



## TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Each year, Peter J. Pitchess Honor Rancho (PPHR) provides this report to inform you, our customers, about the quality of the water you drink. We are pleased to report that during the 2013 calendar year, your water met or surpassed all health-based drinking water standards.

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 (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. To meet these regulations, PPHR contracts with the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts to oversee water quality monitoring and reporting.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Water Quality Report. We look forward to another year of providing you with safe, reliable water.

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

## SOURCES OF WATER

An assessment of the drinking water sources for PPHR was completed in August 2002. The assessment evaluates the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed. The active well sources are considered most vulnerable to the activities listed below.

- \* Well 10: Transportation Corridors- freeways/ state highways
- \* Wells 15 & 17: Chemical/ Petroleum pipelines
- \* Well 18R: Chemical/ Petroleum pipelines, farm chemical distribution/application service, pesticide/petroleum/fertilizer storage and transfer area. Wells- agricultural/irrigation, oil, gas, and geothermal source.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at the California Department of Public Health Los Angeles Office, 500 North Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale CA 91203. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting Mr. Dmitry Ginzburg at (818) 551-2022.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or comments regarding water quality, please contact Mr. Bill Bennett at (661) 295-8025. To view this report on the internet, please visit the Los Angeles County Waterworks District website at [www.lacwaterworks.org](http://www.lacwaterworks.org).

# Peter J. Pitchess Honor Rancho



## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2013





## DRINKING WATER & YOUR 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) 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, mining, or farming.
- \* 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 by-products 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.

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).

## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

In addition to protecting the quality of water delivered to you, we also promote and implement water conservation programs for the Districts' customers. For tips on how to conserve water and to learn more about the programs we offer, visit [www.lacwaterworks.org](http://www.lacwaterworks.org) or contact Rea Gonzalez at (626) 300-3338. We can all take these simple steps to conserve water:

### Indoor

- \* Fix indoor faucet and toilet leaks. Just a drip can waste more than 10,000 gallons per month.
- \* Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or shave.
- \* Take shorter showers and install a water efficient showerhead.
- \* Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.

### Outdoor

- \* Water according to current weather and season.
- \* Adjust your sprinkler heads so they water the yard, not the sidewalk or street.
- \* Landscape your yard and garden with California native and drought-tolerant plants. These plants are accustomed to local weather and soil conditions and thrive with little summer watering. Using them not only saves water, but also saves maintenance time and produces a habitat for native birds, beneficial insects and wildlife. The best time to plant native plants is between October and May each year.



## LEAD & COPPER

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 District 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.





# SAMPLING RESULTS

During the past year, your water is tested for chemical, physical, radiological and bacteriological parameters. We also test for additional organic and inorganic chemicals that are not regulated. The tables included in this report list all the substances that were detected. The presence of these substances in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from the testing performed last year. The State allows 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, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

# Table Definitions

**90th Percentile:** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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

**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.

- ppb:** parts per billion (micrograms per liter)  
**ppm:** parts per million (milligrams per liter)  
**µS/cm:** MicroSiemens per centimeter  
**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit  
**TON:** Threshold Odor Number

**N/A:** Not applicable  
**ND:** Non-detect  
**NL:** Notification level  
**pCi/L:** PicoCuries per liter

\*\* HAA5, chlorine, TTHMs, color, odor, turbidity and pH were measured within the distribution system

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS						
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MCLG]	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL (2013)	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine** (ppm)	2013	[4.0] as Cl <sub>2</sub>	MRDLG = 4 as Cl <sub>2</sub>	0.3 - 1.8	1.18	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2008 - 13	5	0	0 - 0.61	0.22	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2011 - 13	2.0	1	0.58 - 0.66	0.63	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2008 - 13	15	[0]	2.78 - 7.22	4.78	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2010	50	[0]	2.48	2.48	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5]** (ppb)	2013	60	N/A	0 - 2.34	1.4	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate as NO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2013	45	45	3.10 - 5.55	4.48	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	2008 - 13	20	0.43	1.06 - 2.44	1.92	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs]** (ppb)	2013	80	N/A	0.8 - 13.4	13.4	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

## LEAD AND COPPER

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG	90TH% LEVEL	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2012	1.3	0.3	0.10	0/20	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2012	15	0.2	ND	0/20	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; discharge from industrial manufactures; erosion of natural deposits

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MCLG]	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2011 - 13	500	N/A	71 - 88	77	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color** (units)	2013	15	N/A	0	0	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor** (TON)	2013	3	N/A	0	0	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2011 - 13	1600	N/A	891 - 1080	1008	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2011 - 13	500	N/A	173 - 361	256	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2011 - 13	1000	N/A	588 - 924	723	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity** (NTU)	2013	5	N/A	ND - 0.69	ND	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2013	5	N/A	N/A	64	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

## OTHER PARAMETERS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2011-13	ND-211	145
Calcium (ppm)	2011-13	76-107	89
Carbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2011-13	ND-171	43
Hardness (ppm)	2011-13	270-493	365
Magnesium (ppm)	2011-13	13-55	35
pH** (units)	2013	6.51-7.71	7.09
Potassium (ppm)	2010-11	3.53-3.73	3.63
Sodium (ppm)	2011-13	74-111	88

### UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE 3 (UCMR 3)

UCMR - As part of the 1996 Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the USEPA requires utilities to sample for emerging contaminants as part of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). Every five (5) years the USEPA prepares a list of unregulated contaminants for utilities to analyze. UCMR results are then used to assist the development of future drinking water regulations. Last year, water utilities completed round three (3) of the UCMR. For more information, please contact your local water retailer or visit the USEPA website <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/>

