

**CITY OF ATWATER**  
750 BELLEVUE ROAD  
ATWATER, CA 95301

---

PRSRT STD  
PERMIT NO. 28  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ATWATER, CA

---

Postal Customer

## **DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

City of Atwater Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report  
July 2015

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

Dear Water Customer: The Water Division of the City of Atwater's Public Works Department is pleased to present a summary of water quality as collected and delivered to you for the 2014 calendar year. We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 and may include earlier monitoring data. Utility customers receive an annual Consumer Confidence Report as part of the requirements instituted by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report will inform you where our water comes from, what it contains, and the monitoring and treatment measures taken to protect against drinking water risks. It is the City of Atwater's specific intention and goal to supply you with consistently clean and reliable water.

The City of Atwater currently pumps water from nine (9) approved water supply wells. All wells are located throughout the City, within City limits (exception: Well #21, Federal Bureau of Prisons). The City of Atwater completed its Source Water Assessment of all wells in November 2002. Information concerning the water wells and distribution system may be obtained by calling the City of Atwater, Public Works Department. The contact person is Brian Shaw, Water Division Manager, 209-357-6370. Additionally, the City Council meets on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 6:00 PM at 750 Bellevue Road, Atwater, CA, 95301.

## Definitions

**(MCL) Maximum Contaminant Level:** The highest level of a contaminant 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.

**(MCLG) Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** The level of contamination in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**(PHG) Public Health Goal or PHG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**(MRDL) Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level:** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the Consumer's tap.

**(MRDLG) Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

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

**(ND) Not Detected:** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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

**(NS) No Standard**

**(SDWSs) Secondary Drinking Water Standards:** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**Variations and Exemptions:** Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

### Measurements:

**Mg/L:** Milligrams per liter. This unit of measurement is the same as one part per 1,000,000 (ppm).

**Ug/L:** Micrograms per liter. This unit of measurement is the same as one part per 1,000,000,000 (ppb).

**Ng/L:** Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

**Pg/L:** Parts per quadrillion or picogram

**pCi/L:** Pico Curies per liter. This is a measurement of radioactivity.

**Umhos:** Conductivity. This is a measurement of the ability of a solution (water) to carry an electric current.

**(NTU) Nephelometric Turbidity Units:** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**(TON) Threshold Odor Number:** A measure of odor in water.

**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 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 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. 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 Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

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. The water can also 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring to be the result of oil and gas productions and mining activities.

***In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the Department of Public Health 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 bottle water that must provide the same protection for public health.***

### Detected Contaminants

- A detected contaminant is any contaminant detected at or above its detection level for purposes of reporting (DLR).
- The concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently. Therefore, the State of California allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year. As a result, some of the data represented is more than 1 year old.
- With the exception of Wells #9 and #15, no contaminants have been detected at or above the Maximum Contaminant Level in the water supply in 2014. DBCP (dibromochloropropane) formerly used as an agricultural pesticide has been detected over the MCL at these wells. However, Granular Activated Carbon filtering systems have been installed on these water sources to remove the contaminant prior to introduction of water into the City's water system. Groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: Chemical fertilizers, herbicides and solvents.
- A source water assessment report was completed in November of 2002. As part of the report, Vulnerability Analysis Procedures are noted in specific sections of the report for each well. It is available for viewing at City Hall, 750 Bellevue Road or City Corporation Yard, 470 Aviator Drive.
- A completed copy of the assessment may be viewed at: City Hall, 750 Bellevue Road or City Corporation Yard, 470 Aviator Drive.
- Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L 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 the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L 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 from your healthcare provider.
- Arsenic above 5 up through 10 ppb: While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The Department of Public Health continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.
- **The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent.** The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

### Primary Detected Contaminants

The following chemical constituents were detected at or above Detection Limit for Reporting Purposes in 2006-2009:

Parameter	Year Sampled	DLR	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Values	Average
Arsenic	2012	2 ppb	10 ppb	.004 ppb	ND/8.5 ppb	5.1 ppb

Arsenic appears from erosion of natural deposits and orchards; glass and electronics productions wastes.

Barium	2012	1000 ppb	10 ppm	.2 ppm	.054/.15 ppb	.120 ppm
--------	------	----------	--------	--------	--------------	----------

Barium appears from discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrates(NO <sub>3</sub> )	2014	2 ppm	45 ppm	45 ppm	35/37 ppm	36 ppm
----------------------------	------	-------	--------	--------	-----------	--------

Nitrates appear from runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Fluoride	2012	0.1 ppm	2.0 ppm	1.0 ppm	.05/.19 ppm	.10 ppm
----------	------	---------	---------	---------	-------------	---------

Fluoride is a water additive that promotes strong teeth; results from discharge of fertilizer and aluminum factories; erosion of natural deposits.

Parameter	Year Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	Average Amount Detected 90+ Percentile	Sites Above Action Level	Violation
Copper	2013	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	.07 ppm	0	No

32 samples were drawn in 2013, none exceeding the Action Level. Typical sources of copper contamination: corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives and paint.

Lead	2013	0 ppb	15 ppb	.15 ppb	1	No
------	------	-------	--------	---------	---	----

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. The City of Atwater 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 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>.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring	NL	Average	Range of Detections	Sample Date
Trichloropropane (1,2,3 – TCP) (Ppt)	5	40	ND to 110	2014

**About 1,2,3, - TCP:** The notification level (NL) for 1,2,3-TCP is 5 Ppt. During unregulated contaminant follow-up monitoring this chemical was detected in some of the City's wells at levels which exceed the notification level. Some people who use water containing 1,2,3-trichloropropane in excess of the notification level over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer, based on studies in laboratory animals

**SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA**

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months In Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a Month) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli	(In the Year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E. coli	0	Human and animal fecal waste

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) for chlorine in drinking water is 4.0 ppm. The range for chlorine residual in 2014 was .09 to .27 ppm with an average of .18 ppm.

UCMR (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) monitoring was completed and reported in 2013. No additional contaminants were added for monitoring in the system.

Coliform Bacteria are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. There were no coliform bacteria detected in the City's water distribution system in 2014. The City's water system is required to collect 32 bacteriological samples per month. It is allowed no more than 5%, or two (2) samples per month to be total coliform positive before reaching violation. In the event of infection, adverse health effects may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, possibly jaundice, and associated headaches and fatigue.

A "boil water" order may be put into force. No detection of bacteriological presence occurred in samples in 2014.

## Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
NO3 Samples	Did not test some wells	1 year	Sampled all wells during the first quarter of 2015	None

### For Water Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
E. coli	(In the Year) 0	NA	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the Year) 0	NA	TT	NA	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the Year) 0	NA	TT	NA	Human and animal fecal waste

### Secondary Contaminant Standards

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are established for a number of chemicals or constituents and address taste, odor and appearance of drinking water. The following unregulated chemical constituents were detected at/or above the Detection Limit for Reporting Purposes in 2012. Compounds which were Not Detected (ND) are not listed. Complete laboratory reports are located in the Water Division Manager's office and can be reviewed upon request.

Parameter	Year Sampled	DLR	Secondary MCL/MCLG	Range of Values	Average
Chloride	2012	N/S	500 ppm	6.5/14 ppm	10.07 ppm
Sulfate	2012	0.5 ppm	500 ppm	10/21 ppm	13.9 ppm
Conductivity	2012	N/S	1600 umhos	239/445 umhos	318 umhos
Total Dissolved Solids	2012	N/S	1,000 ppm	150/310 ppm	211 ppm

### Other Inorganic Compounds

Parameter	Year Sampled	DLR	Secondary MCL/MCLG	Range of Values	Average
Magnesium	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	2.5/14 ppm	7.4 ppm
Manganese	2012	N/S	N/S ppb	ND/18 ppb	16.5 ppb
Potassium	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	3.5/11 ppm	7.0 ppm

Manganese Health Effects: "The notification level for manganese is used to protect consumers from neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in effects of the nervous system."

## Secondary Inorganic Standards

Color	2012	N/S	15 Units	1.0	1.0
Odor	2012	N/S	3 Units	ND	.3
Turbidity	2012	N/S	5 Units	ND/6.3	1.0
Alkalinity	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	86/150 ppm	107 ppm
Calcium	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	11/43 ppm	23.7 ppm
Hardness	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	39/170 ppm	91 ppm
Grains (Hardness)	2012				5.3 Grains
pH	2012	N/S	Units	7.60/8.00 Units	7.8 Units
Sodium	2012	N/S	N/S ppm	22/41 ppm	30.2 ppm
Gross Alpha	2013	N/S	15 pCi/L	ND/2.21 pCi/L	1.42 pCi/L
Radium 228	2004	N/S	5 pCi/L	0/1.9 pCi/L	.596 pCi/L

Next radiological testing will occur in 2018.

Cryptosporidium is a pathogenic organism capable of causing disease in a host (such as human), and may be found in streams, lakes, ponds or, generally, in surface water sources. The City of Atwater is not required to test for this contaminant as it is not found in ground water sources (wells) such as supply the City.

## Organic Chemicals (Regulated)

Parameter	Year Sampled	DLR	MCL	PHG	Range	Average
TTHMs	2014	.05 ppb	80 ppb	N/A	ND / 5.1 ppb	1.35 ppb

Total Trihalomethane (potential) - some people who use water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of developing cancer.

DBCP	2014	10 ppt	200 ppt	200 ppt	59/150	110 ppt
------	------	--------	---------	---------	--------	---------

Various wells - Dibromochloropropane is a banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soy beans, cotton vineyards, tomatoes and fruit. Some people who use water containing DBCP in excess of the MCL over many years may experience reproductive problems and may have an increased risk of developing cancer.

Langelier Index - An index reflecting the equilibrium pH of a water, used in stabilizing water to control both corrosion and the deposition of scale (Calcium carbonate) - Value - 0.47.

### WATER CUSTOMERS - PLEASE BE AWARE

#### Gardens and Landscaping

Consumers shall not irrigate any lawn or landscaped area between the hours of **7:00** AM and **7:00** PM on any day of the week.

1. **Even numbered addresses are assigned watering days on Tuesdays and Saturdays.**
2. **Odd numbered addresses are assigned watering days on Sundays and Wednesdays.**

#### New Planting

Notwithstanding the prohibitions contained in Gardens and Landscaping, new lawns, ground covers, or bedding plants may be watered every day between 7:00 PM and **10:00** AM provided the following conditions are met:

1. New lawns, ground covers, or bedding shall not include reseeding of existing lawns or replacement of existing ground cover, or bedding plants, and shall be newly rototilled earth.
2. **The Public Works Director may impose such other restrictions as are deemed necessary to prevent the waste of water.**

After hours "red tagging" has already been introduced, so please adjust timers accordingly. If watering without timers, set a clock to remind you that water is running.