



# 2017 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

GARRAPATA | PWS ID: 2701257



CALIFORNIA  
AMERICAN WATER

WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING™



RICHARD SVINDLAND  
President

## A Message from California American Water President RICHARD SVINDLAND

Dear California American Water Customer,

Having easy access to safe, clean water is something that can be easily taken for granted. At California American Water, our top priority is providing safe, reliable drinking water to our more than 690,000 customers.

I am pleased to share with you our 2017 Consumer Confidence Report, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees who ensure high-quality drinking water.

**QUALITY:** We have rigorous safeguards in place to ensure the water we provide to you meets or surpasses increasingly stringent water quality standards. Across California, we conducted approximately 652 different tests on 25,239 water samples for 2,994 constituents last year. **We are proud and pleased to confirm that we met every primary and secondary state and federal water quality standard.**

**SERVICE:** Last year, we invested more than \$92 million in water infrastructure in the California communities we serve. This investment ensures and maintains the safety and reliability of the facilities and technology needed to draw, treat, and distribute water.

**VALUE:** While costs to provide water service continue to increase across the country, our investments help us provide high-quality water service that remains an exceptional value, costing customers about a penny per gallon.

2017 brought fires and news stories concerning lead testing in schools across California. These events solidify the notion that water is essential for public health, fire protection, economic development and overall quality of life. That is why we are proud to continue to supply water that meets or surpasses all state and federal water quality standards.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact us by phone, email, online at [www.californiaamwater.com](http://www.californiaamwater.com), or in person at our local Customer Center. Please take the time to review this report. It provides details about the source and quality of your drinking water, using data from water-quality testing conducted for your local system between January and December 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Svindland". The signature is fluid and cursive.

RICHARD SVINDLAND  
President



# OUR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

Once again, we proudly present our Annual Water Quality Report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This CCR covers compliance testing completed through December 2017. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with state and federal drinking water regulations remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, environmental compliance, sustainability and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

## ABOUT CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER (CAW) AND AMERICAN WATER (AW)

California American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), provides high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services. American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. The company employs 6,700 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 47 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).



A photograph of a male scientist wearing safety goggles and white gloves, holding a beaker and looking at its contents. The background is a blurred industrial or laboratory setting.

# WHAT IS A CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)?

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is an annual water quality report containing data that California American Water and all associated water purveyors collected during the past year. CCRs let consumers know what contaminants, if any, are in their drinking water as well as any related health effects. CCRs also include details about where your water comes from and how it is treated. Additionally, they educate customers on what it takes to deliver safe drinking water and highlight the need to protect drinking water sources.

In 2017, we collected numerous samples at various sampling points in your water system. The water quality data presented is a combination of data compiled from our nationally recognized water quality laboratory and local commercial laboratories; all certified in drinking water testing by the State Board's Division of Drinking Water. If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333.



# ABOUT YOUR WATER

Garrapata is served entirely by groundwater under the direct influence of Garrapata Creek, a surface water source. Drinking water treatment technologies used in your water system include direct filtration and disinfection to ensure the water meets the Surface Water Treatment Rule. The water supply is distributed for residential and commercial use.

## **NOTICE OF SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT (SWA)**

An assessment of the drinking water sources for California American Water’s Garrapata water system is available at the Monterey County Environmental Health Office. This assessment is an evaluation of drinking water sources to determine the “possible contaminating activities” (PCAs) to which a source is most vulnerable. PCAs are current or historic human activities that are actual or potential origins of contamination for a drinking water source. PCAs include activities that use, store, produce or dispose of chemicals that have the potential to contaminate drinking water supplies. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Dr. Jack Wang, Water Quality and Environmental Compliance Director, at (831) 646-3269.



# WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS?

The sources of drinking 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 can pick up substances resulting from animal or human activity and even radioactive material. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board set regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

## **ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS**

including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

## **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS,**

such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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.

## **MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS,**

such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

## **RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS,**

which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A young child with curly hair is sitting in a high chair, drinking water from a clear glass. The child is wearing a white shirt. In the background, there is a window with a patterned curtain. A blue banner with white text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

# CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

## CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface waters throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Monitoring does not indicate the presence of these organisms in either the source or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within

a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. You can obtain more information on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



# RADON

## RADON

Radon is a radioactive gas and known human carcinogen, found throughout the U.S., that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation and can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. When entering the home through tap water, radon is usually found in minor amounts in indoor air, compared to when it enters the home through soil.

Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air inside your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal if the level of radon in your air is four picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of air or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your State Radon Program at 1-800-745-7236, the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or the National Safety Council's Radon Hotline at (800) SOS-RADON.



## LEAD

### LEAD

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. California American Water 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 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 or at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

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### LEAD IN SCHOOLS

California American Water does not serve any school districts in the Garrapata service area. California law makes school districts responsible for informing parents of lead testing results for their schools. Please contact your child's school or school district to get detailed results on lead testing at your child's school.

A photograph of two elderly women at an outdoor event. The woman on the left is smiling and holding a blue water bottle. The woman on the right is holding a clear plastic water bottle with a green sleeve. They are both holding rolled-up blue mats. In the background, other people and a building are visible.

## EDUCATIONAL & SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

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 at (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 may be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available through the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



# MEASUREMENTS

Water is sampled and tested consistently throughout the year to ensure the best possible quality. Contaminants are measured in:

- **Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)**
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)**
- **Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L)**
- **Grains per gallon (grains/gal)** – A measurement of water hardness often used for sizing household water softeners. One grain per gallon is equal to 17.1 mg/L of hardness.
- **MicroSiemens per centimeter (µS/cm)** – A measurement of a solution’s ability to conduct electricity.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)** – A measurement of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is noticeable to the average person.
- **PicoCuries per liter (pCi/L)** – A measurement of radioactivity in water.

**PARTS PER MILLION:**

1 second  
in 12 days

**PARTS PER BILLION:**

1 second  
in 32 years

**PARTS PER TRILLION:**

1 second  
in 32,000 years





# HOW TO READ THIS TABLE

California American Water conducts extensive monitoring to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The results of our monitoring are reported in the following tables. While most monitoring was conducted in 2017, certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently. For help with interpreting this table, see the “Definition of Terms” section.

- 1 Starting with a **Substance**, read across.
- 2 **Year Sampled** is usually in 2017 or year prior.
- 3 **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed.
- 4 **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed).
- 5 **Average Amount Detected** represents the measured amount (less is better).
- 6 **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured.
- 7 A **No** under **Violation** indicates government requirements were met.
- 8 **Major Sources in Drinking Water** tells where the substance usually originates.

Unregulated substances are measured, but maximum allowed contaminant levels have not been established by the government.

# Water Quality Results

## Regulated Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility and/or the Source)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount Detected	Range of Detections		Violation	Typical Source
					Low	High		
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2017	5	0.05	1.10	1.10	1.10	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2017	5	0.019	2.18	2.18	2.18	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (naturally occurring) (ppm) <sup>1</sup>	2016	2.0	1	0.6	0.6	0.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as N (ppm)	2017	10	10	3.42	2.33	4.51	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Turbidity – A Measure of the Clarity of the Water (at the Treatment Facility)

Plant	Year Sampled	TT	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Single Measurement	Violation	Typical Source
Turbidity (NTU) <sup>2</sup>	2017	0.5 NTU	NA	0.283	No	Soil runoff
				Lowest % of measurements <0.1	Violation	
		At least 95% of samples < 0.1 NTU		99.00%	No	

## Disinfection By-products, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection By-products Precursors (Measured on the Water within the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL/MRDL	MCLG	Average Amount Detected	Range of Detections		Violation	Typical Source
					Low	High		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) <sup>3</sup>	2017	80	NA <sup>3</sup>	75.5	75.5	75.5	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb) <sup>3</sup>	2017	60	NA <sup>3</sup>	24.9	24.9	24.9	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	2017	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	1.28	0.57	1.94	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

## Tap Water Samples: Lead and Copper Results (Measured on Water in the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Action Level	PHG	Number of Samples	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Samples Above Action Level	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	Spring 2017	1.3	0.3	5	0.842	0	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits
	Fall 2017			5	0.924	0	No	
Lead (ppb)	Spring 2017	15	2	5	3.5	0	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits
	Fall 2017			5	2	0	No	

## Bacterial Results (Measured on the Water in the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Highest number of samples detected	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	2017	Greater than 1 positive monthly sample	(0)	1	No	Naturally present in the environment

**Secondary Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility and/or the Source)**

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	SMCL	Average Amount Detected	Range of Detections		Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High		
Chloride (ppm)	2016	500	63	63	63	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	2016	1600	492	492	492	No	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate (ppm)	2016	500	13	13	13	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2016	1000	257	232	290	No	Leaching from natural deposits

**Additional Water Quality Parameters of Interest (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility and/or the Source)**

This table shows average levels of additional water quality parameters, which are often of interest to consumers. Values shown here are averages of operating data through 2017. Values may vary from day to day. There are no health-based limits for these substances in drinking water.

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Average Amount Detected	Range of Detections	
			Low	High
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2016	121	115	128
Calcium (ppm)	2016	28	25	32
Magnesium (ppm)	2016	16	15	16
pH (pH Units)	2016	7.51	7.07	7.98
Radon	2010	41	41	41
Sodium (ppm)	2016	43	43	43
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2016	128	128	128
Total Hardness as Grains per Gallon (gpg)	2016	8	8	8
Strontium (ppb)	2016	100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> Fluoride - California American Water does not add fluoride to the water in the Monterey Peninsula area. Fluoride occurs naturally in the groundwater we serve.

<sup>2</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

<sup>3</sup> TTHM/HAA5- Although there is no collective MCLG for this contaminant group, there are individual MCLGs for some of the individual contaminants. Trihalomethanes: bromodichloromethane (zero); bromoform (zero); chloroform (0.07mg/L); dibromochloromethane (0.06 mg/L). Haloacetic Acids: Dichloroacetic Acid (zero); Trichloroacetic Acid (0.02mg/L). Monochloroacetic Acid (0.07mg/L), Bromoacetic Acid and Dibromoacetic Acid are regulated with this group but have no MCLGs.

Additional Monitoring - In addition to the parameters in this table, other parameters were monitored for, including regulated pesticides, herbicides, petroleum by-products and metals. None of those parameters were detected in the water. If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Customer Service at 1-888-237-1333.



# DEFINITION OF TERMS

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

**DDW:** Division of Drinking Water

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Secondary MCLs (SMCL) 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 allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of 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.

**MFL:** Million fibers per liter.

**micromhos per centimeter ( $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ ):** A measure of electrical conductance.

**NA:** Not applicable

**N/A:** No data available

**ND:** Not detected

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.

**Notification Level (NL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, requires notification to DDW and the consumer. Not an enforceable standard.

**pH:** A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral.

**picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).

**parts per billion (ppb):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.

**parts per million (ppm):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.

**parts per trillion (ppt):** One part substance per trillion parts water, or nanograms per liter.

**Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS):** MCLs 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 EPA.

**RAA:** Running Annual Average

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**SWRCB:** State Water Resources Control Board

**TON:** Threshold Odor Number

**Total Dissolved Solids (TDS):** An overall indicator of the amount of minerals in water.

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

**Variations and Exemptions:** State or USEPA permission not to meet an MCL or utilize a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**%:** Percent

## Tier 3 Public Notice

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

#### A Monitoring Requirement Not Met for Garrapata

Our water system violated a drinking water monitoring requirement in May 2017. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place and by giving out copies by hand or mail.

#### What happened?

*California American Water routinely monitors your drinking water source for specific contaminants on a regular basis. During May 2017, we missed one required test for Total Coliform at the raw water source. The required treated water samples were collected and therefore the quality of our drinking water during that time was not affected.*

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Total Coliform, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Total Coliform	1 sample/month	0	May 2017	June 5, 2017

#### What is being done?

A sample was taken on June 5, 2017 and results for total coliform and E. coli were negative.

#### What should I do?

This is not a water quality emergency and there is nothing you need to do at this time. This notification of the public is being done in compliance with Section 64463.4, Title 22, of the CCR as a means of keeping the public informed.

For more information, please contact Dr. Jack Wang, Director of Water Quality and Environmental Compliance at 831-646-3269.

This notice is sent to you by California American Water. State Water System ID#: CA2701257



# HOW TO CONTACT US

If you have any questions about this report, your drinking water, or service, please call California American Water's Customer Service toll free at (888) 237-1333.

## WATER INFORMATION SOURCES

**California American Water**  
[www.californiaamwater.com](http://www.californiaamwater.com)

**State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water**  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/programs/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs/index.shtml)

**United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)**  
[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

**Safe Drinking Water Hotline**  
(800) 426-4791

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**American Water Works Association**  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

**Water Quality Association**  
[www.wqa.org](http://www.wqa.org)

**National Library of Medicine/National Institute of Health**  
[www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drinkingwater.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drinkingwater.html)

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it at (888) 237-1333.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien al (888) 237-1333.

Ntawm no yog ib co lus qhia tseem ceeb heev txog koj cov dej seb huv npaum li cas. Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov lus qhia no, thov hu rau peb ntawm (888) 237-1333.

這是關於您的水質的十分重要的資訊。如果您需要幫助翻譯此資訊請致電(888) 237-1333 與我們聯繫。

आपके पानी की गुणवत्ता के बारे में यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण सूचना है। यदि इस सूचना के अनुवाद के लिए आपको सहायता की जरूरत हो, तो कृपया (888) 237-1333 पर हमें काल करें।

Это очень важная информация о качестве Вашей воды. Если Вам требуется перевод этой информации, позвоните нам по телефону (888) 237-1333.

Ito ay isang napakahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa kalidad ng iyong tubig. Kung iyang kailangan ng tulong sa pagsalin ng impormasyon na ito, mangyaring tumawag sa amin sa (888) 237-1333.

Đây là thông tin rất quan trọng về chất lượng nước của quý vị. Nếu quý vị cần thông dịch thông tin này, xin gọi chúng tôi theo số (888) 237-1333.