

**MONTECITO  
WATER DISTRICT**

**100**

**RELIABLE SINCE 1921**

# 2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

This report explains where your water comes from, provides information on water quality and how it is measured, and presents the District's 2021 test results which show that **drinking water met, or was better than, state and federal water quality standards.**

Montecito Water District was founded in 1921 to address the challenge of providing sufficient water to a growing community in a semi-arid region.

**For the last century, the District has successfully achieved its mission:**

*to provide an adequate and reliable supply of high quality water to the residents of Montecito and Summerland, at the most reasonable cost.*

In carrying out this mission, the District places particular emphasis on providing outstanding customer service, conducting its operations in an environmentally sensitive manner, and working cooperatively with other agencies.

Foresight and action over the years has made this possible. The creation of Jameson Lake, participation in the Cachuma Project, and investment in the State Water Project are some of the District's most noteworthy accomplishments in its first 75 years.

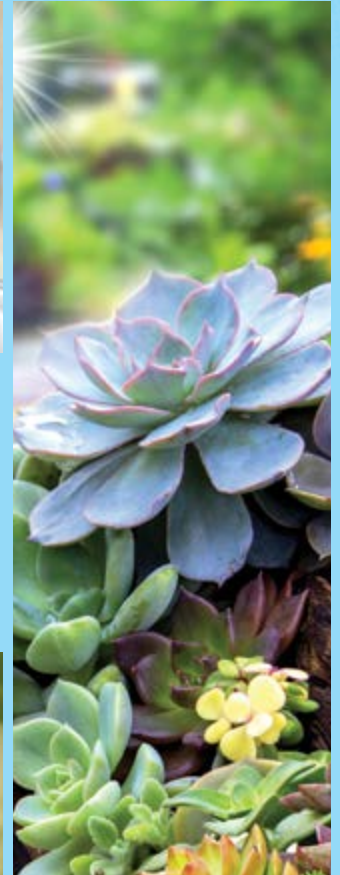
Drought reached unprecedented levels in the past decade, and due to its reliance on rainfall dependent supplies the District found itself in a vulnerable position. Since 2015 we've made tremendous strides—maximizing current investments and securing more local, more reliable supplies.

Through a century of experience we've learned: Change is certain in all arenas. We'll continue to focus on maintaining quality and improving resiliency. We'll also be asking all customers to do their part and practice efficient water use.

The District takes pride in continuing to deliver a reliable supply of high-quality water to the communities of Montecito and Summerland and plans to be well positioned to ensure a future of ongoing reliability and resilience—for the next 100 years!



**Reliable water service is essential for our health and safety, fire protection and to preserve the community's unique character.**



**Nick Turner,  
General Manager**

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para información en español llame al 805.969.2271.*

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT**

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## Montecito Water District's Water Quality Summary 2021

Primary Standards (PDWS)	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
<b>Water Clarity</b>										
Treated Turbidity	NTU	TT = 1 NTU TT = 95% of Samples ≤ 0.3	NA	0.05	0.03-0.20 100.0%	<0.1	<0.1 100%	NA	ND -0.07 100%	Soil runoff.
<b>Radioactive Contaminants (2020)</b>										
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	(0)	1.33	1.33	2.63	1.22 - 3.86	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>										
Aluminum	µg/L	1000	600	10	ND-10	ND	ND	26	ND - 83	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Arsenic	µg/L	10	0.004	ND	ND	0.33	ND-1	NA	NA	
Barium	mg/L	1	2	ND	ND	0.08	0.06-0.09	NA	NA	Discharges of oil drilling wastes: erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	mg/L	2	1	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.5 - 1.0	0.4	0.32 - 0.44	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer.
Mercury	µg/L	2	1.2	ND	ND	0.13	0.09-0.20	NA	NA	
Nickel	µg/L	100	12	ND	ND	1	ND-2.0	NA	NA	
Nitrate as N (Nitrogen)	mg/L	10	10	ND	ND	2.1	0.6-2.9	0.13	ND - 0.23	Runoff or leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Selenium	µg/L	0.05	30	ND	ND	4	2.0-6.0	ND	NA	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive).

Primary Standards for Distribution System	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Distribution System Average	Distribution System Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
<b>Disinfectant</b>						
Free Chlorine Residual	mg/L	MRDL, 4.0	MRDLG, 4.0	0.76	0.20-2.01	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>						
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L	80	NA	Highest LRAA, 51.3	14-64	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	µg/L	60	NA	Highest LRAA, 44.3	9.0-66	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromate (Cachuma Lake)	µg/L	10	0.1	3.8	1.8 - 5.3	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (DBP Precursor)	mg/L	TT	NA	3.0	1.5-3.7	Various natural and manmade sources. Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, it provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts.
<b>Microbiological Contaminant Samples</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	% Tests Positive	<5% of Monthly Samples of minimum 48 samples	0	0.00%	0	Naturally present in the environment.

Lead and Copper Rule (2020)	Units	RAL	PHG	Samples collected	Above RAL	90th Percentile	Schools Testing Again in 2022
Lead	µg/L	15	0.2	36	0	ND	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	µg/L	1300	300	36	0	232	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

**Lead and Copper Rule** Every three years, a minimum of 30 residences are tested for lead and copper levels at the tap. The most recent set of 36 samples was collected in 2020. All of the samples were well below the regulatory action level (RAL). Copper was detected in 28 samples. The 90th percentile value was at 232 ug/L. Lead was not detected in any of the samples. The 90th percentile value was Non-Detect. 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. Montecito Water 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/lead>.

Secondary Standards	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
<b>Aesthetic Standards</b>									
Color	Units	15	12	12	ND	ND	ND	NA	Naturally-occurring organic minerals.
Chloride	mg/L	500	6	6	148	89-198	29	28 - 31	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Iron	µg/L	300	ND	ND	6.2	ND-250	12	ND - 17	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese	µg/L	50	ND	ND	5.8	ND-100	1.3	ND - 2.2	Leaching from natural deposits.
Threshold Odor at 60 degrees celcius	Units	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	3	2 - 4	Naturally-occurring organic minerals.
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	872	863-881	1167	910-1390	923	890 - 1005	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate	mg/L	500	218	218	149	128-195	262	249 - 290	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	584	578-590	710	560-890	710	598 - 776	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits.
Zinc	mg/L	5	ND	ND	0.017	ND - 0.030	ND	NA	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.

Secondary Standards	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range
<b>Additional Constituents Analyzed</b>								
pH	pH units	NS	8.3	71-91	7.6	7.6-7.7	7.64	7.31 - 7.79
Total Hardness	mg/L	NS	372	344-400	311	225-461	391	368 - 432
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	NS	188	168-220	207	200-220	193	180 - 229
Boron	mg/L	1000 (RAL)	ND	ND	0.6	ND-0.6	0.38	0.37 - 0.39
Calcium	mg/L	NS	99	99	78	57-117	85	80 - 96.1
Magnesium	mg/L	NS	26	26	28	20-41	42	38 - 45
Sodium	mg/L	NS	28	28	97	72-137	53	48 - 58
Potassium	mg/L	NS	3	3	0.7	ND-1.0	4.0	3.8 - 4.5
<b>Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (2019-20)</b>								
HAA5	µg/L	NS	32.87	23.98 - 44	NA	NA	13	ND - 32
HAA6Br	µg/L	NS	8.03	4.24 - 14.09	NA	NA	14	ND - 24
HAA9	µg/L	NS	39.95	32.57 - 48.94	NA	NA	24	ND - 51
Bromochloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	3.29	1.89 - 5.45	NA	NA	3.9	ND - 8.2
Bromodichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	2.95	2.15 - 4.05	NA	NA	3.5	ND - 5.8
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.85	0 - 1.9	NA	NA	2.2	ND - 3.3
Dibromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.71	0 - 1.9	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.2
Dichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	12.34	7.75 - 20	NA	NA	6.0	ND - 16
Monobromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.24	0 - 0.8	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.9
Monochloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	1.17	ND - 1.6	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.9
Trichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	18.41	10.75 - 26	NA	NA	4.2	ND - 12

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microorganisms (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA

anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

**Nitrate as N (Nitrogen):** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider. MWD's highest nitrate level in 2021 was 2.9 mg/L

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.

### People with Sensitive Immune Systems

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).

**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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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.**

### Drinking Water Info

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's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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.

**Source Water Assessment:** A comprehensive source water assessment of the District's drinking water sources was adopted in June 2021. A copy of this report is available for public inspection at the District Office.

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. Montecito Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you information because informed customers are our best allies.

### WATER QUALITY TERMINOLOGY

**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.

**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 Standard (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**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:** 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.

**mg/L:** Milligrams per liter, or parts per million. 1 mg/L is equal to about one drop in 17 gallons of water.

**µg/L:** Micrograms per liter, or parts per billion. 1 µg/L is equal to about one drop in 17,000 gallons of water.

< : Less than.

≤ : Less than or equal to.

NA: Not applicable.

NS: No Standard.

ND: Non-detected.

pCi/L: Pico curies per liter, a measure of radiation.

umhos/cm: Micromhos per centimeter (an indicator of dissolved minerals in water).

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit.

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

**For Water Softeners:** MWD's surface water has a hardness range of 20 to 23 grains per gallon, while groundwater has a hardness range of 13 to 27 grains per gallon. One grain per gallon equals 171 mg/L.

**Footnotes:** The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Surface water sources include the District's Jameson Lake and Lake Cachuma. The District's Amapola Well, Paden Well No. 2, Ennisbrook Well No. 5, Ennisbrook Well No. 2 and T Mosby Well No. 2 were used as groundwater supply sources.

An average number of 52 coliform samples were collected each month at 12 District sampling stations in compliance with the Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. All sample results were negative.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. Montecito Water District monitors for it continuously because turbidity is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. 100% of the District's samples met the Turbidity Performance standard. The highest single surface water turbidity measurement during the year was 0.20 NTU.

# WATER SOURCES 2021

Most water supplies are rainfall dependent, and become limited in times of drought. As the District looks to the future, it aims to increase its access to local, reliable supplies.



Doulton Tunnel, a horizontal well, source of groundwater and conveyance from Jameson Lake.



Cachuma Project (Lake Cachuma), a federally owned surface water facility.



Jameson Lake, a District owned surface water facility.



Groundwater wells, source from the Montecito Groundwater Basin.



Conservation - Water efficiency.



State Water Project & Supplemental Water Purchase.

## FACILITIES

The District's water source portfolio and array of facilities is highly diversified. The combination of its own assets and involvement with many partners provides regional water supply management opportunities and added resiliency.

Conservation — water supply that is attained through efficiency of use — is unique in that it is people dependent. As climate change increases the uncertainty of hydrologic conditions, the District will continue to look to its customers for their partnership in using water wisely.



2 Surface Water Treatment Plants



7 Pumping Stations



9 Storage Reservoirs



12 Groundwater Wells



114 (approximate) Miles of Pipeline



1 Surface Water Reservoir, Dam and Groundwater Conveyance Tunnel



943 Fire Hydrants



We encourage public participation.

For meeting times, agendas, and additional resources: [www.montecitowater.com](http://www.montecitowater.com)

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For more information please contact **Chad Hurshman**, Water Treatment and Production Superintendent, at 805.969.7924



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