

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

In 2013, we conducted tests for over 62 contaminants; Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) were recorded higher than the EPA allowable limit for the first three quarters of the year. This report 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 standards set by regulatory agencies. All detectable amounts of contaminants, for the last 5 years, are listed below. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special 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. 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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791). Due to an elevated average of TTHMs some people with severe medical conditions may want to consult their health care professional about drinking water.

Where does my water come from?

Jetty Creek, a surface water source, has been used by the City since 1968. Ground water sources include 2 wells located within the Nedonna Beach aquifer and a 3rd at Manhattan Beach.

Current Events and Upgrades:

On April 10th, 2013 the City Council approved a project to upgrade the City's water treatment plant. This project included the installation of new pretreatment equipment design to remove the chemical precursors responsible for the elevated TTHM levels in our water system. This pretreatment system has been operational since December 2103. Elevated TTHM levels are no longer present in the City's water system. Costs for the pretreatment equipment were shared with Westech Engineering.

The new multi-media pre-treatment system.

The current water filtration plant constructed in 2011 uses ultrafiltration, filtering to .01 microns. This process is designed to remove the following: Turbidity, Algae, *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, Bacteria, Organic Macro Molecules, Colloids, and Viruses. The Ultra-membranes may not always filter out dissolved materials that contribute to elevated TTHM levels. The pretreatment system installed in early December 2013 has improved the water plants ability to remove these dissolved materials. Since the installation of the pretreatment equipment, elevated TTHM levels have not been detected in the City's water system.

Source water assessment and its availability

A source assessment has been completed and is available from City Hall upon request, or online at the City's website at www.rockawaybeachor.us.

Why are there contaminants in my 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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. In some cases, radioactive material, can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: 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. Contaminants 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. These 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, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead contamination warning

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 Rockaway Beach Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in your homes 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 drinking 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/safewater/lead>.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions concerning this report or the water system, please contact Public Works Director Luke Shepard at 503-355-2982. You may also address issues at any of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings held on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 S. Hwy 101.

	MCLG	MCL,	Your	Range	Sample			
	or	TT, or	Water	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products

(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) Ave.	35	60	35.54	ND	54.06	2013	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	50	80	73.33	23.03	93.11	2013	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	ND	NA	NA	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits;
Asbestos (MFL)	7	7	ND	NA	NA	2013	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - source water (ppm)		0.015	0.0100	NA	NA	2013	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)		MPL	19.7	NA	19.7	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching

Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	ND	NA	NA	2013	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU): 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3.						2013	No	Soil runoff

(A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation.)

The highest single measurement was 0.20. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.

Radioactive Contaminants

Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	ND	NA	ND	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
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	Your	Sample	# Samples	Exceeds			
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Water	Date	Exceeding AL	AL	Typical Source

Inorganic Contaminants

Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.37	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0.0100	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MRL	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
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Unregulated Contaminants

Bromodichloromethane (ppm)	0.0005	NA	0.0064	2010	NA	NA	Organic compound
Chloroform (ppm)	0.0005	NA	0.0047	2010	NA	NA	Organic compound
Dibromochloromethane (ppm)	0.0005	NA	0.0054	2010	NA	NA	Organic compound

