



2017 Consumer Confidence Report

Main Campus

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs 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.

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 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).

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 which a water system must follow.

Variations and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique 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)

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

The sources of drinking water (SJSU-Well Water and SJWC 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, which 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*, which 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, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *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, USEPA and the state Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 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 Department requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (and reporting units)	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppm)	30 August 2018	0.0039	0	0.015	0.0002	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	30 August 2018	0.383	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN ARE TYPICALLY MORE VULNERABLE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER THAN THE GENERAL POPULATION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LEAD LEVELS AT YOUR HOME MAY BE HIGHER THAN AT OTHER HOMES IN THE COMMUNITY AS A RESULT OF MATERIALS USED IN YOUR HOME'S PLUMBING. IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ELEVATED LEAD LEVELS IN YOUR HOME'S WATER, YOU MAY WISH TO HAVE YOUR WATER TESTED AND FLUSH YOUR TAP FOR 30 SECONDS TO 2 MINUTES BEFORE USING YOUR TAP WATER. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE (1-800-426-4791).

"Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule- (DBPR) test results in calendar year 2017:

Total Trihalomethane (TTHM): Running Average for year 2017: 14.8 ug/L or ppb;

Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5): Running Average for year 2017: 2.5 ug/L or ppb.

Disinfection: Total Chlorine residuals year 2017–Distribution System Running Annual Average: 0.56 ppm

For the year 2017, there were 5.8% positive sampling test results for Total Coliform Bacteria in November and zero positives for Fecal Coliform or E. coli Bacteria. Hence, the no. of months in violations for Micro-Biological Contaminants, Total Coliform Bacteria = 1. **As a result of this violation, corrective actions were taken immediately and public notice was issued / sent electronically to all consumers, campus wide.**

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

All 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 USEPA'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.

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

Note: San Jose State University has served San Jose Water Company (SJWC) water throughout 2017 calendar year. For more information regarding the quality of the water that SJSU receives from SJWC, please visit their webpage: <https://www.sjwater.com/customer-care/help-information/water-quality>

10/1/18: This report amended to include 2018 Lead and Copper sampling results.