

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: **Palomar Mountain Mutual Water Company**

Report Date: **May 16, 2024**

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: **Groundwater wells**

Name and General Location of Source(s): **Pedley Valley, Palomar Mountain, CA**

Drinking Water Source Assessment (DWSAP) Information: **Well 03 DWSAP is on file with the Division of Drinking Water**

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: **Second Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM, at 22212 Crestline Rd., Palomar Mountain, CA**

For More Information, Contact: **Linda Thorne, Office Manager, at 760-468-7119 or lindathorne92060@gmail.com**

About This Report

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 to December 31, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse **Palomar Mountain Mutual Wáter Co., Inc. at 760-742-3516**

Website: www://palomarmountainwater.com

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
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 <i>E. coli</i> MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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).
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.
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.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
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.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) 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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$)
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)

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source 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 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.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 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.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all 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.

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Complete if bacteria are detected.

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	0 0	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) 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*.

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	10/2021	5	8.33	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	10/2021	5	0.189	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)	4/20/2021	15.3	14.6-16.0	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	4/20/2021	98	86-109	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
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	7/11/2023	ND	ND - 1.193	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	8/29/2023	10.96	N/A	80	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water

(TTHM) (ppb)						disinfection
-----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--------------

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Constituent	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	4/21/2021	13	12 - 14	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Conductance (µS/cm)	4/21/2021	188	172 - 203	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	4/21/2021	140	ND - 215	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Sulfate (ppm)	4/21/2021	5.6	5.3 - 5.9	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	4/21/2021	0.55	0.4 - 0.7	5 Units	N/A	Soil runoff

Note: Secondary MCLs do not have PHGs or MCLGs because secondary MCLs are set to protect the aesthetics of water and PHGs and MCLGs are based on health concerns

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).

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. Palomar Mountain Mutual Water Company 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

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

Table 6. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
Failure to conduct quarterly raw source bacteriological monitoring of Well 03 and Well 05	Each well is required to be tested for total coliform and <i>E.coli</i> on a quarterly basis. We failed to collect bacteriological samples from Well 03 during the first quarter of 2023 (March). We failed to collect bacteriological samples from Well 05 during the second quarter of 2023 (May).	March and May 2023	Well 05 was monitored in August 2023 and Well 03 was monitored in September 2023 in compliance with approved bacteriological sample siting plan.	Due to the lack of data, it cannot be excluded that bacterial contamination was present in the wells during the first two quarters of 2023. 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.
Failure to submit water quality results	We collected water samples from Well 03 on March 29, 2017. The samples were tested for many chemicals, including dalapon. The results for dalapon were never electronically uploaded to the State Water Boards' database.	March 2017 to August 2023	The analytical laboratory explained that the results for dalapon invalidated, and therefore could not be electronically uploaded. We monitored Well 03 for dalapon on August 1, 2023, and the result was nondetect.	N/A
Failure to submit water quality results	We collected water samples from the distribution system on August 5, 2019. The samples were tested for disinfection byproducts. The results were never electronically uploaded to the State Water Boards' database.	August 2019 to February 2024	The analytical laboratory uploaded the water quality results.	N/A
Failure to employ a certified distribution system operator	The operator's distribution certification expired on December 1, 2021 and was never	December 2021 to February 2024	We hired a contract operator in February 2024. The contract operator is certified with	N/A

	renewed.		the State Water Board.	
Failure to submit a bacteriological sample siting plan with a map of the distribution system.	We submitted a draft sample siting plan but failed to submit the accompanying map of our distribution system.	December 2021 to April 2024	The map with sample sites was submitted to the State Water Board in April 2024.	N/A