

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER COMPANY
-ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT-
-YEAR 2008-**

**This report contains important information about your drinking water.
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

此份有关你的食水报告, 内有重要资料和讯息, 请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

The source of water provided to San Gabriel Valley Water Company's customers, except those located in the Whittier/Santa Fe Springs area, is groundwater produced from the Main San Gabriel Basin. The source of water provided to customers in the Whittier/Santa Fe Springs area south of Beverly Boulevard is a blend of groundwater from the Main San Gabriel Basin and the Central Basin.

All water samples are collected by state-certified employees of the water company or independent engineering firms. Samples are analyzed by state-certified independent laboratories and the results are forwarded to the California Department of Public Health. The following report provides detailed information about the quality of the water delivered to the customers. The water supplied by San Gabriel Valley Water Company meets all state and federal safe drinking water standards.

DETECTED WATER QUALITY CONSTITUENTS - GROUNDWATER

Microbiological

Water Quality Constituent	Units	PHG or (MCLG)	MCL	Highest Percentage of Positive Samples Collected	Sample Year	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Total Coliform Bacteria	%	0	(a)	0.0%	2008	Naturally present in the environment

Radiochemicals

Water Quality Constituent	Units	PHG or (MCLG)	MCL	Range	Average	Sample Year	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	(0)	15	0.2 - 9.6	1.6	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Radon	pCi/L	NS	NS	105 - 387	226	1999	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	0.43	20	ND - 9.2	3.9	2006	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganics

Aluminum	ppb	600	1000	ND - 74	7	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic	ppb	0.004	10	0.5 - 2.7	1.4	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	ppb	2000	1000	33 - 160	87	2008	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	1	2	0.3 - 0.9	0.5	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as NO ₃	ppm	45	45	4 - 32	14	2008	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
NO ₂ + NO ₃ as N	ppb	NS	10,000	910 - 7200	3193	2008	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Organics

Methylene Chloride	ppb	4	5	ND - 0.8	0.2	2008	Discharges from pharmaceutical and chemical factories, insecticide
Trichloroethene	ppb	0.8	5	ND - 0.7	0.1	2008	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,2 - Dichloroethane	ppb	0.4	0.5	ND - 0.7	ND	2008	Discharge from industrial chemical factories

Secondary Standards (Aesthetic Standards)

Chloride	ppm	NS	500	18 - 120	49	2008	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Color	units	NS	15	ND - 5	ND	2008	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	ppm	NS	NS	170 - 350	227	2008	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	ppm	NS	50	ND - 23	2	2008	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor---Threshold	units	NS	3	1	1	2008	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Sodium	ppm	NS	NS	10 - 84	32	2008	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	µmho/cm	NS	1600	420 - 1100	618	2008	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	NS	500	20 - 190	56	2008	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	NS	1000	240 - 690	379	2008	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (b)	units	NS	5	ND - 1.3	ND	2008	Soil runoff

Additional Constituents (Unregulated)

Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	ppm	NS	NS	140 - 210	182	2008	Unknown
Calcium	ppm	NS	NS	48 - 100	65	2008	Unknown
Hexavalent Chromium	ppb	NS	NS	ND - 5.1	2.6	2008	Unknown
Magnesium	ppm	NS	NS	9.9 - 23.0	15.5	2008	Unknown
pH	units	NS	NS	7.7 - 8.2	7.8	2008	Unknown
Potassium	ppm	NS	NS	1.5 - 4.6	3.6	2008	Unknown

DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Groundwater

Water Quality Constituent	Units	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	MCL [MRDL]	Range	Average	Sample Year	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	NS	80	ND - 9.2	3.4	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	NS	60	ND - 2.6	0.5	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Disinfection Residual	ppm	[4]	[4]	0.3 - 1.5	0.9	2008	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chlorate	ppb	NS	NS	27 - 280	124	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Pursuant to Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, Lead and Copper monitoring for the El Monte/ Whittier system was completed in 2008 with the next samples to be taken in 2011. Lead and Copper monitoring for the Montebello system was completed in 2007 with the next samples to be taken in 2010.

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING (Groundwater, 50 SAMPLES TAKEN)

Water Quality Constituent	Units	Action Level	Sample Year	90th Percentile	Number of Samples Exceeding The Action Level	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Lead	ppb	15	2008	2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1300	2008	420	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING (Montebello south of the Pomona freeway, 20 SAMPLES TAKEN)

Water Quality Constituent	Units	Action Level	Sample Year	90th Percentile	Number of Samples Exceeding The Action Level	Likely Source of Detected Constituent
Lead	ppb	15	2007	5	1	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharge from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppb	1300	2007	190	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

The EPA and California Department of Public Health require San Gabriel Valley Water Company to provide the following information:

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 health care provider.

Radon: Radon is a naturally occurring gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program (1-800-745-7236) or call EPA's Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The California Department of Public Health regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

San Gabriel Valley Water Company completed groundwater source assessments in 2002. Groundwater sources are considered vulnerable to discharge from industry, factories, landfills, dry cleaners, automobile repair shops, gas stations, high density housing, fleet truck and bus terminals, underground storage tanks, and sewer collection systems. Copies of the groundwater source assessments are available for review at San Gabriel Valley Water Company's main office. All groundwater sources are treated and disinfected before the water is distributed to the customers.

Additional Water Quality Information

In addition to the constituents listed in this report, San Gabriel Valley Water Company conducted monitoring for over 100 additional constituents and the results show none of those constituents detected in the water. Included in this additional monitoring were constituents for which the California Department of Public Health and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have not yet set standards. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. For additional water quality information, contact: Josh Swift, Water Quality Superintendent at (626) 448-6183, or write to San Gabriel Valley Water Company, Post Office Box 6010, El Monte, California 91734-2010.

San Gabriel Valley Water Company did not collect the required amount of Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct samples during 2008. Even though this was not an emergency, you do have the right to know. Pursuant to California Department of Public Health regulations, the company was required to increase its Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct monitoring from four monitoring locations to six monitoring locations in its Montebello System south of the Pomona Freeway during 2008. The additional sample locations that were not monitored were noticed in December 2008 and the California Department of Public Health was promptly notified. Starting in January 2009, under direction of the California Department of Public Health, San Gabriel Valley Water Company began monitoring the two additional sample locations for Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts. Results of the samples indicate the drinking water meets all state and federal safe drinking water standards. Since notification of the missed samples by California Department of Public Health, San Gabriel Valley Water Company has increased its operator sample collection training, stressed to its water quality employees the import:

Customers do not need to do anything at this time. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This report is posted on the internet at www.sgvwater.com

Definitions and Footnotes:

- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- 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.
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- PHG = Public Health Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- PDWS = Primary Drinking Water Standard: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- RAL = Regulatory Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- TT = Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- pCi/L = picocuries per Liter
- NS = No Standard
- ND = None Detected
- ppm = parts per million
- ppb = parts per billion
- < = less than
- µmho/cm = micromhos per centimeter
- (a) = When 40 or more routine samples are collected per month, no more than 5% of the samples may be total coliform positive.
- (b) = Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.
- (c) = 100% of the turbidity samples taken during 2008 were less than the MCL of 0.3 NTU.
- (d) = State MCL is 45 mg/L as Nitrate, which equals 10 mg/L as N.