

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a clear glass under a chrome faucet. Water is pouring from the faucet into the glass. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The image is split diagonally by a white line, with the top-left portion being a solid teal color.

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

- Quality
- Value
- Reliability

Data from  
2020



City of  
**NEWPORT BEACH**  
Utilities Department

This report contains important information about your drinking water.

Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

# Your 2021 Water Quality Report

The City of Newport Beach Utilities Department has been providing an Annual Water Quality Report to their customers since 1990.

**This year's report covers calendar year 2020 drinking water quality testing and reporting.**

Your City of Newport Beach Utilities Department is proud to provide your drinking water while vigilantly safeguarding its water supply. As in years past, the water delivered to your home meets the quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (CalDDW) are the agencies responsible for establishing and enforcing drinking water quality standards.

In some cases, the City goes beyond what is required by testing for unregulated chemicals that may have known health risks but do not have

drinking water standards. For example, our groundwater and imported treated surface water is tested for unregulated chemicals in our water supply. Unregulated chemical monitoring helps USEPA and CalDDW determine where certain chemicals occur and whether new standards need to be established for those chemicals. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.



# Constant Monitoring Ensures Continued Excellence

## Introduction

The City of Newport Beach's drinking water is constantly monitored from source to tap for regulated and unregulated constituents. Our drinking water quality testing programs are carried out by professional and certified laboratories. Testing is performed in our reservoirs and throughout our distribution system, at our groundwater wells and in the basin, from our imported water connections, and at the water treatment plants.



## Sources of Supply

The City of Newport Beach Utilities Department manages the City's water sources. Our water is supplied by a blend of about 75% groundwater and 25% imported surface water. Newport's groundwater comes from four groundwater wells located in the City of Fountain Valley then pumped to a reservoir in Newport Beach. The groundwater basin is actively managed by Orange County Water District (OCWD, [www.ocwd.com](http://www.ocwd.com)). Groundwater comes from a natural underground aquifer, layered with sand and gravel, that works as a natural water filter. The water is replenished with water from the Santa Ana River, local rainfall and imported water. The groundwater basin is 350 square miles and lies beneath north and central Orange County from Irvine to the Los Angeles County border, and from Yorba Linda to the Pacific Ocean. More than 20 cities and retail water districts pump from the basin to provide water to homes and businesses. The imported surface water is a blend of water from the California Aqueduct (Northern California) and the Colorado Aqueduct (Colorado River.) This is managed by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC, [www.mwdh20.com](http://www.mwdh20.com)), is treated at the Diemer Water Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda, and imported into Orange County by the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC, [www.mwdoc.com](http://www.mwdoc.com)).

There are some areas in the City of Newport Beach that receive their drinking water from an outside water agency, including Mesa Water District and Irvine Ranch Water District. Please check your water bill to confirm which water agency provides your drinking water and refer to their water quality report. You may also contact the City of Newport Beach Utilities Department for clarification on whether this water quality report pertains to the drinking water provided to your home or business.

## Newport Beach's Water Future

For years, the City of Newport Beach and Orange County have enjoyed an abundant, seemingly endless supply of high-quality water. However, as water demands and availability change, we must be even more conscientious about our water supply and maximize the efficient use of this precious natural resource.

Our partners at OCWD implement and operate new and innovative water management and supply development programs. This includes water recycling, wetlands expansion, recharge facility construction, groundwater cleanup projects, storage programs, and water education programs for children through adults. Our other partner, MWDOC, offers rebates and incentives to promote water-use efficiency and also provides water education programs. Both agencies work cooperatively with the City of Newport Beach and other water agencies to complete studies to assess water reliability in Orange County. These efforts are helping to enhance long-term countywide water reliability and water quality and a healthy water

future for the City of Newport Beach and Orange County.

The City of Newport Beach Utilities Department and your local and regional water agencies are committed to making the necessary investments today in new water management projects to ensure an abundant and high-quality water supply for generations to come.

## Basic Information About Drinking Water Contaminants

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

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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



In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the CalDDW prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## We Invite You to Learn More About Your Water's Quality

For information about this report or your water quality information in general, please contact the City of Newport Beach Utilities Department at (949) 644-3011.

The City of Newport Beach Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. Meetings are held at the Council Chambers located at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

For more information about the health effects of the listed contaminants in the following tables, call the USEPA hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Immunocompromised People

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as those with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have had organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The USEPA and the federal Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or on the web at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).



# We Comply with All State & Federal Water Quality Regulations

## Chloramines

The City imports water from MWDSC which produces water that is treated with chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, as its drinking water disinfectant. Chloramines are effective killers of bacteria and other microorganisms that may cause disease. Chloramines form fewer disinfection by-products and have no odor when used properly. People who use kidney dialysis machines may want to take special precautions and consult their physician for the appropriate type of water treatment.



Customers who maintain fishponds, tanks or aquaria should also make necessary adjustments in water quality treatment, as these disinfectants are toxic to fish.

For further information or if you have any questions about chloramines please call (949) 644-3011.

## Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts

Disinfection of drinking water was one of the major public health advances in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Disinfection was a major factor in reducing waterborne disease epidemics caused by pathogenic bacteria and viruses, and it remains an essential part of drinking water treatment today.

Chlorine disinfection has almost completely eliminated from our lives the risks of microbial waterborne diseases. Chlorine is added to your drinking

water at the source of supply (groundwater well or surface water treatment plant). Enough chlorine is added so that it does not completely dissipate through the distribution system pipes. This "residual" chlorine helps to prevent the growth of bacteria in the pipes that carry drinking water from the source into your home.

However, chlorine can react with naturally-occurring materials in the water to form unintended chemical byproducts, called disinfection byproducts (DBPs), which may pose health risks. A major challenge is how to balance the risks from microbial

pathogens and DBPs. It is important to provide protection from these microbial pathogens while simultaneously ensuring decreasing health risks from disinfection byproducts. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires the

USEPA to develop rules to achieve these goals.

Trihalomethanes (THMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) are the most common and most studied DBPs found in drinking water treated with chlorine. In 1979, the USEPA set the maximum amount of total THMs allowed in drinking water at 100 parts per billion as an annual running average. Effective in January 2002, the Stage 1 Disinfectants / Disinfection Byproducts Rule lowered the total THM maximum annual average level to 80 parts per billion and added HAAs to the list of regulated chemicals in drinking water. Your drinking water complies with the Stage 1 Disinfectants / Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

Stage 2 of the regulation was finalized by USEPA in 2006, which further controls allowable levels of DBPs in drinking water without compromising disinfection itself. A required distribution system evaluation was completed in 2008 and a Stage 2 monitoring plan has been approved by CalDDW. Full Stage 2 compliance began in 2012.

## 2020 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Treated Surface Water

Chemical	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Chemical
<b>Radiologicals – Tested in 2020</b>						
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	(0)	ND	ND – 3	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Beta Radiation (pCi/L)	50	(0)	ND	ND – 7	No	Decay of Natural and Man-made Deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	2	1 – 3	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Inorganic Chemicals – Tested in 2020</b>						
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	0.137	ND – 0.26	No	Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits
Barium (ppm)	1	2	0.107	0.107	No	Refinery Discharge, Erosion of Natural Deposits
Bromate (ppb)	10	0.1	1.9	ND – 1.3	No	Byproduct of Drinking Water Ozonation
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.7	0.5 – 0.9	No	Water Additive for Dental Health
<b>Secondary Standards* – Tested in 2020</b>						
Aluminum (ppb)	200*	600	137	ND – 260	No	Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits
Chloride (ppm)	500*	n/a	94	93 – 94	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Color (color units)	15*	n/a	1	1	No	Naturally-occurring Organic Materials
Odor (threshold odor number)	3*	n/a	2	2	No	Naturally-occurring Organic Materials
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600*	n/a	970	964 – 975	No	Substances that Form Ions in Water
Sulfate (ppm)	500*	n/a	216	215 – 217	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000*	n/a	592	582 – 603	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
<b>Unregulated Chemicals – Tested in 2020</b>						
Alkalinity, total as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	118	117 – 120	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Boron (ppm)	NL = 1	n/a	0.13	0.13	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Calcium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	66	65 – 67	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Hardness, total as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	265	261 – 269	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Hardness, total (grains/gallon)	Not Regulated	n/a	15	15 – 16	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	26	25 – 26	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
N-nitrosodimethylamine (ppt)	NL = 10	n/a	3.1	3.1	n/a	Byproduct of Drinking Water Chloramination, Industrial Processes
pH (pH units)	Not Regulated	n/a	8.1	8.1	n/a	Hydrogen Ion Concentration
Potassium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	4.6	4.5 – 4.7	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	96	93 – 98	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	TT	n/a	2.4	2.2 – 2.7	n/a	Various Natural and Man-made Sources

## Chart Legend

### What are Water Quality Standards?

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and CalDDW set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The charts in this report show the following types of water quality standards:

- **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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Secondary MCLs:** Set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard:** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### What is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and CalDDW have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices. The charts in this report include three types of water quality goals:

- **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 USEPA.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **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.

### How are Contaminants Measured?

Water is sampled and tested throughout the year. Contaminants are measured in:

- parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppb = parts per billion; ppm = parts per million; ppt = parts per trillion; pCi/L = picocuries per liter; µmho/cm = micromhos per centimeter; ND = not detected; MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; (MCLG) = federal MCL Goal; PHG = California Public Health Goal; NL = Notification Level; n/a = not applicable; TT = treatment technique \*Chemical is regulated by a secondary standard.

Turbidity – combined filter effluent Metropolitan Water District Diemer Filtration Plant	Treatment Technique	Turbidity Measurements	TT Violation?	Typical Source of Chemical
1) Highest single turbidity measurement	0.3 NTU	0.04	No	Soil Runoff
2) Percentage of samples less than 0.3 NTU	95%	100%	No	Soil Runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, an indication of particulate matter, some of which might include harmful microorganisms. NTU = nephelometric turbidity units  
Low turbidity in Metropolitan's treated water is a good indicator of effective filtration. Filtration is called a "treatment technique" (TT).

A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of chemicals in drinking water that are difficult and sometimes impossible to measure directly.

## Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Sampling Date
Germanium (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.1	ND – 0.4	2018
Manganese (ppb)**	SMCL = 50	n/a	1.7	0.8 – 2.5	2018

SMCL = Secondary MCL

\*\*Manganese is regulated with a secondary standard of 50 ppb but was not detected, based on the detection limit for purposes of reporting of 20 ppb. Manganese was included as part of the unregulated chemicals requiring monitoring.

## 2020 City of Newport Beach Groundwater Quality

Chemical	MCL	PHG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Most Recent Sampling Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiologicals</b>							
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	2.87	ND – 5.54	No	2019	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	<2	ND – 3.2	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.47	0.42 – 0.51	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrate (ppm as N)	10	10	1.58	ND – 2.85	No	2020	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Nitrate+Nitrite (ppm as N)	10	10	1.58	ND – 2.85	No	2020	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
<b>Secondary Standards*</b>							
Chloride (ppm)	500*	n/a	36.0	10.6 – 61.6	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600*	n/a	512	224 – 798	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	500*	n/a	66.2	16.1 – 124	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000*	n/a	342	148 – 546	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5*	n/a	0.13	ND – 0.5	No	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Unregulated Chemicals</b>							
Alkalinity, total (ppm as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	Not Regulated	n/a	127	74.5 – 167	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Bicarbonate (ppm as HCO <sub>3</sub> )	Not Regulated	n/a	154	90.8 – 204	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Boron (ppm)	NL = 1	n/a	0.17	0.13 – 0.2	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Calcium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	57.6	15.4 – 101	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hardness, total (ppm as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	Not Regulated	n/a	182	44.9 – 324	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hardness, total (grains/gallon)	Not Regulated	n/a	11	2.6 – 19	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	9.33	1.6 – 17.6	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Perfluoro hexane sulfonic acid (ppt)	Not Regulated	n/a	<4	ND – 4.2	n/a	2020	Industrial Discharge
pH (units)	Not Regulated	n/a	7.9	7.6 – 8	n/a	2020	Acidity, Hydrogen Ions
Potassium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	2.6	1.5 – 4.1	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	41.1	31.1 – 47.7	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Vanadium (ppb)	NL = 50	n/a	2.48	ND – 6.4	n/a	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits

ppb = parts-per-billion; ppm = parts-per-million; ppt = parts-per-trillion; pCi/L = picoCuries per liter; NTU = nephelometric turbidity units;  
 ND = not detected; n/a = not applicable; < = average is less than the detection limit for reporting purposes; µmho/cm = micromho per centimeter;  
 MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; PHG = California Public Health Goal; NL = Notification Level  
 \*Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, color).

## Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring at Entry Points to the Distribution System

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Sampling Date
Bromide (ppm)**	n/a	n/a	0.12	0.022 – 0.264	2019
Manganese (ppb)***	SMCL = 50	n/a	0.8	ND – 1.6	2019
Total Organic Carbon (Unfiltered) (ppm)**	n/a	n/a	0.18	0.1 – 0.27	2019

SMCL = Secondary MCL  
 \*\*Source Water Location Sample  
 \*\*\*Manganese is regulated with a secondary standard of 50 ppb but was not detected, based on the detection limit for purposes of reporting of 20 ppb.  
 Manganese was included as part of the unregulated chemicals requiring monitoring.

## 2020 City of Newport Beach Distribution System Water Quality

Disinfection Byproducts	MCL (MRDL/MRDLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	18	3.1 – 24	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	3	ND – 5.9	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	(4 / 4)	1.6	0.2 – 2.8	No	Disinfectant added for treatment
<b>Aesthetic Quality</b>					
Odor (threshold odor number)	3*	1	ND – 1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5*	0.6	ND – 5.09	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Eight locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids; thirty locations are tested monthly for color, odor and turbidity; color was not detected in 2020.  
 MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal  
 \*Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard.

Bacterial Quality	MCL	MCLG	Highest Monthly Percent Positives	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	5.0%	0	0.8%	No	Naturally Present in the Environment

No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be positive for total coliform bacteria.  
 The occurrence of 2 consecutive total coliform positive samples, one of which contains fecal coliform/E. coli, constitutes an acute MCL violation.

## Lead and Copper Action Levels at Residential Taps

	Action Level (AL)	Public Health Goal	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding AL / Number of Sites	AL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.053	0 / 30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	ND	0 / 30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Every three years, 30 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples was collected in 2018. Lead was not detected in any home. Copper was detected in 4 homes; none exceeded the action level.  
 A regulatory action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.  
 In 2020, no school submitted a request to be sampled for lead.

## Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring in the Distribution System

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Sampling Date
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.82	ND – 1.8	2019
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.82	ND – 2.4	2019
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.5	ND – 0.9	2019
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.93	0.4 – 1.5	2019
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	MCLG = 0	0.81	ND – 1.7	2019
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	n/a	MCLG = 20	0.58	ND – 1.3	2019

## Total Coliform Rule

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements instituted during 2016. All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Effective April 1, 2016, all water systems are also required to comply with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule.

The new federal rule protects public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system by monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and *E. coli* bacteria). The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and resolve potential issues. 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.

## About Lead in Tap Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Source Water Assessments

### Imported (MWDSC) Water Assessment

Every five years, MWDSC is required by CalDDW to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination in its State Water Project and Colorado River source waters.

The most recent watershed sanitary surveys of its source water supplies from the Colorado River was updated in 2015 and the State Water Project was updated in 2016.

Water from the Colorado River is considered to be most vulnerable to contamination from recreation, urban/stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. Water supplies from Northern California's State Water Project are most vulnerable to contamination from urban/stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater.

USEPA also requires MWDSC to complete one Source Water Assessment (SWA) that utilizes information collected in the watershed sanitary surveys. MWDSC completed its SWA in December 2002. The SWA is used to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed.

A copy of the most recent summary of either Watershed Sanitary Survey or the SWA can be obtained by calling MWDSC at (800) CALL-MWD (225-5693).

### Groundwater Assessment

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the City was completed in December 2002. The ground water sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with detected contaminants: dry cleaners, gas stations, and known contaminant plumes.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at State Water Resource Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Santa Ana District, 2 MacArthur Place, Suite 150, Santa Ana, California 92707. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting the City at (949) 644-3011.

# Your Water: Always Available, Always Assured



The City of Newport Beach Utilities Department provides drinking water to a population of over 60,000 customers through 26,500 water connections for residences and businesses. Each year, approximately 4.9 billion gallons of water is served through our redundant network of 300 miles of pipelines, 17 booster pumps, 42 pressure stations and 3 water reservoirs. The

City of Newport Beach has one of the largest drinking water reservoirs in the County, with over 200 million gallons of capacity.

Water flowing to your tap is considered an essential service. Our certified Utilities Department staff is highly trained and committed to safeguarding the City's water supply while providing the highest level of customer service to the residents of Newport Beach. The Utilities Department Water Enterprise Fund is financially stable and is governed by your seven member publicly elected Newport Beach City Council. Our goal is to provide you with clean, safe, and reliable drinking water. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions at (949) 644-3011.



## City of Newport Beach Utilities Department

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