Since 1991, California water utilities have been providing information on water served to its consumers. This report is a snapshot of the tap water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is tested, what is in it, and how it compares with state and federal limits. We strive to keep you informed about the quality of your water, and to provide a reliable and economic supply that meets all regulatory requirements.

**Where Does My Tap Water Come From?**

Your tap water comes from local deep groundwater wells that supply our service area shown on the adjacent map. The quality of groundwater delivered to your home is presented in this report.

**How is My Drinking Water Tested?**

Your drinking water is tested regularly for unsafe levels of chemicals, radioactivity and bacteria at the source and in the distribution system. We test weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually or less often depending on the substance. State and federal laws allow us to test some substances less than once per year because their levels do not change frequently. All water quality tests are conducted by specially trained technicians in state-certified laboratories.

**What Are Drinking Water Standards?**

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) limits the amount of certain substances allowed in tap water. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) regulates tap water quality by enforcing limits that are at least as stringent as the Federal EPA’s. Historically, California limits are more stringent than the Federal ones.

There are two types of these limits, known as standards. Primary standards protect you from substances that could potentially affect your health. Secondary standards regulate substances that affect the aesthetic qualities of water. Regulations set a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for each of the primary and secondary standards. The MCL is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in your drinking water.

Public Health Goals (PHGs) are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. PHGs provide more information on the quality of drinking water to customers, and are similar to their federal counterparts, Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs). PHGs and MCLGs are advisory levels that are non-enforceable. Both PHGs and MCLGs are concentrations of a substance below which there are no known or expected health risks.

**How Do I Read the Water Quality Table?**

Although we test for over 100 substances, regulations require us to report only those found in your water. The first column of the water quality table lists substances detected in your water. The next columns list the average concentration and range of concentrations found in your drinking water. Following are columns that list the MCL and PHG or MCLG, if appropriate. The last column describes the likely sources of these substances in drinking water.

To review the quality of your drinking water, compare the highest concentration and the MCL. Check for substances greater than the MCL. Exceedence of a primary MCL does not usually constitute an immediate health threat. Rather, it requires testing the source water more frequently for a short duration. If test results show that the water continues to exceed the MCL, the water must be treated to remove the substance, or the source must be removed from service.

**Why Do I See So Much Coverage in the News About the Quality Of Tap Water?**

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, including 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, 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, 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, which 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 USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The
State Board regulations also 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 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 USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). You can also get more information on tap water by logging on to these helpful web sites:

- [https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations](https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations) (USEPA’s web site)
- [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Chemicalcontaminants.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Chemicalcontaminants.html) (State Board web site)

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problem, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with services lines and home plumbing. Orchard Dale 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](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

**Should I Take Additional Precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. The USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Source Water Assessment**

Orchard Dale Water District purchases its groundwater from La Habra Heights County Water District. The La Habra Heights County Water District conducted an assessment of its groundwater supplies in 2003. Groundwater supplies are considered most vulnerable to surface water recreational areas, chemical/petroleum pipelines, and other animal operations. A copy of the approved assessment may be obtained by contacting Orchard Dale Water District 13819 East Telegraph Road, Whittier, CA 90604 or by calling the office at (562) 941-0114.

**How Can I Participate in Decisions On Water Issues That Affect Me?**

The public is welcome to attend Board meetings the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the District’s office located at 13819 East Telegraph Road, Whittier, CA 90604.

**How Do I Contact My Water Agency If I Have Any Questions About Water Quality?**

If you have specific questions about your tap water quality, please contact Randall Silvett at (562) 941-0114.

**Some Helpful Water Conservation Tips**

- Fix leaky faucets in your home – save up to 20 gallons every day for every leak stopped
- Save between 15 and 50 gallons each time by only washing full loads of laundry
- Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn/garden, not the sidewalk/driveway – save 500 gallons per month
- Use organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation – save hundreds of gallons a year
- Never let the water run while brushing your teeth or shaving. – save 35 gallons a week per person

Visit us at: [www.ODWD.ORG](http://www.ODWD.ORG)
### Primary Standards Monitored at the Source (Mandatory for Public Health)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)</th>
<th>California Public Health Goal (PHG)</th>
<th>USEPA</th>
<th>USEPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic (ug/l)</td>
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<td>NA</td>
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<td>ND (c.f.u./100 ml)</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
<td>ND (c.f.u./100 ml)</td>
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<td>Enteric Viruses (c.f.u./100 ml)</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
<td>ND (c.f.u./100 ml)</td>
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<td>ND</td>
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</table>

### Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS)

- **California 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.
- **MCL or PHG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLs and PHGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### General Notes

- **Tested for:** Contaminants to be monitored for by the nation's water utilities over a three year period. This was in 2013-2015 with the third UCMR (UCMR-3).
- **Data reported:** Total of 21 chemical contaminants from its wells along with a corresponding sampling from the distribution system reflecting water from each well. EPA has obtained occurrence data reported in this year’s Consumer Confidence Report.

### Drinking Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR-3)

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify unregulated contaminants for potential regulation. Every five years, EPA identifies a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored for by the nation’s water utilities over a three-year period. In 2013, the UCMR-3 was published which required the analysis of 21 chemical contaminants from five wells. The OCRDA Water District has monitored for a total of 21 chemical contaminants from its wells along with a corresponding sampling from the distribution system reflecting water from each well. EPA has obtained occurrence data reported in this year’s Consumer Confidence Report.

### USEPA Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

- **MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MRDLs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the taste, odor, and aesthetic aspects of drinking water.

### Definitions

- **Primary Drinking Water Standard (MCL):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Primary Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant residual in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Secondary MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **California Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level at which notification of the public water system governing body is required. A health-based advisory level for an unregulated contaminant. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it. To obtain a copy in Spanish, call (562) 941-0114.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para obtener una copia en Español, llame a (562) 941-0114.

ORCHARD DALE WATER DISTRICT
13819 EAST TELEGRAPH ROAD
WHITTIER, CA  90604