

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT 2023

City of Crescent City
Public Works Department
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Continuing Our Commitment

The City of Crescent City is once again proud to present to you our annual consumer confidence report. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards.

We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. The City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Del Norte County Flynn Center, 981 H Street, Board Chambers, Crescent City, CA. Please share with us your thoughts about the information in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Crescent City a (707) 464-9506 para asistirlo en español.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Water customers of the City of Crescent City are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant water supply from the Wild and Scenic Smith River. In 2023, 780 million gallons (daily average 2.14 MGD) was collected through the Ranney Collector, which is located about 2 miles upstream from Dr. Fine Bridge. An assessment of this drinking water source was completed in January 2004. Our source is most vulnerable to septic systems, animal activity, and illegal dumping into the Smith River. A copy can be obtained by contacting Barry Sutter at 707-576-2220.

Water Treatment Process

Using natural filtration through the sand and gravel bed 30 feet below the river, water is collected from intake lines (or fingers) driven into the gravel bed. Water is pumped southward to the treatment facility off Kings Valley Road, where chlorine is added to meet State standards. This is the extent of treatment. The City of Crescent City ceased adding Fluoride to its water supply on November 8, 2012 per ballot Measure A.

After treatment, the water enters the distribution system, consisting of booster pumps and storage tanks. The water is analyzed daily for: chlorine, turbidity and pH. In addition, weekly microbiological tests are analyzed from various locations throughout the system to further ensure healthy, high quality standards at your tap.

Despite wet weather, the State of California's Emergency Drought Proclamation is still in effect which encourages all water users to be conscious of water waste and utilize this valuable resource as efficiently as possible. Ideas for water conservation can be found below and at www.saveourwater.com.

- Using hoses equipped with a shut-off nozzle when washing vehicles;
- Not watering lawns in a manner that causes runoff, or within 48 hours after rain;
- Pausing Irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians;
- Not hosing off sidewalks, driveways and other hardscapes;
- Using water efficient indoor devices.



What is Cross-Connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment or systems containing chemicals or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line. Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand) causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line. Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination. Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as back-flow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed all industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that all potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. Visit <https://www.epa.gov/dwsixyearreview/drinking-water-distribution-systems> for more information on cross-connection contamination or call (800)426-4791.

Important Health Information: 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 Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact David Yeager, Public Works Director at (707) 464-9506 or dyeager@crescentcity.org

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. All substances were under the State Water Resources Control Board Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). For the sake of simplicity, the results reported to you the users, are only those which are most commonly of interest to the public. Test results for all of the samples taken are available at City Hall upon request.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Substance (Unit of Measure)	No. of samples collected	Level Detected (90th % tile)	Sites Above			Typical Source of Contaminant
			AL	AL	PHG	
Lead (ppb) Schools (2019)	35	8.6*	0	15	2	See below
Lead (ppb)(2021)	30	<1.0*	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (2021) (ppm)	30	0.11	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

*Updated results to reflect true 90th percentile.

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 of Crescent 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 drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information about lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Sample Date	Level Detected	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	06/07/2023	2.0	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Hardness (ppm)	06/07/2023	48	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring.
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	06/07/2023	ND	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Iron (ppb)	06/07/2023	ND	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese (ppb)	06/07/2023	ND	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
Aluminum (ppm)	06/07/2023	ND	1	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes.
Magnesium (ppm)	06/07/2023	8.7	None	None	Naturally occurring salts deposits
Calcium (ppm)	06/07/2023	4.9	None	None	from runoff and leaching.

Parameter (unit of measure)	Average	Range	MCL	Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	22.3	8.6-36	80	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	20.6	4.2-37	60	

ROUTINE DAILY SAMPLING RESULTS

Parameter	Units	Average	Range	MCL
Chlorine residual	ppm	1.05	0.04-1.97	N/A
PH	PH Units	7.82	7.56-7.99	N/A
Turbidity	NTU	0.24	0.10 - 0.75	5.0

Microbiological Contaminants	# of Detections	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Source
*Total Coliform (distribution)	2 (2/27/23)	NO	TT	TT	Naturally occurring in the environment
**E.coli (distribution)	0	NO	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
**E.coli (Groundwater prior to treatment)	3 (2/28/23, 3/14/23, 12/4/23)	NO	0	0	Due to storm event influence on well

Table of 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. 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 (USEPA).

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs, MRDLs and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements.

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.

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

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variations and Exemptions: State Water Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a TT under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppg: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine why total coliform bacteria has been found in system.

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. The City of Crescent City vigilantly safeguards its water supply and once again, we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

**E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

*Total Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct a Level 1 assessment which was completed. In addition, we were required to take two corrective actions and both were completed.

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, 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, & 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Water Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.