



Heritage Ranch Community Services District

2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

To Our Customers: *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 - December 31, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data. Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

Heritage Ranch Community Services District treats surface water from gallery wells in the Nacimiento River approximately 3,000 feet downstream from Nacimiento Reservoir before distribution to customers. The treatment plant has always been a direct filtration plant until the addition of a plate settler in late 2014. The plate settler acts as a sedimentation basin before the traditional filtration treatment. A five-year update to the watershed sanitary survey for the Nacimiento Reservoir was performed by San Luis Obispo County in 2020. The survey identifies potential contaminating activities in the watershed and assesses their impact on the raw and treated water quality. The greatest risks to the Nacimiento Reservoir as a drinking water supply come from extensive grazing, unlimited body contact recreation, numerous domestic wastewater facilities, and the potential for a large wildland fire. Urban development and agricultural cropland are increasing and may present future risks. Variable risk levels are presented by military activities and illicit commercial crops. A copy of the survey can be found by contacting the San Luis Obispo County Water Quality Laboratory at (805) 781-5111 or by viewing the report at: <https://heritageranchcsd.ca.gov/your-drinking-water>. The Heritage Ranch CSD Board meets on the third Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m. at the District Office, public participation is welcome.

Sources of Contaminants

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 by-products 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 the result of naturally occurring mineral deposits, weapons testing, or radioactive waste disposal.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, National Primary Drinking Water Regulations ([NPDWR](#)) establish legally enforceable primary standards and treatment techniques that apply to public water systems. Additionally, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has set legal limits on over 90 contaminants in drinking water. The legal limit for a contaminant reflects the level that protects human health and that water systems can achieve using the best available technology. USEPA rules also set water testing schedules and methods that water systems must follow.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 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 California State Water Resources Control Board ([SWRCB](#)) 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, is more than one year old. For questions about this data contact the Heritage Ranch Community Services District (HRCSD), <http://heritageranchcsd.ca.gov>, or the office at (805) 227-6230.

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 [USEPA 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 and/or [USEPA 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. HRCSD 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. You may wish to collect this flush 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 USEPA Drinking Water Hotline or by viewing at the following website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



REGULATED SUBSTANCES

TABLE 1 SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	None	None	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	None	None	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	None	None	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either *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 (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2022	10	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2022	10	0.426	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – 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
Aluminum (ppb)	2023	ND	ND-ND	1	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	0.05	ND-0.1	2.0	1.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppb)	2023	ND	ND-ND	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	2023	ND	ND-ND	100	12	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2023	100*	14-100	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2023	110*	25-110	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	0.92	0.57-0.92	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	Drinking water disinfection added for treatment

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	33.8	30.7-36.8	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2022	195	180-210	1,000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	2023	7.5	7-8	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Manganese (ppb)	2023	1.4	ND-2.8	50	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	2023	0.12	.01-0.14	5	n/a	Soil runoff
Color (NTU)	2023	3	ND-6	15	n/a	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm2)	2023	249	228-270	1,600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence

umhos/cm2 = micro ohms per square centimeter

OTHER SUBSTANCES

TABLE 5 – 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)	2023	10	10	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2023	99.5	86.9-112	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 6 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES

Treatment Technique ^(a) Our drinking water treatment plant is a conventional filtration system including sedimentation, flocculation, coagulation, filtration, and disinfection.

Turbidity Performance Standards ^(b) (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed 1 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	100%
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	0.287 NTU
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	0

(a) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

(b) Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.

***TABLE 7 – SUMMARY INFORMATION FOR CONTAMINANTS EXCEEDING AN MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

Violation Type	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken	Health Effects
MCL	Haloacetic Acids exceeded LRAA	2023_Q1-Q4	Notified customers, continued operational adjustments, performed filter renovations, initiated granular activated carbon pilot project and SCADA project.	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
MCL	Trihalomethanes exceeded LRAA	2023_Q1	Notified customers, continued operational adjustments, performed filter renovations, initiated granular activated carbon pilot project and SCADA project.	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

KEY TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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 (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.

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.

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.

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

Variations and Exemptions: State Board 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 (µg/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)