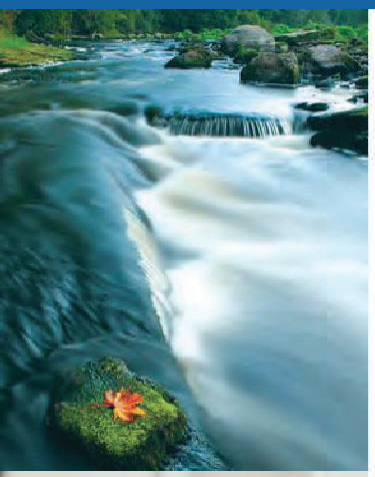
Suburban Water Systems

2024 Water Quality Report

LA MIRADA SYSTEM

This report reflects water quality testing conducted during 2024.

A Word of Assurance about



Your 2024 Water Quality Report

Your drinking water is constantly monitored from source to tap for regulated and unregulated constituents through comprehensive drinking water quality compliance testing programs carried out by dedicated Suburban Water Systems (Suburban) professionals.

Suburban's team of state certified Water Treatment and Water Distribution Operators collect several thousand water samples each year to safeguard the quality of your tap water. These samples are analyzed in the field at the time of sample collection or by independent, state certified laboratories for various substances as mandated by law. The results of these samples are then submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) – Division of Drinking Water (DDW), which oversees water quality compliance for all public water systems in California.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC) and California Domestic Water Company (Cal Domestic), suppliers of water to the La Mirada system, have their own drinking water monitoring programs that comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California regulatory requirements.

For generations Suburban has provided dependable, high-quality water that complies with all federal and state health safety standards to thousands of families in the San Gabriel Valley and nearby areas. We are proud to report that 2024 was no exception.

Who We Serve

Suburban's La Mirada system provides drinking water to the City of La Mirada, and portions of Whittier, Buena Park and Fullerton. Suburban serves approximately 55,000 people in its La Mirada system service area. In 2024, Suburban provided drinking water for its La Mirada service area from its four active wells in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin and its two active wells in the Central Groundwater Basin. Suburban also distributes supplemental drinking water from Cal Domestic. Cal Domestic's water comes from wells in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. In addition, supplemental treated surface water was obtained from the MWDSC's via Central Basin Municipal Water District.

Suburban's Drinking Water Complies with All Health and Safety Regulations

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. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Last year, as in the past, Suburban's drinking water was in full compliance with all applicable county, state, and federal drinking water regulations. Our system of pumps, reservoirs, and distribution pipelines are all routinely inspected, monitored, and maintained by professional state-certified water system operators to protect the quality of the water from source to tap.

Purpose of this Report

This annual water quality report demonstrates Suburban's compliance with SWRCB and USEPA regulations. It also provides important information to the public about where drinking water comes from, how drinking water is regulated, and what types of contaminants may be in the drinking water. You will find tables on the following pages, which summarize the results of a comprehensive water quality testing program. You can determine how the water quality in your area compares to government standards by finding the average values in the tables and comparing these values to the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

Chemicals reported in the tables were detected in the water by independent accredited laboratories during 2024 or from the most recent tests. Most, but not all, of these chemicals are minerals, metals and radiologicals occurring naturally in the water. Some of these chemicals, however, are the result of 1) drinking water treatment processes — chlorine residual, disinfection byproducts; 2) agricultural/ industrial practices that occurred many decades ago — nitrate, tetrachloroethylene, perchlorate, trichloroethylene; 3) household plumbing – copper; and 4) unknown sources responsible for detections of per–and–polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS). To help you understand what these test results mean, we have also included information about significant constituents, measurements, water quality definitions and advisories.

Are There Risks?

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 (800) 426–4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immunocompromised 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 (800) 426–4791.

Per- and Polyfluoroakyl Substances (PFAS)

are a family of manmade chemicals prevalent in the environment and thousands of consumer products used daily, such as water-resistant clothing, carpet, food wrappers, non-stick cookware, cleaning products and more. PFAS have been detected in groundwater in various locations throughout the United States. Much remains unknown about PFAS, however, most research suggests that PFAS enter groundwater from various waste disposal activities. Suburban began testing wells in our La Mirada/Whittier service area in 2019, revealing the presence of these chemicals, particularly perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanioic acid (PFOA). Suburban took immediate measures to minimize levels of PFAS. Suburban is committed to delivering safe, high-quality water to the customers we serve.

Contaminants that May Be in the 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, 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, which 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 byproducts 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.

Lead, if present in elevated levels, 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. Suburban 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 two 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 (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/lead.

SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS-LA MIRADA DRINKING WATER SOURCES TESTED IN 2024

				Treated Surface Water		LOCAL GROUNDWATER				
Chemical	**Met Standard?**	**Year Tested**	**Units**	**Average**	**Range**	**Average**	**Range**	**MCL**	**PHG (MCLG)**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Primary Standards										
Aluminum	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND-110	ND	ND	1000	600	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Arsenic	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	1.9	ND-7.6	10	0.004	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium	Yes	2024	ppm	0.1	0.1	0.1	ND-0.1	1	1	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride	Yes	2024	ppm	0.7	0.6 - 0.8	0.3	0.2-0.4	2	1	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Gross Alpha Activity	Yes	2024	pCi/L	ND	ND-5	0.4	ND-3.8	15	0	Decay of Natural and Man-Made Deposits
Hexavalent Chromium	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	0.9	0.9-3.4	10	0.02	Erosion of Natural Deposits, industrial contamination
Nitrate	Yes	2024	ppm-N	ND	ND	2	ND-4	10	10	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Perchlorate	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	0.4	ND-1.8	6	2	Industrial Contamination
Radium 228	Yes	2024	pCi/L	ND	ND	0.1	ND-1	5	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	0.3	ND-1.1	5	0.06	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	0.4	ND-2.7	5	1.7	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Uranium	Yes	2024	pCi/L	1	ND - 3	1.7	ND-3	20	0.43	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Secondary Standards*										
Aluminum	Yes	2024	ppm	ND	ND-0.11	ND	ND	0.2*	0.6	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chloride	Yes	2024	ppm	104	93 - 116	69.3	23-83	500*	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Color	Yes	2024	color unit	2	1 - 2	0.8	ND-10	15*	n/a	Naturally-Occurring Substances
Iron	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	11.6	ND-320**	300*	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	Yes	2024	ppb	ND	ND	3.8	ND-6.5	50*	NL = 500	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Odor	Yes	2024	TON	1	1	0.5	ND-2	3*	n/a	Naturally-Occurring Organic Matter
Specific Conductance	Yes	2024	µmho/cm	979	888 - 1,070	699.3	520-950	1,600*	n/a	Mineral Ions in Water
Sulfate	Yes	2024	ppm	224	196 - 253	91.6	45-99.8	500*	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	Yes	2024	ppm	621	556 - 686	427.1	310-530	1,000*	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Turbidity	Yes	2024	ntu	ND	ND	0.1	ND-0.4	5*	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Unregulated										
Aggressiveness Index	n/a	2024	AI	12.5	12.4-12.6	10.7	12-12.9	n/r	n/a	Measures of the balance between pH and calcium carbonate saturation in the water
Alkalinity, Total	n/a	2024	ppm CaCO3	114	105 - 123	184.3	170-220	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Boron	n/a	2024	ppb	140	140	41.1	ND-68.1	NL = 1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from Natural Deposits; industrial wastes
Calcium	n/a	2024	ppm	68	58-78	61.8	18-96	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hardness, Total	n/a	2024	ppm CaCO3	270	235 - 305	215.6	140-248.2	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hardness, Total	n/a	2024	grains/gallon	15.8	13.74 - 17.83	12.6	8.2-14.5	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Magnesium	n/a	2024	ppm	26	22 - 29	13.6	12-15.1	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Perfluorooctonoic Acid (PFOA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	4.1	ND-7.5	NL = 5.1	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorooctane Sufonic Acid (PFOS)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	8.1	ND-16	NL = 6.5	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	5.4	ND-12	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	2.5	ND-5	NL = 500	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorodecanoic Acid (PFDA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	ND	ND	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHPA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	ND	ND	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	1.7	ND-3.5	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorohexanesulfonate (PFHXS)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	1.7	ND-3.3	NL = 3	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	1	ND-1.6	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPEA)	n/a	2024	ppt	ND	ND	2.2	ND-4.5	n/r	n/a	Landfills, wastewater
pH	n/a	2024	pH units	8.2	8.2	7.8	7.6-8.1	n/r	n/a	Acidity, Hydrogen Ions
Potassium	n/a	2024	ppm	4.9	4.4 - 5.4	3.9	2.7-4.4	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sodium	n/a	2024	ppm	103	90 - 116	67.5	17-130	n/r	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Organic Carbon	n/a	2024	ppm	2.4	2.0 - 2.5	0.2	ND-1.3	Treatment Technique		Various Natural Decaying Sources

ppb = parts-per-billion; **ppm** = parts-per-million; **ppt** = parts-per-trillion; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **ntu** = nephelometric turbidity units; **ND** = not detected; **n/a** = not applicable;
n/r = not regulated; **µmho/cm** = micromho per centimeter; **< =** average is less than the detection limit for reporting purposes; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level;
(MCLG) = federal MCL Goal; **PHG** = California Public Health Goal; **RL** = Response Level. ***Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic quality.**
****Out of 53 Iron samples collected in 2024, 2 samples resulted in elevated iron levels. Suburban took immediate action to mitigate the issue.**

SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS LA MIRADA DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER QUALITY TESTED IN 2024

Chemical (Units)	Met Standard?	MCL (MRDL/MRDLG)	Highest Annual Average	Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Disinfection Byproducts					
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	Yes	80	31	9.8-39	Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	Yes	60	11	1.3-15	Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection
Chemical (Units)	**Met Standard?**	**MCL**	**Average**	**Range**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	Yes	(4 / 4)	1	0.1-2.5	Disinfectant Added for Treatment
Aesthetic Quality					
Color (Color Units)	Yes	15*	2	ND-15	Naturally Occuring Organic Materials
Turbidity (ntu)	Yes	5*	0.2	ND-3.6	Soil Runoff
Odor (threshold odor number)	Yes	3*	ND	ND	Naturally Occurring Organic Materials

Eight locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids; six locations are tested weekly for color, odor and turbidity. **MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; **ntu** = nephelometric turbidity units; **ND** = not detected; **<** = average is less than the detection limit for reporting purposes;
*Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard tomaintain aesthetic qualities.

Bacterial Quality	Met Standard?	MCL	MCLG	Highest / Monthly (%, Value)	Typical Source Of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	Yes	No more than 5% in a month	0	2.7% / 2	Bacteria that occur naturally in soils and water
Lead and Copper	**Met Standard?**	**Action Level**	**PHG**	**90th Percentile**	**Typical Source Of Contaminant**
Q1 2024 Copper (ppm)	Yes	1.3	0.3	0.3	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Q1 2024 Lead (ppb)	Yes	15	0.2	ND	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Q3 2024 Copper (ppm)	Yes	1.3	0.3	0.2	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Q3 2024 Lead (ppb)	Yes	15	0.2	ND	Corrosion of Household Plumbing

The most recent lead and copper at-the-tap samples were collected from residences in Q1 and Q3 in 2024. None of the 62 samples for lead and copper exceeded the respective Action Level (AL). A regulatory Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

****Out of 524 color samples collected in 2024, 1 sample result was equal to the MCL. Immediate action was taken to mitigate the issue.**

Water Quality Goals

The water Suburban delivers to your home meets standards required by USEPA, SWRCB and California Public Utilities Commision (CPUC). Often, Suburban goes beyond what is required to monitor for constituents that have known health risks. The company uses only independent, state–certified water quality laboratories for testing. The charts in this report include two types of water quality goals:

- **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 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.

Water Quality Standards

The quality of drinking water in the United States is regulated by the USEPA. Two state agencies, the SWRCB and CPUC, supplement and enforce federal USEPA standards. Standards established by these agencies are used to set limits for substances that may affect health or aesthetic qualities of water. The water quality charts in this report cover the following standards:

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

Source Water and Water Quality Assessments

Suburban provides drinking water for its La Mirada service area (City of La Mirada and portions of La Habra, Fullerton and Buena Park) from its wells in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin and the Central Groundwater Basin. In addition, Suburban distributed treated surface water from MWDSC.

Suburban has completed source water assessments in accordance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The purpose of the source water assessment is to promote source water protection by identifying types of activities in the proximity of sources which could pose a threat to the water quality.

Suburban's source water assessment was completed in 2002 and concluded that groundwater sources are most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: leaking underground storage tanks, known contaminant plumes from industrial waste discharges, and gas stations. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities and facilities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: pesticide/ fertilizer/petroleum storage and transfer areas, metal and machine shops, and agricultural drainage.

You may request a summary of the assessments by contacting Nina Wester at Nina.Wester@nexuswg.com or you may request a complete copy from the SWRCB at (818) 551-2049.

MWDSC updated its sanitary surveys of the Colorado River Watershed in 2020, and the State Water Project Watershed in 2021. Water from the Colorado River is considered to be most vulnerable to contamination from recreation, urban and stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. Water supplies from Northern California's State Water Project are most vulnerable to contamination from urban and stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater. A copy of the most recent summary of either assessment can be obtained by calling MWDSC at (800) CALL-MWD (225-5693).

Water Quality Advisories

Arsenic

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water Sources

All twelve public schools in Suburban's La Mirada system service area have been tested for lead in representative drinking fountains and food preparation water outlets. Suburban water quality technicians collected water samples at the schools and submitted the samples to a California-certified laboratory for lead analysis. Please consult your local schools for information regarding lead testing of drinking water sources.

Information Regarding Lead Service Lines

Suburban has completed an inventory of the material of the service lines. For more information, please visit: https://www.swwc.com/suburban/lead-and-copper-in-your-water/

New Regulation – Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook

The SWRCB adopted the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH), which went into effect on July 1, 2024. The primary goal of the CCCPH is to protect public health by updating standards to prevent the backflow of contaminants into public water distribution systems. Protecting your water supply is Suburban's top priority, and we are currently developing educational resources to help you understand these changes. Look for more details coming soon in your bill inserts, on our social media channels, and our website.

The Quality of Your Water Is Our Primary Concern

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

يحتوي هذا التقرير على معلومات هامة عن نوعية ماء الشرب في منطقتك. يرجى ترجمته، أو ابحث التقرير مع صديق لك يفهم هذه المعلومات جيدا.

Arabic

这份报告中有些重要的信息，讲到关于您所在社区的水的品质。请您找人翻译一下，或者请能看得懂这份报告的朋友给您解释一下。

Chinese

इस रिपोर्ट में पीने के पानी के विषय पर बहुत जरूरी जानकारी दी गई है। कृपया इसका अनुवाद कीजिये, या किसी जानकार से इस बारे में पूछिये।

Hindi

この資料には、あなたの飲料水についての大切な情報が書かれています。内容をよく理解するために、日本語に翻訳して読むか説明を受けてください。

Japanese

이 보고서에는 귀하가 거주하는 지역의 수질에 관한 중요한 정보가 들어 있습니다. 이것을 번역하거나 충분히 이해하시는 친구와 상의하십시오.

Korean

Este reporte contiene información importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Spanish

Ang ulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa iyong pag-inom ng tubig. Isalinito, o makipag-usap sa isang taong nauunawaan ito.

Tagalog

Bản báo cáo có ghi những chi tiết quan trọng về phẩm chất nước trong cộng đồng quý vị. Hãy nhờ người thông dịch, hoặc hỏi một người bạn biết rõ về vấn đề này.

Vietnamese

Public Participation Opportunities

We value your input, concerns and suggestions. Please contact Lauren James, Communications Manager, at (626) 543-2531 or email at Lauren.James@nexuswg.com to inquire about possible future public participation opportunities. Also, please feel free to contact Nina Wester, Water Quality Manager at Nina.Wester@nexuswg.com or (626) 201-0427, if you have any questions about water quality. In addition, several local water boards hold monthly meetings that are open to the public, including:

Central Basin Municipal Water District
Fourth Monday of the month, (323) 201-5500

Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Third Thursday of the month, (562) 921-5521

Suburban Water Systems

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