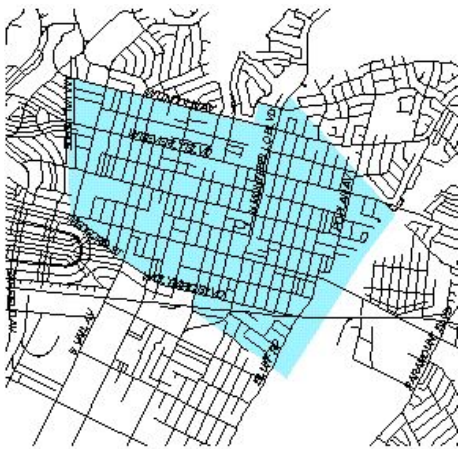


# MONTEBELLO LAND AND WATER COMPANY

## 2020 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Since 1991, California water utilities have been providing information on water served to its consumers. This report is a snapshot of the tap water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is tested, what is in it, and how it compares with state and federal limits. We strive to keep you informed about the quality of your water, and to provide a reliable and economical supply that meets all regulatory requirements.

### **Where Does My Tap Water Come From?**



Your tap water comes from local, deep groundwater wells that supply our service area shown on the adjacent map. The quality of groundwater delivered to your home is presented in this report.

### **How is My Drinking Water Tested?**

Your drinking water is tested regularly for unsafe levels of chemicals, radioactivity and bacteria at the source and in the distribution system. We test weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually or less often depending on the substance. State and federal laws allow us to test some substances less than once per year because their levels do not change frequently. Some of our data, although representative, is more than one year old. All water quality tests are conducted by specially trained technicians in state-certified laboratories.

### **What Are Drinking Water Standards?**

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) limits the amount of certain substances allowed in tap water. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (Division) regulates tap water quality by enforcing limits that are at least as stringent as the USEPA's. Historically, California limits are more stringent than the Federal ones.

There are two types of these limits, known as standards. Primary standards protect you from substances that could potentially affect your health. Secondary standards regulate substances that affect the aesthetic qualities of water. Regulations set a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for each of the primary and secondary standards. The MCL is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in your drinking water.

Public Health Goals (PHGs) are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. PHGs provide more information on the quality of drinking water to customers, and are similar to their federal counterparts, Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs). PHGs and MCLGs are advisory levels that are non-enforceable. Both PHGs and MCLGs are concentrations of a substance below which there are no known or expected health risks.

### **How Do I Read the Water Quality Table?**

Although we test for over 100 substances, regulations require us to report only those found in your water. The first column of the water quality table lists substances detected in your water. The next columns list the average concentration and range of concentrations found in your drinking water. Following are columns that list the MCL and PHG or MCLG, as appropriate. The last column describes the likely sources of these substances in drinking water.

To review the quality of your drinking water, compare the highest concentration and the MCL. Check for substances greater than the MCL. Exceedance of a primary MCL does not usually constitute an immediate health threat. Rather, it requires testing the source water more frequently for a short duration. If test results show that the water continues to exceed the MCL, the water must be treated to remove the substance, or the source must be removed from service.

### **Why Do I See So Much Coverage in the News About the Quality Of Tap 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, including 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, which 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 gasoline stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems;
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the Division 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.

All 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). You can also get more information on tap water by logging on to these helpful web sites:

- <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water> (USEPA web site)
- [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/publicwatersystems.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/publicwatersystems.html) (Division web site)

### **Should I Take Additional Precautions?**

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

### **An Explanation of 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. Montebello Land and Water Company 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 <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

### **Source Water Assessment**

The Montebello Land and Water Company conducted an assessment of its groundwater supplies in 2003. Groundwater supplies are considered most vulnerable to water supply wells, historic railroad right-of-ways, and railroads, and may be vulnerable to landfills/dumps, automobile gasoline stations, dry cleaners, sewer collection systems, and fleet/truck/bus terminals. A copy of the approved assessment may be obtained by contacting Korey Bradbury at (323) 722-8654.

### **How Can I Participate in Decisions On Water Issues That Affect Me?**

The public is welcome to attend the Board meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. at 344 East Madison Avenue, Montebello, California 90640.

### **How Do I Contact My Water Agency If I Have Any Questions About Water Quality?**

If you have specific questions about your tap water quality, please contact Korey Bradbury at (323) 722-8654.

Visit us at [www.mtblw.com](http://www.mtblw.com)

# MONTEBELLO LAND AND WATER COMPANY 2020 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Results are from the most recent testing performed in accordance with state and federal drinking water regulations

## PRIMARY STANDARDS TESTED IN GROUNDWATER – MANDATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

ORGANIC CHEMICALS (µg/l) Tested annually	GROUNDWATER		PRIMARY MCL	PHG or (MCLG) (b)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
	AVERAGE	RANGE			
None detected in 2020	(a)	(a)	NA	NA	Industrial and agricultural discharges

INORGANICS Tested from 2019 to 2020, except nitrate which is tested annually					
Arsenic (µg/l)	<2 (c)	ND - 2	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/l)	0.27	0.18 - 0.35	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (mg/l as N)	1.5	ND - 2.6	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use/septic tanks

RADIOLOGICAL Tested from 2016 to 2020					
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	<3 (c)	ND - 3.1	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226+228 (pCi/l)	ND	ND	5	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	1.4	ND - 2.5	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits

## PRIMARY STANDARDS TESTED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

MICROBIALS Tested weekly	# POSITIVE	RANGE	MCL	MCLG	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	Greater than 1 positive	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. Coli</i>	0	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
No. of Acute Violations	0	0	-	-	

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND CHLORINE RESIDUAL (d)	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		MCL or (MRDL) (e)	MRDLG (f)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
	AVERAGE	RANGE			
Trihalomethanes-TTHMS (µg/l)	25	4.6 - 25	80	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (µg/l)	4.2	1.3 - 3.6	60	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/l)	0.61	0.2 - 1.4	(4.0)	4.0	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

AT THE TAP LEAD AND COPPER 30 Tap Samples Tested in 2020 (g)	90th PERCENTILE	# SITES ABOVE AL	ACTION LEVEL	PHG	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Copper (mg/l)	0.57	0 out of 30	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (µg/l)	ND<5	0 out of 30	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household plumbing

## SECONDARY STANDARDS TESTED IN GROUNDWATER - FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES

Tested from 2019 to 2020

	GROUNDWATER		SECONDARY MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
	AVERAGE	RANGE			
Chloride (mg/l)	70	57 - 76	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Color (color units)	<3 (c)	ND - 5	15	NA	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	710	660 - 750	1,600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water
Iron (µg/l)	<100 (c)	ND - 300	300	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Manganese (µg/l)	<20 (c)	ND - 39	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (threshold odor number)	1.1	1 - 2	3	NA	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Sulfate (mg/l)	100	87 - 120	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	420	390 - 440	1,000	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	0.31	ND - 1.8	5	NA	Soil runoff

## SECONDARY STANDARDS TESTED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

GENERAL PHYSICAL CONSTITUENTS	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		SECONDARY MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
	AVERAGE	RANGE			
Color (color units)	<3 (c)	ND - 5	15	NA	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor (threshold odor number)	<1 (c)	ND - 1	3	NA	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Turbidity (NTU)	<0.1 (c)	ND - 0.45	5	NA	Leaching from natural deposits

## UNREGULATED CHEMICALS OF INTEREST TESTED IN GROUNDWATER

Tested from 2019 to 2020

	GROUNDWATER		NL	PHG or (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
	AVERAGE	RANGE			
Alkalinity, total (mg/l as CaCO3)	170	160 - 190	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Calcium (mg/l)	73	66 - 82	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness, total (mg/l as CaCO3)	240	220 - 270	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium (mg/l)	13	12 - 16	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (ng/l)	7.5	ND - 11	500	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorodecanoic Acid (ng/l)	<4 (c)	ND - 4.3	NA	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (ng/l)	<4 (c)	ND - 4.9	NA	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (ng/l)	6.3	5 - 7.7	NA	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (ng/l)	<4 (c)	ND - 7.3	NA	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorononanoic Acid (ng/l)	<4 (c)	ND - 4.5	NA	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ng/l)	43	34 - 56	6.5	NA	Industrial discharges
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ng/l)	11	ND - 17	5.1	NA	Industrial discharges
pH (standard unit)	7.5	7.3 - 7.7	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Potassium (mg/l)	4.2	3.8 - 4.7	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (mg/l)	55	48 - 60	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

**UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING TESTED IN GROUNDWATER**

Tested in 2019

	GROUNDWATER		NL	PHG or (MCLG)
	AVERAGE	RANGE		
Bromide (µg/l)	170	120 - 280	NA	NA
Manganese (µg/l) (h)	19	0.41 - 37	SMCL = 50	NA
Total Organic Carbon (mg/l)	<1 (c)	ND - 1.5	NA	NA

**UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING TESTED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

Tested in 2019

	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		NL	PHG or (MCLG)
	AVERAGE	RANGE		
Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (µg/l)	2.3	1.2 - 3.1	NA	NA
Haloacetic acids (HAA6Br) (µg/l)	3.5	1.7 - 4.8	NA	NA
Haloacetic acids (HAA9) (µg/l)	3.6	1.7 - 5.2	NA	NA

**ABBREVIATIONS**

**pCi/l** = picoCuries per liter  
**µmhos/cm** = micromhos per centimeter  
**ND** = constituent not detected at the reporting limit  
**mg/l** = milligrams per liter or parts per million  
**µg/l** = micrograms per liter or parts per billion  
**ng/l** = nanograms per liter or parts per trillion  
**NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units  
**NA** = not applicable  
**NL** = Notification Level

**FOOTNOTES**

(a) Thirty-six volatile organic chemicals were analyzed in 2020.  
 (b) California Public Health Goal (PHG). Other advisory level is the federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG).  
 (c) "<" means constituent detected but average is less than the reporting limit  
 (d) Running annual average used to calculate average and MCL compliance.  
 (e) Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)  
 (f) Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)  
 (g) In 2020, no school submitted a request to be sampled for lead.  
 (h) Manganese was included as part of the unregulated chemicals requiring monitoring.

**DEFINITIONS**

**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 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.  
**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.  
**Notification Level (NL):** An advisory level which, if exceeded, requires the drinking water system to notify the governing body of the local agency in which users of the drinking water reside (i.e. city council, board of directors, and county board of supervisors).