2024 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: 6/23/2025

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, 2024, and may include earlier monitoring data.

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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).
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.

Term	Definition
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 (µg/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
µS/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: 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. Descanso Community Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Descanso CWD and Fernando Saenz, Chief Plant Operator, at 559-623-2457. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

2024 Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI)
The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require all water systems to complete a lead service line inventory (LSLI) by October 16, 2024. Descanso CWD reviewed historical building records and prioritized our focus on homes built prior to the 1986 lead pipe material ban. We then conducted field surveys to identify all customer service lines in our service area built prior to 1986. 315 service lines were verified. All were deemed non-lead. 1 was identified as galvanized. 165 were identified as plastic, 72 as copper, 76 as steel or other non-lead, and 1 was unidentified due to concrete covering the pipe material. A copy of the 2024 Lead Service Line Inventory is available at our office for review and published by the EPA.

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
E. coli	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	90th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2024	10	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2024	10	0.15	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)	2024	42	N/A	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2024	194	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
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2024	0.04	NA	10	0.02	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	**2024**	**34.7***	**23.8 – 34.7***	**15**	**N/A**	**Erosion of natural deposits**
Uranium (pCi/L)	**2024**	**26***	**23 – 26***	**20**	**0.43**	**Erosion of natural deposits**
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	0.22	N/A	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2024	20	N/A	80	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2024	6	N/A	60	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	0.60	0.2 – 1.6	[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)	**2024**	**910***	**830 – 910***	**300**	**None**	**Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes**
Manganese (ppb)	**2024**	**220***	**190 – 220***	**50**	**None**	**Leaching from natural deposits**
Turbidity (NTU)	**2024**	**8.0***	**6.2 – 8.0***	**5**	**None**	**Soil Runoff**
Chloride (ppm)	2024	66	N/A	500	None	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2024	620	N/A	1,600	None	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2024	66	N/A	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2024	370	N/A	1,000	None	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits

Table 6. Detection of Contaminants without a Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alkalinity (ppm)	2024	150	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Calcium (ppm)	2024	58	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	2024	12	NA	Soil Runoff
pH (no units)	2024	7.32	N/A	Soil Runoff

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	2024	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	2024	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	2024	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	2024	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	2024	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.