

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Descanso Community Water District a 1-855-224-6981 para asistirlo en español.

Water System Information

Water System Name: Descanso Community Water District

Report Date: 3/22/2024

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater

Name and General Location of Source(s): Well 5 – located west of the Descanso Elementary School.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: An assessment of the drinking water sources for Descanso Community Water District was completed in February 2003. Some man-made contaminants have been detected in the groundwater. The sources are considered vulnerable to the following activities (although not associated with any detected chemicals): grazing and other animal operations, agricultural and irrigation wells, and low-density septic systems. A copy of the completed assessments and sanitary survey will be available at the Descanso Public Library: 9545 River Dr., Descanso, CA 91916

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation:

Descanso Town Hall
24356 Viejas Grade Road
7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday in March, June, September, and December

For more information, Contact: Fernando Saenz (559) 623-2457

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023, and may include earlier monitoring data.

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
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 (U.S. EPA).

Term	Definition
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 Standards (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.
Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)	MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
N/A	Not applicable
ppm	Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)
ppt	Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	Parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
NTU	Nephelometric turbidity units
Std units	Standard Units
TON	Threshold Odor Number
$\mu\text{S/cm}$	Microsiemens per centimeter

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

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 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.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

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

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

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

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language: 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. [Enter Water System's Name] 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. [Optional: 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, or MRDL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided in Table 6.

Table 1: Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	0	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive, or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2023	10	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2023	10	0.29	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2021	47.3	N/A	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2021	11	N/A	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2023	24.3*	12.6 – 33.9*	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	2023	22.4*	21 – 24*	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2021	0.26	N/A	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride) (ppb)	2018	0.88	N/A	5	4	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide
Mercury (ppb)	2021	0.1	N/A	2	1.2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and cropland
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2023	20.2	N/A	80	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2023	3.1	N/A	60	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	0.82	0.4 – 1.3	[4(as Cl ₂)]	[4(as Cl ₂)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Iron (ppb)	2023	822.5*	640 – 940*	300	None	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2023	200*	180 – 210*	50	None	Leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	8.3*	N/A	5	None	Soil Runoff
Chloride (ppm)	2021	58	N/A	500	None	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2021	469	N/A	1,600	None	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2021	70.6	N/A	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2021	415	N/A	1,000	None	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (TON)	2021	2	N/A	3	None	Naturally occurring organic materials

Table 6: Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
Gross Alpha	MCL Exceedance	2023	We are working with state and federal agencies on a capital improvement project to make system improvements including a treatment plant at Well 6 and blending to achieve compliance with the Gross Alpha MCL.	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Uranium	MCL Exceedance	2023	We are working with state and federal agencies on a capital improvement project to make system improvements including a treatment plant and blending at Well 6 to achieve compliance with the Uranium MCL.	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have kidney problems or an increased risk of getting cancer.
Iron	SMCL Exceedance	2023	We instituted increased monitoring in the distribution system. We are working with state and federal agencies on a capital improvement project to make system improvements including a treatment plant and blending at Well 6 to achieve compliance with the iron SMCL.	Iron was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 300 µg/L. The iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high iron levels are due to leaching of natural deposits.
Manganese	SMCL Exceedance	2023	We instituted increased monitoring in the distribution system. We are working with state and federal agencies on a capital improvement project to make system improvements including a treatment plant and blending at Well 6 to achieve compliance with the manganese SMCL.	Manganese exposures resulted in neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in adverse effects to the nervous system.
Turbidity	SMCL Exceedance	2023	We instituted increased monitoring at Well 5. We are working with state and federal agencies on a capital improvement project to make system improvements including a treatment plant and blending at Well 6 to achieve compliance with the turbidity SMCL.	Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.