

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Santa Nella County Water District Report Date: June 30, 2024

*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 - December 31, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

Type of water source(s) in use: Surface and Well Water

Name & general location of source(s): CA Aqueduct near Santa Nella and Well No. 1 in Santa Nella service area.

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Source water assessments were completed in 2003. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminates: 1) recreational area-surface water source; 2) grazing [ $>5$  large animals or equivalent per acre] – well water source; 3) wells-agricultural/irrigation-well water source.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Second Thursday of each month at 1:00 pm at the District Office located at 12931 S Hwy 33, Santa Nella, CA.

For more information, contact: Amy Montgomery Phone: (209) 826-0920

### TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**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).

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

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

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

**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.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**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)

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

**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.

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

**Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 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, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In a mo.)	0	1 positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year)	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive		Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year)	0	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL.  
 (b) 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*.

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	9/22/21	10	1.5 µg/L	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	9/22/21	10	0.304 mg/L	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**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	10/17/23	41	NA	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	10/17/23	96	NA	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 (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (µg/L)	10/17/23	2.2	NA	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, electronic product waste
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	10/17/23	0.7	NA	45	45	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits
THM (ppb)	Annually	41	NA	80	None	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	Annually	9.3	NA	60	None	Byproduct of drinking water Chlorination
Cl (ppm)	Daily	.20	.20-2.3	4(as Cl2)	4 (as Cl2)	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

**TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	10/17/23	58	NA	500	NA	Runoff from natural deposits; sea water influence
Color (units)	10/17/23	22*	NA	15	NA	Natural occurring organic matter
Iron (µg/L)	10/17/23	160	NA	300	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (µg/L)	10/17/23	51*	NA	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Foaming Agents (MBAS) (µg/L)	10/18/22	<0.1	NA	500	NA	Municipal and Industrial waste discharges
Odor (units)	10/17/23	ND	NA	3	NA	Naturally occurring organic materials
Silver (µg/L)	10/17/23	ND	NA	100	NA	Industrial discharges
Sulfate (mg/L)	10/17/23	32	NA	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance	10/17/23	400	NA	1,600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water/ sea water influence
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (mg/L)	10/17/23	250	NA	1,000	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	10/17/23	3.2	NA	5	NA	Soil runoff

\*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**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 for Community Water Systems: 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 Santa Nella County 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. [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 (1-800-426-4701) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

The notification level for Manganese is used to protect customers from neurological effects. High levels of Manganese in people have been shown to result in effects of the nervous system.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2022. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to 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 microbials (i.e., total coliform and *E.coli* bacteria). The USEPA 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.

**Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
NO VIOLATIONS DURING 2023	NA	NA	NA	NA

**For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water**

**TABLE 7 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLES**

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
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<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	NA	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the year) 0	NA	TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the year) 0	NA	TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste

**Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Groundwater TT**

SPECIAL NOTICE OF FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLE				
NA				
SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES				
NA				
VIOLATION OF GROUNDWATER TT				
TT Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
No Violations During 2023	NA	NA	NA	NA

**For Systems Providing Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water**

TABLE 8 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES	
Treatment Technique <sup>(a)</sup> (Type of approved filtration technology used)	Conventional Treatment
Turbidity Performance Standards <sup>(b)</sup> (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to .300 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed .300 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	100% met standards
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	.150
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	0

- (a) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- (b) Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.

**Summary Information for Violation of a Surface Water TT**

VIOLATION OF A SURFACE WATER TT				
TT Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
No Violations During 2023	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption**

NA

## Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

### Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

Coliforms 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 zero (0) Level 1 assessment(s). Zero (0) Level 1 assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take zero (0) corrective actions and we completed zero (0) of these actions.

During the past year zero (0) Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. Zero (0) Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take zero (0) corrective actions and we completed zero (0) of these actions.

We did not have any violations that required any assessments or corrective actions in 2023.

### Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

*E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. We found *E. coli* bacteria, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

We were required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we found *E. coli* in our water system. In addition, we were required to take zero (0) corrective actions and we completed zero (0) of these actions.

We did not have any violations that required any assessments or corrective action in 2023.

The Santa Nella County Water District (District) was formed in 1965 as a California Non-Profit Corporation and is a County Water District under the Water Code. The District is also a Special District because of the vital services provided to the public. A five-member Board of Directors sets policy and has fiduciary responsibility of the District. The Directors are elected by the registered voters that reside within the service area and serve four-year staggered terms. The District employs six personnel, including certified operators and skilled administrative clerks, to provide safe and reliable drinking water to the Community of Santa Nella. Water is a precious California resource! Please continue to conserve!

*"Whiskey is for drinking. Water is for fighting over!" – Mark Twain*