

WATER QUALITY REPORT 2017

An important message about drinking water sources from the USEPA

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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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**, 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 can also come from gas stations, urban storm water 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.

Regulations: In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Health Information: 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 people, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Center 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 Hot Line. 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 the 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 at 1 (800) 426-4791.

Water Sources: Riverside obtains its water supply from groundwater stored in the Bunker Hill and Riverside groundwater basins. An assessment of these drinking water sources for the City of Riverside was completed in May 2013. These sources are considered most vulnerable to historical contamination from industrial and agricultural operations.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at State Board District Office, 1350 Front Street, Room 2050, San Diego, CA 92101 or at Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) offices at 3750 University Ave. 3rd Floor, Riverside, CA 92501. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting the State Board district engineer or a RPU water system representative at (951) 351-6370.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

SPANISH

Este reporte contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para más información por favor llame (951) 351-6370.

TAGALOG

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito.
Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

CHINESE

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

VIETNAMESE

Chi tiết này thật quan trọng.
Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.

JAPANESE

この情報は重要です。
翻訳を依頼してください。

KOREAN

이 안내는 매우 중요합니다.
본인을 위해 번역인을 사용하십시오.

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES 2017 WATER QUALITY REPORT

PRIMARY STANDARDS: MANDATORY HEALTH-RELATED STANDARDS

CONTAMINANT	STATE MCL	STATE PHG	RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES AVERAGE RANGE		SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
MICROBIOLOGICAL Total Coliform (P/A) (a)	5%	0 (MCLG)	0.2%	0 - 1%	Naturally present in environment
CLARITY Turbidity (John W. North Treatment Plant)	TT	NS	0.07 NTU (Highest)	100% Meeting turbidity limits	Soil runoff
REGULATED ORGANIC Total Trihalomethanes "TTHMs"	80 ppb	NS	4.3 ppb	1.4 - 7.6 ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	4.0 ppm as Cl ₂ (MRDL)	4 ppm as Cl ₂ (MRDLG)	0.62 ppm	0.55 - 0.62 ppm	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP Precursors-TOC	TT	NS	0.25 ppm	0 - 0.37 ppm	Various natural and man-made sources
REGULATED INORGANIC Arsenic	10 ppb	4 ppt	2 ppb	1.7 - 2.2 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2.0 ppm	1 ppm	0.5 ppm	0.5 - 0.6 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Nitrate (as nitrogen, N)	10 ppm	10 ppm	5.1 ppm	4.3 - 5.7 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Perchlorate	6 ppb	1 ppb	ND	ND	Inorganic chemical used in variety of industrial operatives
Hexavalent Chromium	10 ppb*	0.02 ppb	2.2 ppb	1.9 - 2.4 ppb	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits *This MCL was withdrawn on 9/11/17
RADIOLOGICAL Uranium	20 pCi/L	0.43 pCi/L	7.4 pCi/L	4.1 - 11 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
LEAD/COPPER (AL) (90% Household Tap)					
Copper (b)	1,300 ppb	300 ppb	450 ppb	<50 - 730 ppb	Internal corrosion of home plumbing
UNREGULATED CHEMICALS	NOTIFICATION LEVEL	STATE PHG OR MCLG	AVERAGE	RIVERSIDE RANGE	
Vanadium	50 ppb	NS	6.9 ppb	6.5 - 7.5 ppb	
Boron	1000 ppb	NS	123 ppb	110 - 130 ppb	
Chlorate	800 ppb	NS	61 ppb	56 - 66 ppb	Data from UCMR3 - 2013
Molybdenum	NS	NS	4.1 ppb	4.0 - 4.2 ppb	Data from UCMR3 - 2013
Strontium	NS	NS	495 ppb	490 - 500 ppb	Data from UCMR3 - 2013
Radon	NS	NS	340 pCi/L	N/A	

Definitions

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 US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG) The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

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

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

Millirem (mrem) is a unit used to account for various radiations that have an effect on humans.

Parts Per Million (ppm) One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or one penny in \$10,000.

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

Parts Per Billion (ppb) One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts Per Trillion (ppt) One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in two million years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) A measure of suspended material in water.

Micromhos (μ MHOS) A measure of conductivity (electric current) in water.

UCMR3 Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

NL Notification level

ND Not detected at the detection limit for reporting.

NS No standard.

GPG Grains per gallon of hardness (1 gpg = 17.1 ppm).

< Less than the detectable levels.

(a) Results of all samples collected from the distribution system during any month shall be free of total coliforms in 95% or more of the monthly samples. This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Beginning April 1, 2016, all water systems are also required to comply with the federal revised Total Coliform Rule. The new federal 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 new 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.

(b) The Lead and Copper Rule requires that 90 percent of samples taken from drinking water taps in the program homes must be below the action levels. Monitoring is required every 3 years. In 2016, 52 homes participated in the monitoring program. No lead was detected in the 90th percentile samples. The average value listed for copper is the 90th percentile result. No home exceeded the action level for either lead or copper. The next monitoring program is scheduled for 2019. In 2017, 8 schools have requested lead sampling.

Additional Regulatory Information

Fluoride - The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) has established an "optimal" fluoride level for water at 1 ppm. Riverside has naturally occurring fluoride levels at 0.5 ppm and is not planning to add fluoride to its water by artificial means.

Lead - 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. Riverside Public Utilities 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 two 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 EPA.gov/SafeWater/Lead.

Nitrate - Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of an infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 ppm may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant or you are pregnant, you should ask advice about nitrate levels from your health care provider.

Riverside provides drinking water that on average is at 5.1 ppm and has a range from 4.3 ppm to 5.7 ppm during the year. The State Board has set the MCL for nitrate at 10 ppm. Riverside has 53 wells that are blended to comply with drinking water standards. The city conducts extensive monitoring of the blend operations. Seasonal variation in demand and flow, in addition to system maintenance and repair, impact the nitrate levels during the year.

Perchlorate - Perchlorate is a regulated drinking water contaminant in California. The maximum contaminant level for perchlorate is 6 parts per billion. Perchlorate salts were used in solid rocket propellants and other industrial applications.

Radon - Radon is a carcinogenic, radioactive gas, found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation, and can also be released from tap water from 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. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer, while drinking water containing radon may increase the 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 for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple and cost-effective ways to fix a radon problem. For additional information, call your State radon program (1-800-745-7236), the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791), or the National Safety Council Radon Hotline (1-800-767-7236).

Turbidity A measure of the cloudiness of the water. Turbidity is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Monitoring Unregulated Contaminants

This monitoring helps USEPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. Data is available at EPA.gov/ogwdw.

SECONDARY STANDARDS

AESTHETIC STANDARDS

	STATE MCL	RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES AVERAGE	RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES RANGE	SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Odor Threshold	3 Units	1.4 Units	1 - 2 Units	Naturally present in environment
Chloride	500 ppm	32 ppm	25 - 35 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Sulfate	500 ppm	72 ppm	63 - 77 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Total Dissolved Solids "TDS"	1,000 ppm	379 ppm	310 - 430 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Specific Conductance	1,600 µmho/cm	598 µmho/cm	540-630 µmho/cm	Substances form ions in water
pH Units	NS	8 Units	7.8 - 8.1 Units	Naturally present in environment
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	NS	203 ppm (12 gpg)	180 - 220 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	NS	160 ppm	150 - 170 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Sodium	NS	44 ppm	42 - 46 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Calcium	NS	66 ppm	59 - 71 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Potassium	NS	3 ppm	2.8 - 3.3 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Magnesium	NS	9.5 ppm	7.9 - 11 ppm	Naturally present in environment
Turbidity	5.0 NTU	<0.1 NTU	0 - 0.51 NTU	Naturally present in environment

Monitoring Report 2017

Riverside Public Utilities tests for more than 200 regulated and unregulated contaminants in our water system. This report provides data from sampling conducted in calendar year 2017. Only those contaminants detected in our water system are listed here. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. For a listing of additional chemical tests, please contact our Water Quality Division at (951) 351-6370.

Water Resources

RPU met all of its water supply needs in 2017 by utilizing groundwater sources located in the San Bernardino Bunker Hill Basin and the Riverside Basin. RPU directly treats some of its wells and blends all water sources at a central location before entering into distribution. All data provided are from samples collected in the distribution system or at the entry point to the system.

Water Compliance & Monitoring Program

In 2017, we collected more than 25,237 water samples to test for a variety of potential contaminants. Samples were collected at water sources, along transmission pipelines, throughout the distribution system, including reservoirs and booster stations, and treatment plants to ensure water quality from its source to your meter.

The Utility uses state certified independent laboratories to perform water tests. This ensures that an independent set of experts test your water from the source to your meter. Last year, we spent approximately \$500,000 on compliance laboratory costs.

Riverside Public Utilities 2017 Water Sampling Data

6,503 - Samples collected to test for bacteria.

6,150 - Samples collected for source and system compliance and monitoring.

12,584 - Samples collected for treatment plant compliance and monitoring.

25,237 - Total samples collected.

We are pleased to report that our water met or surpassed all state and federal drinking water quality standards in 2017. We welcome you to attend our Board of Public Utilities meetings in the Art Pick Council Chamber at 3900 Main Street, Riverside, held at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. You can also visit our website at BlueRiverside.com for more information.