	15	1.7 -26	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Residual as Chloramine (d)	ppm	[4]	[4]	NA	NA	2.72	0.45 - 3.68	NA	NA	NA	NA	Disinfectant added for treatment
SECONDARY STANDARDS- Aesthetic Standards Established by the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water.												
Aluminum	ppb	100	60	56	ND<25 - 140	NA	NA	<50	<50	113	ND - 110	Residue from treatment processes
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	95	95	91	72 - 110	Runoff / leaching of natural deposits
Color	units	15	NA	NA	NA	0.137	<1 - 7	5	5	1	1	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor Threshold	TON	3	NA	NA	NA	<1	<1	<1	<1	3	2	
Specific Conductance	umhos/cm	1600	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	915	915	852	664 -1,040	Substances that form ions in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	159	159	174	113 - 236	Runoff / leaching of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	510	510	536	401 -670	
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS - May become regulated in the future												
Boron	ppb	NA	NL=1000	NA	NA	NA	NA	146	146	130	130	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium	ppb	NA	NL=50	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.76	3.76	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
OTHER PARAMETERS												
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	109	109	108	92 - 125	Runoff / leaching of natural deposits
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	49.5	49.5	56	39 - 72	
Hardness as Calcium Carbonate	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	235	235	228	165 - 291	Leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23.8	23.8	21	15 - 27	Runoff / leaching of natural deposits
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.50	5.50	4.2	3.6 - 4.8	Leaching from natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	91.2	91.2	86	69 - 103	Runoff / leaching of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.61	3.18 - 3.87	2.6	2.3 - 3.0	Natural and manmade deposits

PARAMETER	UNITS	STATE MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	90TH PERCENTILE	NO. OF SITES SAMPLED	NO. OF SITES EXCEEDING AL	SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER
LEAD AND COPPER RULE (e) (Sampled in 2022)							
Copper	ppm	AL=1.3	0.3	0.0762	34	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	ppb	AL=15	0.2	1.86	34	2	

This annual water quality report explains how drinking water provided by the City of Poway meets or exceeds all state and federal water quality standards for your drinking water. We conduct approximately 65,000 tests annually on the drinking water quality; many of the tests go beyond what is required by regulations. This report includes results of water quality tests performed between January 1, and December 31, 2023. It also includes notes, background information and definitions helpful for interpreting the data, as well as an explanation of where your water comes from.

The City of Poway routinely monitors the water supplies for a range of elements that could potentially impact the quality of your water. If a potential problem is detected, our water treatment personnel take measures to restore the quality of the water.

The City of Poway is committed in continuing investments for planned

replacements and upgrades to our water treatment and distribution systems. With the goal of increasing the reliability of drinking water for our customers now and generations to come, the City of Poway is undertaking the largest capital improvement program (CIP) in the city's 44-year history. The CIP will include replacing the 10 million gallon clearwell (water storage reservoir) at the water treatment plant and obtaining a new San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) treated water connection.

Learn more about these projects at poway.org/water-projects. For additional information on the water quality testing results in this report, please call Aaron Huff, Water Treatment Plant Manager at the City of Poway Lester J. Berglund Water Treatment Plant at (858) 668-4751.

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

Two 1.4 MG temporary storage tanks, located at the Lake Poway ballfield, are being used while the clearwell at the water treatment plant is replaced.

Poway treats an average of 8 million gallons per day, close to 3 billion gallons per year

SURFACE WATER SOURCES

The City of Poway relies on two surface water sources: water that is imported from the San Diego County Water Authority and local rainfall captured by Lake Poway. The imported water comprises the majority of the water needs of the community, accounting for 99.5% of the raw water supply.

The raw water is received from the Northern California Aqueduct and Colorado River Systems. These sources of water are pumped to the Lester J. Berglund Water Treatment Plant and to Lake Poway for storage.

THE TREATMENT PROCESS

To ensure a safe drinking water supply, the raw water undergoes a series of treatment processes including: coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, taste/odor control, corrosion control, and disinfection.

These treatment processes ensure that water of the highest quality is available to all our customers.

Coagulation,
Flocculation &
Sedimentation



Chlorine &
Chloramines



Filtration



Storage

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION:

In accordance with the mandate of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has developed the Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program to evaluate watershed vulnerability to potential contamination sources. The City of Poway completed its Watershed Sanitary Survey (WSS) update in December 2020. The WSS includes an updated assessment of potential contamination sources and source protection activities. The 2020 WSS can be viewed upon request from the Poway City Clerk's Office (858) 668-4530.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MWD) SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

MWD of Southern California completed its source water assessments - watershed sanitary surveys of the Colorado River in December 2020, and the State Water Project in 2021. Colorado River supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to recreation, urban/stormwater run-off, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban/stormwater run-off, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting MWD at (800) 354-4420.

UNREPORTED WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS:

Only "detected" parameters are included in this report, as required by the State. Over 75 additional water quality parameters were investigated, and not detected at the detection limits required by the State of California.

LEAD AND COPPER RULE:

Mandated by the EPA effective in 1992, the Rule monitors for lead and copper contamination after the water has left the distribution system. Water is collected from selected representative household faucets every three years. The most recent sampling was in 2022.

METHYL TERT-BUTYL ETHER (MTBE):

Not detected in Poway water supply. MTBE has been found in some groundwater wells in California. The source is most likely from leaking underground gasoline storage tanks. Poway relies on surface water sources which are less vulnerable to MTBE contamination.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The City welcomes and encourages your continued interest and involvement in the City's decision-making process.

The City Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 13325 Civic Center Drive.

INFORMATIVE WEB SITES:

EPA Drinking Water Website : <http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>
EPA Drinking Water Website : <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-regulations>
State Water Resources Control Board : http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/NotificationLevels.html

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

City of Poway Water Treatment Plant.....(858) 668-4751
EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline.....(800) 426-4791
SWRCB, Office of Drinking Water(916) 341-5254

REQUIRED HEALTH INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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).

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).

