

City of Downey Water System



2022 Public Health Goals Report

Prepared by

**Utilities Division
Department of Public Works
9252 Stewart and Gray Road
Downey, CA 90241**

Public Health Goals Report

Background

The 2022 Public Health Goals (PHG) Report for the City of Downey Water System has been prepared in accordance with Section 116470 of the California Health and Safety Code, (HSC), which requires public water systems serving more than 10,000 service connections to provide information on the “detection” of any contaminant(s) exceeding a Public Health Goal (PHG) level.

The City’s 2022 PHG Report is based on water quality analyses completed during calendar years 2019, 2020, and 2021, or in cases where water quality analyses during such years were not required, by using the most recent data available.

PHGs are “non-enforceable goals” established by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) and are not required to be met by any public water system. OEHHA is the primary state entity responsible for the assessment of risks posed by chemical contaminants in the environment. In situations where OEHHA has not adopted a PHG for a particular constituent, water suppliers are to use the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in place of the PHG for that constituent when preparing the Report. MCLGs are the federal equivalent to PHGs.

The purpose of this report is to provide water customers with information on contaminants when their levels are detected above PHGs or MCLGs even though the levels are still in compliance with the enforceable mandatory drinking water standards referred to as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). In addition to providing information related to water quality, this PHG Report also includes estimated costs to hypothetically reduce or eliminate the trace amount of the contaminant(s) to at or below PHG (or MCLG if there is no PHG) levels without regard to how minimal the risk might be. Cost estimates are theoretical and include design, construction, and operational considerations for treatment facilities using the Best Available Technology (BAT).

Drinking Water Standards, MCLs, PHGs and MCLGs

The USEPA and the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) establish drinking water standards at very conservative levels to protect consumers from potential health risks. The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. State MCLs cannot be less stringent than federal MCLs. MCLs are set at levels that take into consideration the cost of compliance based on available treatment technology for the contaminant. Adopted MCLs are the criteria utilized to ensure that a public

water system is in compliance with drinking water standards. California Health and Safety Code Section 116365(a) requires MCLs to be established at a level as close to its PHG as is technologically and economically feasible, placing primary emphasis on the protection of public health. Therefore, drinking water which meets SWRCB DDW standards is associated with little to no risk.

PHGs set by OEHHA are based solely on public health risk considerations. PHGs and MCLGs are set at very low levels where health risks are very low and in some cases zero. Health risks determined at these low levels are frequently based on theoretical risk assessment with many assumptions and mathematical extrapolations. Practical risk-management factors, such as analytical detection capability, availability of treatment technology, benefits, capital costs, and ongoing operational costs which are considered by the USEPA and SWRCB DDW when setting enforceable drinking water standards such as MCLs, are not considered when setting PHGs or MCLGs.

PHGs and MCLGs are not regulatory in nature and represent only non-enforceable theoretical goals. A list of all regulated contaminants along with their MCLs and PHGs (or MCLGs) is included as Attachment No. 1 to this Report.

Water Quality Data Considered

All the water quality data collected from the City's water system between calendar years 2019 and 2021 for the purposes of determining compliance with drinking water standards were considered in preparing this Report. Such water quality data were summarized in the City's 2019, 2020, and 2021 Annual Water Quality Reports (Consumer Confidence Report or CCR) (Attachment Nos. 2-4), which were each made available to all water customers by direct mail and/or posting on the City's website.

The 2022 PHG Report provides all information required in accordance with HSC Section 116470 for any constituents that were detected in the City's water supply at a level above an applicable PHG or MCLG.

Such information included in this Report includes: the numerical public health risk associated with the MCL and PHG (or MCLG) for the constituent in question, the category or type of risk to health that could be associated with each constituent level, and an estimate of the annualized cost of a treatment system for the constituent if feasible.

Best Available Treatment Technology and Cost Estimates

Both the USEPA and the DDW adopt what are known as BATs or Best Available Technologies which are the best known methods of reducing contaminant levels to the MCL. However, since many PHGs and MCLGs are set much lower than the MCLs, it is not always possible or feasible to determine what treatment is needed to further reduce a constituent down to or near the PHG or MCLG for a particular constituent, many of which are set at zero.

Estimating the costs to reduce a constituent to a low PHG level (sometimes to non-detect levels or zero) is difficult, if not impossible, and highly speculative because it is not always possible to verify constituents at such low levels. Some constituents considered to be carcinogenic have MCLGs designated as zero, which cannot be measured by practically available analytical methods. In some cases, installing a treatment facility to further reduce levels of one constituent that is already at a very low level may also cause adverse effects on other aspects of a system's water quality, requiring additional treatment and additional costs.

Where the best available technology that could be used to reduce the constituent level in question exists, the annualized costs to design, install, and operate such treatment equipment have been estimated. The annualized costs assume that they will be equally shared by each of the approximately 23,500 service connections in the City's water system.

Constituents Detected That Exceed a PHG or a MCLG

The following provides information on constituents that were detected in one or more of the City's drinking water sources at a level above the PHG, or the MCLG. The table below is a summary of those constituents, BATs, and numerical health risk.

Constituents	Units	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)*	Detection Average	Detection Range	Numerical Cancer Risk ¹ at PHG or MCLG	Numerical Cancer Risk ¹ at MCL	BATs	Aggregate Cost Per Year (Million)
Arsenic	mg/L	0.010	0.000004	0.00119	0 - 0.0035	1×10^{-6}	2.5×10^{-3}	RO	\$10.68
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	mg/L	0.005	0.00006	0.00029	0 - 0.0036	1×10^{-6}	8×10^{-5}	GAC	\$11.93
Gross-Alpha	pCi/L	15	(0)	1.77	0 - 6.0	0	1×10^{-3}	RO	\$12.57
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	0.93	0 - 3.7	1×10^{-6}	5×10^{-5}	RO	\$7.54
Lead ² Action Level	mg/L	0.015	0.0002	0.0034	NA	$< 1 \times 10^{-6}$ (PHG is not based on this effect)	2×10^{-6}	CC	--
Total Coliform	% Positive	5%	(0)	1.21	0 - 15.7	NA	NA	D	--

NOTES:

*MCLGs are shown in parenthesis. MCLGs are provided only when no applicable PHG exists.

¹ Cancer Risk= Upper estimate of excess cancer risk per number of people exposed, resulting from lifetime exposure. Actual cancer risk may be lower or zero. Based on the OEHHA PHG technical support document unless otherwise specified.

² AL= Action Levels for copper and lead refer to a concentration measured at the tap. Much of the copper and lead in drinking water is derived from household plumbing (The Lead and Copper Rule, Title 22, California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 64672.3).

TREATMENT/CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES

GAC=Granular Activated Carbon
 RO=Reverse Osmosis
 CC=Corrosion Control
 D=Disinfection
 IE= Ion Exchange
 RCF= Reduction- Coagulation- Filtration

TERMS/ABBREVIATIONS:

NA=Not Applicable
 AL=Action Level
 BAT=Best Available Technology
 mg/L=milligrams per liter or parts per million
 pCi/L= picoCuries per liter
 MCL= Maximum Contaminant Level
 MCLG= Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
 PHG=Public Health Goal

Arsenic

Arsenic has been detected from five water wells in the City water system. The MCL for Arsenic is 0.010 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and the PHG is 0.000004 mg/L (4 parts per trillion or ppt). As provided in the previous table the Arsenic levels detected in the City's system were below the MCL but above the PHG level.

Arsenic is a naturally occurring element in the earth's crust and is widely distributed in the environment. All humans are exposed to microgram quantities of arsenic largely from food and to a lesser degree from drinking water and air. The PHG of 0.000004 mg/L for arsenic in drinking water is derived based on the mortality of arsenic-induced lung and urinary bladder cancers observed in the epidemiological studies. Similar unit risks were derived from a mouse bioassay using prenatal exposure to arsenic. The risk estimates were based on a low-dose linear extrapolation approach although the mode of carcinogenic action is not fully understood.

The applicable BAT identified to treat arsenic is Reverse Osmosis (RO) treatment. The City has determined that the cost to install and operate a RO removal system to treat the subject wells in the water system to meet PHG levels would be up to \$10.68 Million annually, which includes construction and annual operational cost. This translates into an annual cost of \$454 per water service connection.

Tetrachlorethylene (PCE)

There are a total of three wells that have PCE levels below the MCL of 0.005 milligrams per liter (mg/L) but above the PHG of 0.00006 mg/L. The PHG was derived based on research showing incidences of cancer and leukemia in mice and rats exposed to PCE over a lifetime. Constituents that cause cancer in laboratory animals also may increase the risk of cancer

in humans who are exposed over long periods of time. However, per the SWRCB, MCLs are established at levels as close to their PHG as is technologically and economically feasible, placing primary emphasis on the protection of public health therefore water which meets the drinking water standard (the MCL) is associated with little to no risk with respect to PCE.

A feasible BAT for removal of PCE is Granular Activated Carbon (GAC). The estimated cost to install and operate such treatment systems on three wells would be up to \$11.93 Million per year including annualized capital and operation and maintenance costs. This would result in an assumed increased cost for each water service connection of \$508 per year.

Gross Alpha, Combined Radium, and Uranium.

Gross Alpha has been detected from 11 wells in the system. The MCL for gross alpha is 15 pico Curies per Liter (pCi/L) and the MCLG is 0 pCi/L. The levels detected in the City's system were below the MCL, but were over MCLG levels set by USEPA. Uranium has been detected from 13 wells in the system. The MCL for uranium is 20 pCi/L and the PHG is 0.43 pCi/L. The levels detected in the City's system were below the MCL at all times, but were over the PHG level.

These radiological constituents are naturally occurring contaminants in water supplies. These constituents have been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals such as rats and mice when the animals are exposed to high levels over their lifetimes. These constituents that cause cancer in laboratory animals also may increase the risk of cancer in humans who are exposed over long periods of time.

The BAT for the removal of gross alpha radioactivity in drinking water for large water systems is reverse osmosis, which can also remove uranium. The City has estimated that the cost to install and operate RO systems at the City's well sites to meet the PHG levels would be up to approximately \$20.11 Million annually, which includes construction and annual operational costs. This translates into an annual cost of \$856 per water service connection.

Lead

The SWRCB through the DDW enforces the Lead and Copper Rule, which follows the US EPA's Lead and Copper Rule, and is used to protect the public's drinking water from metals that can adversely affect public health. Lead and copper are not present in our water sources, but they can leach into drinking water through the resident's plumbing systems and faucets. The Lead and Copper Rule requires water systems to monitor lead and copper levels at the consumers' taps.

There is no MCL for lead or copper. Instead of MCLs, every three years a set of special samples are collected and the results evaluated to determine whether the City's water system has achieved "optimized corrosion control. The 90th percentile value of all samples collected from household taps in the distribution system cannot exceed an Action Level of 0.015 mg/L for lead and 1.3 mg/L for copper. If Action Levels for lead or copper are exceeded, installation or modifications to corrosion control treatment is required. The PHG for lead is 0.0002 mg/L and the PHG for copper is 0.3 mg/L. The categories of health risk associated with lead include damage to nervous system (neurobehavioral effects in children) and kidneys, high blood pressure, and cancer.

Based on the last round of sampling for lead and copper in 2020, the 90th percentile value for lead was 0.0039 mg/L and 0.2 mg/L for copper. The value for copper was lower than the PHG, but the level of lead was higher than its corresponding PHG. However, both lead and copper results were below the Action Levels, which means the City's system continued to meet water quality standards and is in full compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. Therefore, the City system is considered by the DDW to have "optimized corrosion control." Optimizing corrosion control is considered to be the BAT to deal with corrosion issues and any lead or copper findings. The City continues to monitor its water quality parameters that relate to corrosivity, such as the pH, hardness, alkalinity, and total dissolved solids, and will take action if necessary to maintain the system in an "optimized corrosion control" condition.

Since the City is meeting the "optimized corrosion control" requirements, it is not prudent to initiate additional corrosion control treatment as it involves the addition of other chemicals and there could be additional water quality issues created as a result of doing so. Therefore, no estimate of cost has been included.

Coliform Bacteria

The MCL for coliform bacteria is 5% positive samples of the total system samples collected per month and the MCLG is zero. The reason for the coliform drinking water standard is to minimize the possibility of water containing pathogens which are organisms that cause waterborne disease. Coliform is only a surrogate indicator of the potential presence of pathogens, therefore, it is not possible to quantify a specific numerical health risk.

Coliform bacteria are an indicator organism that are ubiquitous in nature and are not generally considered harmful. They are used because of the ease in monitoring and analysis. If a positive sample is found, it indicates a potential problem that needs to be investigated. It is not at all unusual for a system to have an occasional positive sample. It is difficult, if not impossible to assure that a system will never detect a positive sample. Per the California Total Coliform Rule and the Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, the City collects 25 total coliform samples weekly throughout the distribution system. During the

3 year period from 2019 to 2021, monthly positive total coliform percentage results had an average detection of 1.21% and ranged from 0% to 15.7%. All positive samples were followed by corresponding actions including collecting confirmation samples, investigating, and correcting the cause of positive samples. In response to positive samples, precautionary flushing and/or chlorination was performed as considered appropriate until samples determined that the water was total coliform free.

Although USEPA set the MCLG for total coliform at zero percent positive, there is no commercially available technology that will guarantee zero percent positive every single month, therefore, the cost of achieving the PHG cannot be estimated.

The City has implemented and will continue to utilize proactive measures and BATs to prevent any microbiological contamination. These include protection of wells by appropriate construction and maintenance, proper preventative maintenance of the distribution system by flushing, maintaining an effective cross-connection control program, maintaining positive pressures in the water distribution system, and conducting an effective sampling program that includes water quality monitoring of the distribution system and City wells.

All contaminants

All contaminants listed in the attached table may be removed to non-detectable levels, with the exception of lead and total coliform, which can be introduced anywhere in the distribution system regardless of treatment. The cost estimate to treat the water produced by the City to remove contaminants detected above the PHGs or MCLGs was calculated using reverse osmosis for the removal of arsenic, gross alpha, and uranium, and GAC treatment for the removal of PCE. Achieving the water quality goals for these four constituents could cost up to \$42.72 Million per year, or \$1,818 per service connection per year. It is important to note that this cost estimate is for treatment of only the four constituents noted above and does not include costs associated with demolition, property acquisition, groundwater well pump and motor improvements necessary to overcome the increase in pressure loss associated with the treatment facilities, and increased electricity costs. Therefore, the estimated total cost to treat arsenic, gross alpha, uranium, and PCE to PHG levels would be even greater than the estimate noted above.

Recommendations for Further Action

The drinking water quality of the City of Downey's water system meets all State and Federal drinking water standards set to protect public health. Additional costly treatment processes would be required to further reduce the levels of the constituents identified in this Report, which are already significantly below the MCLs established to provide drinking water with primary emphasis placed on public health. The effectiveness of the treatment

processes to provide significant reductions in constituent levels at these already low values is uncertain. The health protection benefits of these further hypothetical reductions are not all clear and may not be quantifiable. Therefore, no action is proposed.

Attachments

1. Table of Regulated Contaminants with MCLs, PHGs or MCLGs
2. Water Quality Report for 2019.
3. Water Quality Report for 2020.
4. Water Quality Report for 2021.

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

MCLs, DLRs, and PHGs for Regulated Drinking Water Contaminants

(Units are in milligrams per liter (mg/L), unless otherwise noted.)

Last Update: January 1, 2022

This table includes:

California's maximum contaminant levels (MCLs)

Detection limits for purposes of reporting (DLRs)

[Public health goals \(PHGs\) from the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment \(OEHHA\)](#)

Also, the PHG for NDMA (which is not yet regulated) is included at the bottom of this table.

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	DLR	PHG	Date of PHG
Chemicals with MCLs in 22 CCR §64431—Inorganic Chemicals				
Aluminum	1	0.05	0.6	2001
Antimony	0.006	0.006	0.001	2016
Arsenic	0.010	0.002	0.000004	2004
Asbestos (MFL = million fibers per liter; for fibers >10 microns long)	7 MFL	0.2 MFL	7 MFL	2003
Barium	1	0.1	2	2003
Beryllium	0.004	0.001	0.001	2003
Cadmium	0.005	0.001	0.00004	2006
Chromium, Total - OEHHA withdrew the 0.0025-mg/L PHG	0.05	0.01	withdrawn Nov. 2001	1999
Chromium, Hexavalent - 0.01-mg/L MCL & 0.001-mg/L DLR repealed September 2017	--	--	0.00002	2011
Cyanide	0.15	0.1	0.15	1997
Fluoride	2	0.1	1	1997
Mercury (inorganic)	0.002	0.001	0.0012	1999 (rev2005)*
Nickel	0.1	0.01	0.012	2001
Nitrate (as nitrogen, N)	10 as N	0.4	45 as NO3 (=10 as N)	2018
Nitrite (as N)	1 as N	0.4	1 as N	2018
Nitrate + Nitrite (as N)	10 as N	--	10 as N	2018
Perchlorate	0.006	0.002	0.001	2015
Selenium	0.05	0.005	0.03	2010
Thallium	0.002	0.001	0.0001	1999 (rev2004)
Copper and Lead, 22 CCR §64672.3				
<i>Values referred to as MCLs for lead and copper are not actually MCLs; instead, they are called "Action Levels" under the lead and copper rule</i>				
Copper	1.3	0.05	0.3	2008
Lead	0.015	0.005	0.0002	2009

Radionuclides with MCLs in 22 CCR §64441 and §64443—Radiological

[units are picocuries per liter (pCi/L), unless otherwise stated; n/a = not applicable]

Gross alpha particle activity - OEHHA concluded in 2003 that a PHG was not practical	15	3	none	n/a
Gross beta particle activity - OEHHA concluded in 2003 that a PHG was not practical	4 mrem/yr	4	none	n/a
Radium-226	--	1	0.05	2006
Radium-228	--	1	0.019	2006
Radium-226 + Radium-228	5	--	--	--
Strontium-90	8	2	0.35	2006
Tritium	20,000	1,000	400	2006
Uranium	20	1	0.43	2001

Chemicals with MCLs in 22 CCR §64444—Organic Chemicals

(a) Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs)

Benzene	0.001	0.0005	0.00015	2001
Carbon tetrachloride	0.0005	0.0005	0.0001	2000
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.6	0.0005	0.6	1997 (rev2009)
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (p-DCB)	0.005	0.0005	0.006	1997
1,1-Dichloroethane (1,1-DCA)	0.005	0.0005	0.003	2003
1,2-Dichloroethane (1,2-DCA)	0.0005	0.0005	0.0004	1999 (rev2005)
1,1-Dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE)	0.006	0.0005	0.01	1999
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.006	0.0005	0.013	2018
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.01	0.0005	0.05	2018
Dichloromethane (Methylene chloride)	0.005	0.0005	0.004	2000
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005	0.0005	0.0005	1999
1,3-Dichloropropene	0.0005	0.0005	0.0002	1999 (rev2006)
Ethylbenzene	0.3	0.0005	0.3	1997
Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)	0.013	0.003	0.013	1999
Monochlorobenzene	0.07	0.0005	0.07	2014
Styrene	0.1	0.0005	0.0005	2010
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	0.001	0.0005	0.0001	2003
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	0.005	0.0005	0.00006	2001
Toluene	0.15	0.0005	0.15	1999
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	0.005	0.0005	0.005	1999
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA)	0.2	0.0005	1	2006
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (1,1,2-TCA)	0.005	0.0005	0.0003	2006
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	0.005	0.0005	0.0017	2009
Trichlorofluoromethane (Freon 11)	0.15	0.005	1.3	2014
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane (Freon 113)	1.2	0.01	4	1997 (rev2011)
Vinyl chloride	0.0005	0.0005	0.00005	2000
Xylenes	1.75	0.0005	1.8	1997

(b) Non-Volatile Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs)

Alachlor	0.002	0.001	0.004	1997
Atrazine	0.001	0.0005	0.00015	1999
Bentazon	0.018	0.002	0.2	1999 (rev2009)
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.0002	0.0001	0.000007	2010
Carbofuran	0.018	0.005	0.0007	2016
Chlordane	0.0001	0.0001	0.00003	1997 (rev2006)
Chlorobenzene	0.07	0.00085	0.07	2014
Dalapon	0.2	0.01	0.79	1997 (rev2009)
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	0.0002	0.00001	0.000003	2020
2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D)	0.07	0.01	0.02	2009
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	0.4	0.005	0.2	2003
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)	0.004	0.003	0.012	1997
Dinoseb	0.007	0.002	0.014	1997 (rev2010)
Diquat	0.02	0.004	0.006	2016
Endothal	0.1	0.045	0.094	2014
Endrin	0.002	0.0001	0.0003	2016
Ethylene dibromide (EDB) (1,2-Dibromoethane)	0.00005	0.00002	0.00001	2003
Glyphosate	0.7	0.025	0.9	2007
Heptachlor	0.00001	0.00001	0.000008	1999
Heptachlor epoxide	0.00001	0.00001	0.000006	1999
Hexachlorobenzene	0.001	0.0005	0.00003	2003
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	0.05	0.001	0.002	2014
Lindane	0.0002	0.0002	0.000032	1999 (rev2005)
Methoxychlor	0.03	0.01	0.00009	2010
Molinate	0.02	0.002	0.001	2008
Oxamyl	0.05	0.02	0.026	2009
Pentachlorophenol	0.001	0.0002	0.0003	2009
Picloram	0.5	0.001	0.166	2016
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	0.0005	0.0005	0.00009	2007
Simazine	0.004	0.001	0.004	2001
Thiobencarb	0.07	0.001	0.042	2016
Trichlorofluoromethane (FC-11)	0.15	0.00015	1.3	2014
Toxaphene	0.003	0.001	0.00003	2003
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	0.000005	0.000005	0.0000007	2009
2,3,7,8-TCDD (dioxin)	3x10 ⁻⁸	5x10 ⁻⁹	5x10 ⁻¹¹	2010
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	0.05	0.001	0.003	2014

Chemicals with MCLs in 22 CCR §64533—Disinfection Byproducts

Total Trihalomethanes	0.080	--	--	--
Bromodichloromethane	--	0.0010	0.00006	2020
Bromoform	--	0.0010	0.0005	2020
Chloroform	--	0.0010	0.0004	2020
Dibromochloromethane	--	0.0010	0.0001	2020
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)	0.060	--	--	--
Monochloroacetic Acid	--	0.0020	--	--
Dichloroacetic Acid	--	0.0010	--	--
Trichloroacetic Acid	--	0.0010	--	--
Monobromoacetic Acid	--	0.0010	--	--
Dibromoacetic Acid	--	0.0010	--	--
Bromate	0.010	0.0050**	0.0001	2009
Chlorite	1.0	0.020	0.05	2009

Chemicals with PHGs established in response to DDW requests. These are not currently regulated drinking water contaminants.

N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	--	--	0.000003	2006
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*OEHHA's review of this chemical during the year indicated (rev20XX) resulted in no change in the PHG.

**The DLR for Bromate is 0.0010 mg/L for analysis performed using EPA Method 317.0 Revision 2.0, 321.8, or 326.0.



City of *Downey*

2019 Annual Water Quality Report



This report is available for electronic viewing at <http://www.downeygis.org/wqr/2019.pdf>
To request a paper copy of the 2019 report be mailed to your home, please call (562) 904-7202

A Message from the Downey Utilities Division

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As new challenges to drinking water quality 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 our water users. This report summarizes information regarding water sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance, and educational information. **We are always available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about your water by calling us at 562-904-7202.**

In 2019 the City of Downey water system delivered 4.6 billion gallons of potable (i.e. drinking) water for domestic use and fire protection to approximately 112,900 residential, commercial, and industrial customers via 23,600 metered connections. In an effort to conserve water, the City utilizes recycled water to offset potable water needs by as much as 4.3% of the City's overall water demand through the application of recycled water for landscaping irrigation, dual-plumbed buildings, lakes, and ponds at 90 sites located throughout the City.

Committed to Providing Quality Water

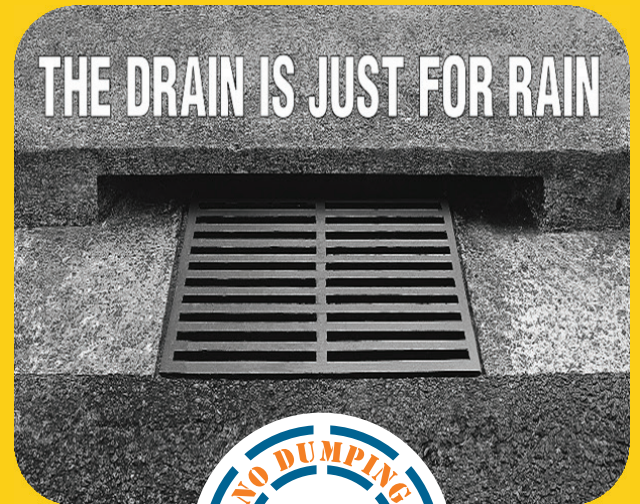
The City's water supply and distribution system is operated by the City of Downey Department of Public Works Utilities Division. Our water supply and distribution system is composed of 20 groundwater wells located throughout the City and approximately 276 miles of distribution pipeline with diameters ranging from 4 to 24 inches. Our groundwater wells provide one hundred percent of our domestic water supply. As a result, City of Downey residents are able to enjoy one of the least expensive water rates in Southern California.

Prevent Pollution

Polluted runoff flows to storm drains directly into our rivers, bays, beaches, and the ocean. Contaminated runoff can pollute our beaches, and also harm fish and wildlife. As a community it is important to prevent chemicals, automobile fluid, and trash from entering our storm drains.

Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the City's drinking water sources was completed in 2003 by the State Department of Drinking Water. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: automobile gas stations, dry cleaners, injection wells, dry wells, sumps, finishing, fabricating, metal plating, fleet truck, bus terminals, furniture repair, manufacturing, machine shops, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/ Waste Discharge Requirement permitted discharges. A copy of the complete assessment is available by contacting the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) at (818) 551-2004 or by calling the City of Downey Utilities Division at (562) 904-7202.



Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water Include

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, wildlife, and agricultural livestock operations.

Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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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.

YOUR WATER SUPPLY



Downey's groundwater is pumped from the Central Groundwater Basin. The Central Basin is a series of large natural aquifers below the ground that stretch from Los Angeles to Orange County.

The City of Downey conveniently overlies the Central Basin. Groundwater from the Central Basin is pumped from 20 wells located within the City's boundaries and provides the City with its principal source of potable water. The City's service area is shown on the map to the left.

The Central Basin receives natural inflows from the conservation of rainfall and snow melt, artificial inflows from imported and recycled water, as well as groundwater underflow from adjacent basins. Surface water slowly percolates through the ground to the aquifers and the ground acts as a natural filter to clean the water.

Trained water distribution system operators operate, inspect, repair, and replace critical components of our drinking water infrastructure.

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Spreading grounds located at the major inflows from the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers of the Montebello Forebay, allow water from various sources to artificially seep down into the Central Basin aquifers. The ground acts as a natural filter to clean the water as it percolates through the aquifers.



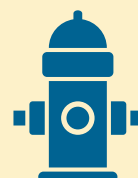
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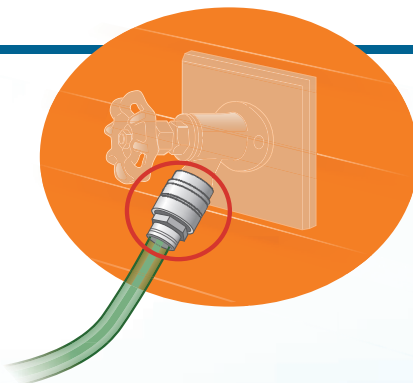
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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or 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 800-426-4791.

Protecting Our Water from Cross Connections:

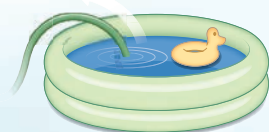


Protect Your Home With Air Vacuum Breakers

Over half of the Nation's cross-connections involve unprotected garden hoses. Check to see if you have air vacuum breakers installed on each of your hose bibbs. They prevent water from getting back into the drinking water system. These simple devices are inexpensive and can be purchased from your local hardware store. They are easy to install, you just simply screw them onto the hose bibb.

Did you know?

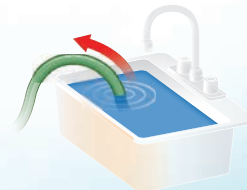
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Water Conservation Tips

The City of Downey is committed to supporting conservation efforts as part of our plan to provide a reliable water supply for today and tomorrow. The City encourages everyone to look closely at their water usage habits and for ways to use less water. Whether we are in a dry or wet year, there are always actions we can take to increase long-term water use efficiency.



Benefits of Adding Mulch in Gardens

Applying mulch to the top of the soil around plants will increase water retention and reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation by blocking the sun which evaporates water from your soil. This keeps your soil cooler. Organic mulches may also fertilize the soil, provide visual appeal, and help cut down on weeds. The best water savings advantages are gained by applying between 2 to 4 inches of mulch around plant beds.

Making Long-Term Changes to Water Use

During the most recent drought, many residents living in the City of Downey instituted long-term changes to their water use by replacing turf areas with low-water using plants, replacing older appliances and fixtures with water and energy efficient models, and making changes in everyday water use habits.



Quick Method to Detect Toilet Leaks

Toilet leaks may be easy to repair, but detecting them can be a challenge. Here is a very quick and easy method to help you detect a toilet leak.

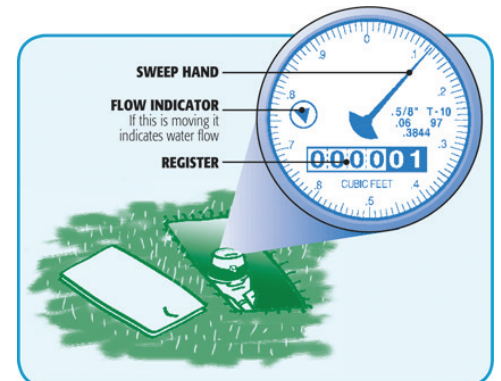
- 1: Take off the tank lid.
- 2: Add 10 drops of food coloring liquid or a commercially available blue leak detector tablet into tank.
- 3: Wait 15 to 20 minutes (do not flush the toilet)
- 4: Check toilet bowl. If there is colored water in the toilet bowl, you have a leak!

How to Check Your Water Meter

A water meter is a device that measures the volume of water delivered to a property. Checking the water meter can help you determine if there is a water leak.

(Note: Make sure no water is being used inside or outside your home while performing this test.)

- 1: Locate your water meter box and carefully remove the lid. (Be cautious of insects or other small animals).
- 2: Check your water meter to see if the flow indicator or sweep hand is moving.
- 3: A moving leak indicator or sweep hand shows that water is either being used or wasted.
- 4: Be sure to securely reattach the meter lid to prevent trip hazards.
- 5: If leak is detected, repair leak within 48 hours.



City of Downey Outdoor Water Schedule

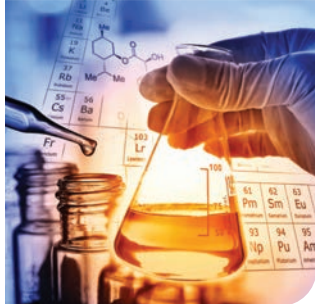
FALL/WINTER: October 1 - April 30	SPRING/SUMMER: May 1 - September 30
No more than 2 days per week	No more than 3 days per week
ODD Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) Mondays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays	
EVEN Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8) Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturdays	
NO WATERING BETWEEN 8AM AND 7PM	
*Penalties up to \$500 per day for noncompliance may be enforced	

Water Quality Sample Testing Results

During 2019, we tested our water for over 100 regulated contaminants in order to determine the presence of any biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic, and radioactive contaminants. The following table includes those contaminants that were detected in the water. Both federal and state regulations require us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included.

City of Downey 2019 Groundwater Data¹

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Primary Standards (Monitored for Health Concerns)						
Radiologicals						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	ND	ND - 6.0	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	1.2	ND - 3.7	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Compounds						
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ppb)	5	0.06	ND	ND - 3.0	NO	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ppb)	5	1.7	ND	ND - 1.0	NO	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Inorganic Compounds						
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	ND	ND - 3.5	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	1	2	ND	ND - 0.11	NO	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.34	0.25 - 0.41	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	3.3	1.1 - 4.9	NO	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards (Monitored for aesthetic qualities)²						
Chloride (ppm)	(500)	n/a	77	31 - 93	NO	Runoff and leaching of natural deposits
Odor (Units)	(3)	n/a	ND	ND - 1.0	NO	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	(1600)	n/a	729	290 - 900	NO	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	(500)	n/a	106	33 - 180	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	(1000)	n/a	471	220 - 680	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	(5)	n/a	0.1	ND - 0.5	NO	Soil runoff
Water Characteristics (No MCL or MRDL but state or federal monitoring required)						
Alkalinity (ppm)	n/a	n/a	163	49 - 260	NO	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; carbonate, bicarbonate, hydroxide, and occasionally borate, silicate and phosphate
Calcium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	76	15 - 120	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
Magnesium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	15	3.3 - 24	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
pH (units)	(6.5 - 8.5)	n/a	7.5	7.2 - 8.1	NO	Hydrogen ion concentration
Potassium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.3	2.8 - 5.5	NO	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	57	40 - 68	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (grains per gallon)	n/a	n/a	15	3.0 - 24	NO	"Hardness" is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring



City of Downey 2019 Distribution System Water Data

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Monthly Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Microbiological						
Total Coliform Bacteria (%) (State Total Coliform Rule)	5	(0)	15.7	0 - 15.7	YES ³	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper Levels at Residential Taps⁴						
Substance (Unit)	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile	Above AL	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead and Copper analyses are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps throughout the community. Results are based on 2017 monitoring.						
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	3.4	0 out of 52	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.26	0 out of 52	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Federal Unregulated Contaminants Rule 4 (UCMR 4)⁵						
Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Manganese (ppb)	(50)	n/a	1.1	ND - 1.4	NA	Leaching from natural deposits

Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations

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 (SMCLs) are set to protect 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. EPA.

Detection Limits for Purposes of Reporting (DLR): The DLR is a parameter that is set by regulation by each reportable analyte. It is not laboratory specific and it is independent of the analytical method used (in cases where several methods are approved). It is expected that a laboratory can achieve a Reporting Limit that is lower than or equal to the DLR set by the State. This is also known as the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL).

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

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.

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a detailed study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an (Escherichia coli) (E. coli) MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system on multiple occasions.

NA: Contaminant or property was not analyzed.

ND: Contaminant was not detected. The contaminant is less than the DLR.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

Units of Measurement:

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

pCi/L: picocuries per liter

µS/cm: micro Siemens per centimeter

%: percent

Footnotes:

- The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. In these cases the most recent data available is used.
- There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.
- During the month of April of 2019, bacteriological quality of water served did not meet the requirements of the Total Coliform Rule. Coliform bacteria were detected in small portions of the distribution system. Repeat samples eventually determined that the water was total coliform free. Appropriate public notification was provided at the time, in compliance with regulations. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially

harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year one Level 2 Assessment was required to be completed for our water system. One Level 2 Assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take 6 corrective actions and we completed all 6 of these actions.

- Lead and Copper testing results are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps. Results are based on 2017 monitoring.

- Data from City of Downey Wells were collected in 2018 and 2019 for Unregulated Chemical Monitoring Rule 4. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.



For additional questions about your water quality please contact:
Bridgeth Tapia at (562) 904-7202
9252 Stewart & Gray Rd, Downey, CA 90241

Questions? We are Available to Assist You!

Water Quality

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9252 Stewart & Gray Rd,
Downey, CA 90241

Rebates & Conservation Tips:

bewaterwise.com (888) 376-3314

Report Water Waste

Public Works Utilities Division (562) 904-7202

USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline>
(800) 426-4791

Public Health Related Issues

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov
www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water
www.cdc.gov

State Water Resources Control Board

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/
(818) 551-2004

City of Downey Water Conservation & Restrictions

www.downeyca.org/our-city/departments/public-works/utilities/water-conservation

Important Information

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Please contact the City of Downey Public Water System at 562-904-7202 for assistance.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse con City of Downey Water System al numero 562-904-7202 para asistirlo en español.

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng ma-halagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Downey Water System o tumawag sa 562-904-7202 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

이 보고서는 당신의 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 포함하고 있습니다. 한국어로 된 도움을 원하시면 City of Downey

Public Involvement

You are welcome to attend the following public meetings at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

City Council Meetings

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works Committee Meetings

Held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00pm.



City of Downey

City of Downey | Department of Public Works

Utilities Division

11111 Brookshire Ave | Downey, CA 90241

Important Information Inside

2020 Annual Water Quality Report



City of *Downey*

This report is available for electronic viewing at
<http://www.downeygis.org/wqr/2020.pdf>
To request a paper copy of the 2020 report be
mailed to your home, please call (562) 904-7202

A Message from the Downey Utilities Division

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As new challenges to drinking water quality 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 our water users. This report summarizes information regarding water sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance, and educational information. **We are always available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about your water by calling us at 562-904-7202.**

In 2020 the City of Downey water system delivered 4.4 billion gallons of potable (i.e. drinking) water for domestic use and fire protection to approximately 112,200 residential, commercial, and industrial customers via 23,000 metered connections. In an effort to conserve water, the City utilizes recycled water to offset potable water needs by as much as 4.9% of the City's overall water demand through the application of recycled water for landscaping irrigation, dual-plumbed buildings, lakes, and ponds at 90 sites located throughout the City.

Committed to Providing Quality Water

The City's water supply and distribution system is operated by the City of Downey Department of Public Works Utilities Division. Our water supply and distribution system is composed of 20 groundwater wells located throughout the City and approximately 276 miles of distribution pipeline with diameters ranging from 4 to 24 inches. Our groundwater wells provide one hundred percent of our domestic water supply. As a result, City of Downey residents are able to enjoy one of the least expensive water rates in Southern California.

Prevent Pollution

Polluted runoff flows to storm drains directly into our rivers, bays, beaches, and the ocean. Contaminated runoff can pollute our beaches, and also harm fish and wildlife. As a community it is important to prevent chemicals, automobile fluid, and trash from entering our storm drains.

Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the City's drinking water sources was completed in 2003 by the State Department of Drinking Water. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: automobile gas stations, dry cleaners, injection wells, dry wells, sumps, finishing, fabricating, metal plating, fleet truck, bus terminals, furniture repair, manufacturing, machine shops, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/ Waste Discharge Requirement permitted discharges. A copy of the complete assessment is available by contacting the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) at (818) 551-2004 or by calling the City of Downey Utilities Division at (562) 904-7202.



Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water Include

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

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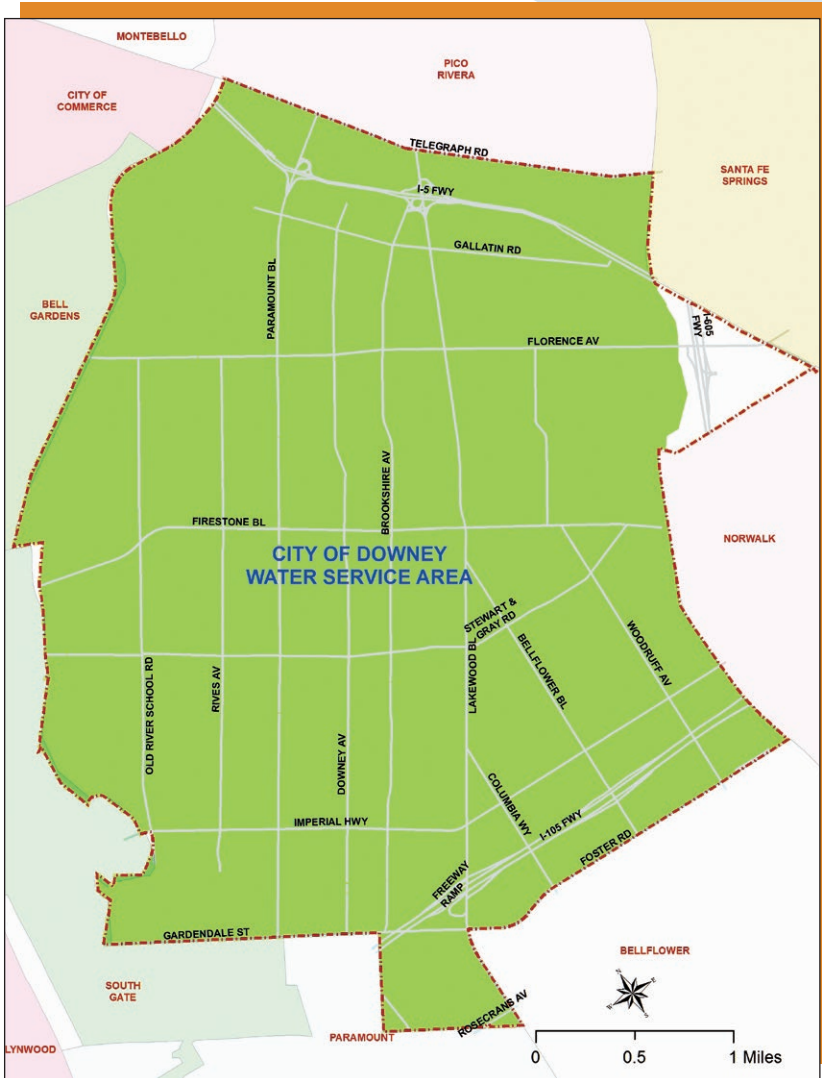
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276

Miles of Potable Water Main



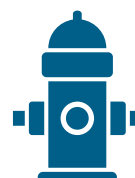
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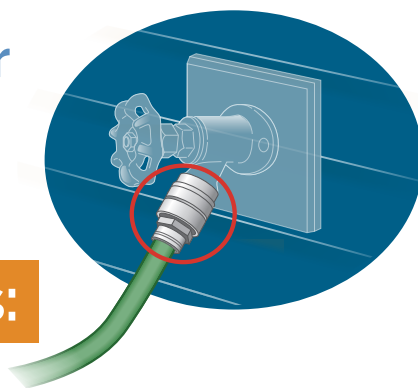
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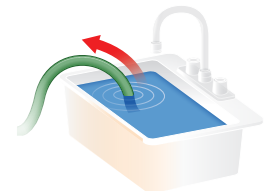
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During the most recent drought, many residents living in the City of Downey instituted long-term changes to their water use by replacing turf areas with low-water using plants, replacing older appliances and fixtures with water and energy efficient models, and making changes in everyday water use habits.



Quick Method to Detect Toilet Leaks

Toilet leaks may be easy to repair, but detecting them can be a challenge. Here is a very quick and easy method to help you detect a toilet leak.

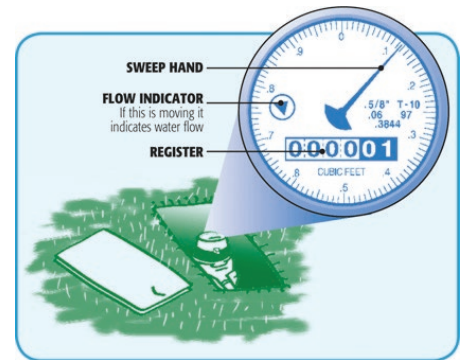
- 1: Take off the tank lid.
- 2: Add 10 drops of food coloring liquid or a commercially available blue leak detector tablet into tank.
- 3: Wait 15 to 20 minutes (do not flush the toilet)
- 4: Check toilet bowl. If there is colored water in the toilet bowl, you have a leak!

How to Check Your Water Meter

A water meter is a device that measures the volume of water delivered to a property. Checking the water meter can help you determine if there is a water leak.

(Note: Make sure no water is being used inside or outside your home while performing this test).

- 1: Locate your water meter box and carefully remove the lid. (Be cautious of insects or other small animals).
- 2: Check your water meter to see if the flow indicator or sweep hand is moving.
- 3: A moving leak indicator or sweep hand shows that water is either being used or wasted.
- 4: Be sure to securely reattach the meter lid to prevent trip hazards.
- 5: If leak is detected, repair leak within 48 hours.



City of Downey Outdoor Water Schedule

FALL/WINTER: October 1 - April 30	SPRING/SUMMER: May 1 - September 30
No more than 2 days per week	No more than 3 days per week
ODD Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) Mondays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays	
EVEN Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8) Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturdays	
NO WATERING BETWEEN 8AM AND 7PM	
*Penalties up to \$500 per day for noncompliance may be enforced	

Water Quality Sample Testing Results

During 2020, we tested our water for over 100 regulated contaminants in order to determine the presence of any biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic, and radioactive contaminants. The following table includes those contaminants that were detected in the water. Both federal and state regulations require us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included.

City of Downey 2020 Groundwater Data¹

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Primary Standards (Monitored for Health Concerns)						
Radiologicals						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	3.31	3 - 6.01	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	0.3	0 - 3.6	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Compounds						
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ppb)	5	0.06	0.69	ND - 3.6	NO	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ppb)	5	1.7	0.54	ND - 1.3	NO	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Inorganic Compounds						
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	0.002	.0017 - .0023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	1	2	0.09	ND - 0.11	NO	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.32	0.25 - 0.41	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	3.33	1.4 - 5.4	NO	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards (Monitored for aesthetic qualities)²						
Chloride (ppm)	(500)	n/a	85	58 - 100	NO	Runoff and leaching of natural deposits
Odor (Units)	(3)	n/a	1	ND - 1.0	NO	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	(1600)	n/a	777	580 - 900	NO	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	(500)	n/a	115	70 - 180	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	(1000)	n/a	485	300 - 580	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	(5)	n/a	0.1	ND - 0.16	NO	Soil runoff
Water Characteristics (No MCL or MRDL but state or federal monitoring required)						
Alkalinity (ppm)	n/a	n/a	208.5	150 - 320	NO	Naturally occurring soluble mineral
Calcium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	82	51.1 - 100	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
Magnesium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	16	9.8 - 19.6	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
pH (units)	(6.5 - 8.5)	n/a	7.5	7.19 - 7.9	NO	Hydrogen ion concentration
Potassium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.3	2.8 - 5.5	NO	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	57.9	42 - 687	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (grains per gallon)	n/a	n/a	19	11.78 - 32.3	NO	"Hardness" is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring

City of Downey 2020 Distribution System Water Data

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Monthly Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Microbiological						
Total Coliform Bacteria (%) (State Total Coliform Rule)	5	(0)	1.9	0 - 1.9	NO	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper Levels at Residential Taps³						
Lead and Copper analyses are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps throughout the community. Results are based on 2020 monitoring.						
Substance (Unit)	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile	Above AL	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	3.9	0 out of 52	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.29	0 out of 52	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Federal Unregulated Contaminants Rule 4 (UCMR 4)⁴						
Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Manganese (ppb)	(50)	n/a	1.4	ND - 1.4	NA	Leaching from natural deposits

Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances⁵						
Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)	n/a	n/a	14.47	6 - 20	NA	PFOA can be found in air, water and soil, as well as products such as: stain resistant coatings on carpet, clothing, furniture, paper packaging for food, personal care and beauty products, firefighting foam, non-stick coatings on cookware; and surface water, runoff and soil that have been in contact with firefighting foam.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppt)	n/a	n/a	37.08	22 - 63	NA	PFOS can be found in air, water and soil, as well as products such as: stain resistant coatings on carpet, clothing, furniture, paper packaging for food, personal care and beauty products, firefighting foam, non-stick coatings on cookware; and surface water, runoff and soil that have been in contact with firefighting foam.

Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations

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 (SMCLs) are set to protect 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. EPA.

Detection Limits for Purposes of Reporting (DLR): The DLR is a parameter that is set by regulation by each reportable analyte. It is not laboratory specific and it is independent of the analytical method used (in cases where several methods are approved). It is expected that a laboratory can achieve a Reporting Limit that is lower than or equal to the DLR set by the State. This is also known as the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL).

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

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.

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a detailed study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an (Escherichia coli) (E. coli) MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system on multiple occasions.

NA: Contaminant or property was not analyzed.

ND: Contaminant was not detected. The contaminant is less than the DLR.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

Units of Measurement:

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

pCi/L: picocuries per liter

µS/cm: micro Siemens per centimeter

%: percent

Footnotes:

- The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. In these cases the most recent data available is used.
- There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.
- Lead and Copper testing results are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps. Results are based on 2020 monitoring.
- Data from City of Downey Wells were collected in 2019 and 2020 for Unregulated Chemical Monitoring Rule 4. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
- Data from City of Downey Wells were collected in 2019 and 2020 for PFOS/PFOA. PFOS/PFOA monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.



For additional questions about your water quality please contact: (562) 904-7202
9252 Stewart & Gray Rd, Downey, CA 90241

Questions? We are Available to Assist You!

Water Quality

(562) 904-7202
9252 Stewart & Gray Rd,
Downey, CA 90241

Rebates & Conservation Tips:

bewaterwise.com (888) 376-3314

Report Water Waste

Public Works Utilities Division (562) 904-7202

USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline>
(800) 426-4791

Public Health Related Issues

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov
www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water
www.cdc.gov

State Water Resources Control Board

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/
(818) 551-2004

City of Downey Water Conservation & Restrictions

www.downeyca.org/our-city/departments/public-works/utilities/water-conservation

Important Information

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Please contact the City of Downey Public Water System at 562-904-7202 for assistance.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse con City of Downey Water System al numero 562-904-7202 para asistirlo en español.

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng ma-halagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Downey Water System o tumawag sa 562-904-7202 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

이 보고서는 당신의 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 포함하고 있습니다. 한국어로 된 도움을 원하시면 City of Downey



Public Involvement

You are welcome to attend the following public meetings at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

City Council Meetings

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works Committee Meetings

Held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00pm.



City of Downey

City of Downey | Department of Public Works

Utilities Division

11111 Brookshire Ave | Downey, CA 90241

Important Information Inside

2021 Annual Water Quality Report



City of *Downey*



This report is available for electronic viewing at
<http://www.downeygis.org/wqr/WQReport.pdf>
To request a paper copy of the 2021 report be
mailed to your home, please call (562) 904-7202

A Message from the Downey Utilities Division

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As new challenges to drinking water quality 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 our water users. This report summarizes information regarding water sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance, and educational information. **We are always available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about your water by calling us at 562-904-7202.**

In 2021 the City of Downey water system delivered 4.7 billion gallons of potable (i.e. drinking) water for domestic use and fire protection to approximately 112,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers via 23,500 metered connections. In an effort to conserve water, the City utilizes recycled water to offset potable water needs by as much as 5% of the City's overall water demand through the application of recycled water for landscaping irrigation, dual-plumbed buildings, lakes, and ponds at 91 sites located throughout the City.

Committed to Providing Quality Water

The City's water supply and distribution system is operated by the City of Downey Department of Public Works Utilities Division. Our water supply and distribution system is composed of 20 groundwater wells located throughout the City and approximately 276 miles of distribution pipeline with diameters ranging from 4 to 24 inches. Our groundwater wells provide one hundred percent of our domestic water supply. As a result, City of Downey residents are able to enjoy one of the least expensive water rates in Southern California.

Prevent Pollution

Polluted runoff flows to storm drains directly into our rivers, bays, beaches, and the ocean. Contaminated runoff can pollute our beaches, and also harm fish and wildlife. As a community it is important to prevent chemicals, automobile fluid, and trash from entering our storm drains.

Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the City's drinking water sources was completed in 2003 by the State Department of Drinking Water. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: automobile gas stations, dry cleaners, injection wells, dry wells, sumps, finishing, fabricating, metal plating, fleet truck, bus terminals, furniture repair, manufacturing, machine shops, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/ Waste Discharge Requirement permitted discharges. A copy of the complete assessment is available by contacting the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) at (818) 551-2004 or by calling the City of Downey Utilities Division at (562) 904-7202.



Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water Include

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, wildlife, and agricultural livestock operations.

Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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.

Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

YOUR WATER SUPPLY



Downey's groundwater is pumped from the Central Groundwater Basin. The Central Basin is a series of large natural aquifers below the ground that stretch from Los Angeles to Orange County.

The City of Downey conveniently overlies the Central Basin. Groundwater from the Central Basin is pumped from 20 wells located within the City's boundaries and provides the City with its principal source of potable water. The City's service area is shown on the map to the left.

The Central Basin receives natural inflows from the conservation of rainfall and snow melt, artificial inflows from imported and recycled water, as well as groundwater underflow from adjacent basins. Surface water slowly percolates through the ground to the aquifers and the ground acts as a natural filter to clean the water.

Trained water distribution system operators operate, inspect, repair, and replace critical components of our drinking water infrastructure.



276

Miles of Potable Water Main



23,500

Water Meters



5,500

Isolation Valves



1,800

Fire Hydrants

Spreading Grounds

Spreading grounds located at the major inflows from the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers of the Montebello Forebay, allow water from various sources to artificially seep down into the Central Basin aquifers. The ground acts as a natural filter to clean the water as it percolates through the aquifers.



Federal and State Water Quality Regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the 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 provide the same protection for public health.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Additional information on bottled water is available on the California Department of Public Health website: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/FoodSafetyProgram/Water.aspx>

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.



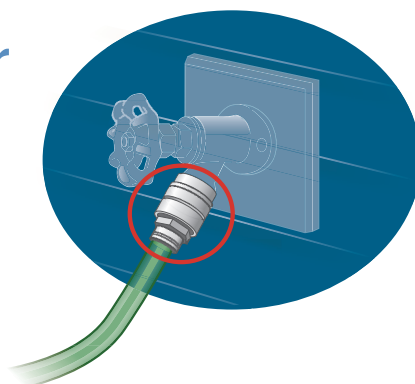
Lead

Lead can cause serious health problems if present at elevated levels, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lead can be released when your tap water comes in contact with pipes and plumbing fixtures containing lead. The City of Downey 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 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 800-426-4791 or at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Important Health Information

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 800-426-4791.

Protecting Our Water from Cross Connections



Did you know ?

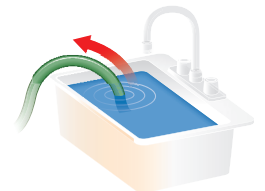
Common hazards in and around your house can contaminate your drinking water? The City's Public Works Department Utilities Division, through its Backflow Prevention Program, goes to great lengths to protect the water entering your home. However, we need your help to protect the water on your home's property.



Avoid putting the garden hose into swimming pools or buckets to fill. Water can flow back into the hose and into your home.



Avoid connecting your garden hose to a plant fertilizer or bug spray unit. This can cause harmful chemicals to flow back into your home.



Avoid putting the garden hose down the drain to flush debris when it's backed up. This can cause a serious health hazard. Contaminated water can be drawn back into your home's water supply.

Protect Your Home With Air Vacuum Breakers

Over half of the Nation's cross-connections involve unprotected garden hoses. Check to see if you have air vacuum breakers installed on each of your hose bibbs. They prevent water from getting back into the drinking water system. These simple devices are inexpensive and can be purchased from your local hardware store. They are easy to install, you just simply screw them onto the hose bibb.

Water Conservation Tips

The City of Downey is committed to supporting conservation efforts as part of our plan to provide a reliable water supply for today and tomorrow. The City encourages everyone to look closely at their water usage habits and for ways to use less water. Whether we are in a dry or wet year, there are always actions we can take to increase long-term water use efficiency.

Benefits of Adding Mulch in Gardens

Applying mulch to the top of the soil around plants will increase water retention and reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation by blocking the sun which evaporates water from your soil. This keeps your soil cooler. Organic mulches may also fertilize the soil, provide visual appeal, and help cut down on weeds. The best water savings advantages are gained by applying between 2 to 4 inches of mulch around plant beds.

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Toilet leaks may be easy to repair, but detecting them can be a challenge. Here is a very quick and easy method to help you detect a toilet leak.

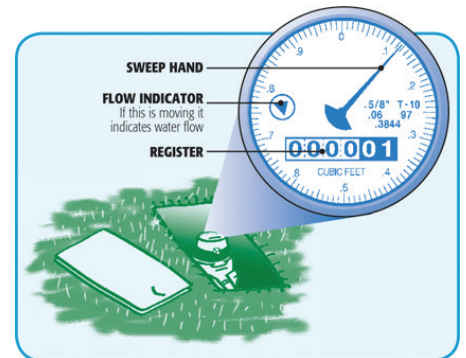
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A water meter is a device that measures the volume of water delivered to a property. Checking the water meter can help you determine if there is a water leak.

(Note: Make sure no water is being used inside or outside your home while performing this test.)

- 1: Locate your water meter box and carefully remove the lid. (Be cautious of insects or other small animals).
- 2: Check your water meter to see if the flow indicator or sweep hand is moving.
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NO WATERING BETWEEN 8AM AND 7PM *Penalties up to \$500 per day for noncompliance may be enforced	

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Primary Standards (Monitored for Health Concerns)						
Radiologicals						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	1.99	ND - 6.01	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium - 228 (pCi/L)	5	0.019	0.01	ND - 0.126	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	1.3	ND - 3.6	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Compounds						
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ppb)	5	0.06	0.17	ND - 3.1	NO	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ppb)	5	1.7	0.05	ND - 1.1	NO	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Inorganic Compounds						
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	0.0008	ND - .0023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Nickel (ppb)	100	12	0.12	ND - 2.4	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Barium (ppm)	1	2	0.006	ND - 0.11	NO	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.32	0.21 - 0.41	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	3.47	1.4 - 6	NO	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards (Monitored for aesthetic qualities)²						
Chloride (ppm)	(500)	n/a	86	58 - 100	NO	Runoff and leaching of natural deposits
Odor (Units)	(3)	n/a	1	ND - 1.0	NO	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	(1600)	n/a	778	580 - 900	NO	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	(500)	n/a	115	70 - 180	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	(1000)	n/a	489	300 - 680	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	(5)	n/a	0.02	ND - 0.2	NO	Soil runoff
Water Characteristics (No MCL or MRDL but state or federal monitoring required)						
Alkalinity (ppm)	n/a	n/a	171	120 - 160	NO	Naturally occurring soluble mineral
Calcium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	81.4	51.1 - 123	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
Magnesium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	15.9	9.8 - 24.1	NO	Abundant naturally occurring element
pH (units)	(6.5 - 8.5)	n/a	7.4	6.9 - 7.8	NO	Hydrogen ion concentration
Potassium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.5	3.5 - 5.5	NO	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	57.7	42 - 67	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (grains per gallon)	n/a	n/a	15.7	9.8 - 23.7	NO	"Hardness" is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring

City of Downey 2021 Distribution System Water Data³

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Monthly Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Microbiological						
Total Coliform Bacteria (%) (State Total Coliform Rule)	5	(0)	10.8	0 - 10.8%	YES ⁴	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper Levels at Residential Taps⁵

Lead and Copper analyses are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps throughout the community. Results are based on 2020 monitoring.

Substance (Unit)	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile	Above AL	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	3.9	0 out of 50	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.23	0 out of 50	NO	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Federal Unregulated Contaminants Rule 4 (UCMR 4)⁶

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Manganese (ppb)	(50)	n/a	1.4	ND - 1.4	NA	Leaching from natural deposits

Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances⁷

Substance (Unit)	MCL (SMCL)	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range (Low-High)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)	n/a	n/a	12.4	5.2 - 17	NA	PFOA can be found in air, water and soil, as well as products such as: stain resistant coatings on carpet, clothing, furniture, paper packaging for food, personal care and beauty products, firefighting foam, non-stick coatings on cookware; and surface water, runoff and soil that have been in contact with firefighting foam.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppt)	n/a	n/a	29.9	18 - 48	NA	PFOS can be found in air, water and soil, as well as products such as: stain resistant coatings on carpet, clothing, furniture, paper packaging for food, personal care and beauty products, firefighting foam, non-stick coatings on cookware; and surface water, runoff and soil that have been in contact with firefighting foam.

Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations

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 (SMCLs) are set to protect 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. EPA.

Detection Limits for Purposes of Reporting (DLR): The DLR is a parameter that is set by regulation by each reportable analyte. It is not laboratory specific and it is independent of the analytical method used (in cases where several methods are approved). It is expected that a laboratory can achieve a Reporting Limit that is lower than or equal to the DLR set by the State. This is also known as the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL).

Footnotes:

- The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. In these cases the most recent data available is used.
- There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.
- This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised 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 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. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.
- During the month of November 2021, bacteriological quality of water served did not meet the requirements of the Total Coliform Rule. Coliform bacteria were detected in small portions of the distribution system. Repeat samples eventually determined that the water was total coliform free. Appropriate public notification was provided at the time, in compliance with regulations. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a

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

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.

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.

potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in our water distribution system. When this occurred, we were required to conduct a level 1 assessment to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during the assessment. During the year 2021 we were required to conduct one Level 1 Assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed in November 2021. In addition, we were required to take two corrective actions and we completed the two required actions.

5. Lead and Copper testing results are based on triennial monitoring within residential taps. Results are based on 2020 monitoring.

6. Data from City of Downey Wells were collected from Jan. 1, 2018 to Dec.31, 2020 for Unregulated Chemical Monitoring Rule 4. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

7. Four Quarters of data were collected from the City of Downey's water wells in 2021 for PFOS/PFOA. PFOS/PFOA monitoring helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. In August 2019, the SWRCB Division of Drinking Water (DDW) revised the notification levels to 6.5 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOS and 5.1 ppt for PFOA. The single health advisory level (for the combined values of PFOS and PFOA) remained at 70 ppt. On February 6, 2020, DDW issued updated drinking water response levels of 10 ppt for PFOA and 40 ppt for PFOS based on a running four-quarter average. In July of 2021, OEHHA released proposed Public Health Goals (PHGs) for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water of 0.007 (ppt) and 1 ppt respectively.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a detailed study of a water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an (Escherichia coli) (E. coli) MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system on multiple occasions.

NA: Contaminant or property was not analyzed.

ND: Contaminant was not detected. The contaminant is less than the DLR.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

Units of Measurement:

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

ppt: parts per trillion

pCi/L: picocuries per liter

µS/cm: micro Siemens per centimeter

%: percent



For additional questions about your water quality please contact:
 (562) 904-7202
 9252 Stewart & Gray Rd, Downey, CA 90241

Questions? We are Available to Assist You!

Water Quality

(562) 904-7202
9252 Stewart & Gray Rd,
Downey, CA 90241

Rebates & Conservation Tips:

bewaterwise.com (888) 376-3314

Report Water Waste

Public Works Utilities Division (562) 904-7202

USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline>
(800) 426-4791

Public Health Related Issues

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov
www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water
www.cdc.gov

State Water Resources Control Board

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/
(818) 551-2004

City of Downey Water Conservation & Restrictions

www.downeyca.org/our-city/departments/public-works/utilities/water-conservation

Important Information

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Please contact the City of Downey Public Water System at 562-904-7202 for assistance.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse con City of Downey Water System al numero 562-904-7202 para asistirlo en español.

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng ma-halagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Downey Water System o tumawag sa 562-904-7202 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

이 보고서는 당신의 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 포함하고 있습니다. 한국어로 된 도움을 원하시면 City of Downey



Public Involvement

You are welcome to attend the following public meetings at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

City Council Meetings

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works Committee Meetings

Held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00pm.



City of Downey

City of Downey | Department of Public Works

Utilities Division

11111 Brookshire Ave | Downey, CA 90241

Important Information Inside