

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SANTA CLARITA, CA  
Permit No. 2929

# 2013 LVMWD Water Quality Report Let's Talk About Water



LEARN ABOUT THE QUALITY AND RELIABILITY  
OF THE WATER THAT IS DELIVERED TO YOUR  
HOME, SCHOOL, OR BUSINESS!

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
2013 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
PUBLISHED JUNE 2014



Dear Customer,

The current drought makes us think more about the water we use and how important it is in our daily lives. Appropriately, the theme for this year's report to you is, "Let's Talk About Water."

I am happy to report that in 2013, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's (LVMWD) water once again met or surpassed all state and federal standards for drinking water quality.

All water is not the same. LVMWD doesn't have local sources of drinking water; we must import 100% of the water we serve to you from Northern California. LVMWD purchases water from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), who acquires it from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

The water LVMWD serves is great right from the tap. In fact, tap water is tested more than anything else we consume; it is monitored, tested, treated and tested again for over 120 constituents before it reaches your home or business.

State and federal laws require all water providers to send you this annual water quality/consumer confidence report that shows the results of those tests. At LVMWD, we take great pride in providing you with excellent water and reliable service, every day of the year. We invite you to visit our website, [www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com), for more information about your water and the services we provide.💧

Sincerely,

David W. Pedersen, P. E.  
General Manager

4232 Las Virgenes Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302



# AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA)

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 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, the USEPA and the State Department of Public Health (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 provide the same protection for public health.

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 (1-800-426-4791).



## COMING SOON

Little Drop starring in "Let's Talk About Water". Videos about water conservation, connecting with LVMWD and more. Available soon at [www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com)

# AVOIDING LEAD EXPOSURE

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. LVMWD 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. 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/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)





## LET'S TALK ABOUT CONSERVATION - FOLLOW ME!



Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day, or 100 gallons per person per day? LVMWD customers use almost twice that much! Conserving water is easy; there are many low-cost and no-cost ways that will make a big difference - try one today!

- Take short showers – shortening your shower to five-minutes can save 5 - 15 gallons of water depending on the flow of the showerhead.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair or shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month. Consider a new water-efficient clothes washer.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If the dye seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

• Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

• Teach your children about water conservation to ensure a future generation uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce your next water bill! 💧

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about water, read the bi-monthly newsletter, The Current Flow, available in your bill or online at [www.LVMWD.com](http://www.LVMWD.com). Sign-up for e-Notification and receive it electronically, automatically. Or come to our Board meetings, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at 4232 Las Virgenes Road in Calabasas.

If you want to speak with someone, contact Carol Palma, Customer Service Manager, at 818-251-2200 or e-mail [LVMWD\\_Customer\\_Service@LVMWD.com](mailto:LVMWD_Customer_Service@LVMWD.com) 💧

## LET'S TALK ABOUT HEALTH ADVISORY FOR PERSONS WITH WEAKENED IMMUNE SYSTEMS

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

Information about fluoride in drinking water can be found at [www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/Fluoridation.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/Fluoridation.aspx) 💧



## LET'S TALK ABOUT PROTECTING SOURCE WATER

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility.

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public wastewater system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Use USEPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups near you, or visit the Watershed Information Network's "How to Start a Watershed Team." (<http://water.epa.gov/type/watersheds/start.cfm>)
- Do not flush unused or expired pharmaceuticals down the drain. To find a drop-off location or learn more about the program, go to [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org/NoDrugs/](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org/NoDrugs/) 💧



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT DRINKING WATER SAFETY AND STANDARDS

### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Office of Drinking Water  
601 N. 7th St.  
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320  
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/default.aspx>

### U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA)

Office of Ground and Drinking Water  
401 M. St., SW  
Washington, DC 20460  
[www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/)

### USEPA SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE

(800) 426-4791  
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/standards.html>

### U.S. CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30333  
(800) 311-3435  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

## WATER QUALITY - THE SAME IN ANY LANGUAGE

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

### Chinese

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。

### Japanese

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。

### Spanish

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### Farsi

تمپتوانید این اطلاع ترا بزبان انگلیسی اطلاع ت بهوسیله اچیم به سبب شمدیشی است. اگر ابرای شما به فارسی ترجمه کنند. این اطلاعیه ش. مل بخوانید لطف از کسی که میتواند بری بگیرد ت. مط. لپ ر



The official 2014 California hose



Source: don't spray because Californians Don't Waste.

# HOW DID WE DO IN 2013? WATER QUALITY REPORT (BASED ON DATA COLLECTED IN 2013)

**Primary Standards** apply to constituents that may be unhealthy at certain levels. They are measured in terms of Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established by the California Department of Public Health. If water contains a contaminant level above the primary MCL, the safety of the water cannot be assured. None of the tests for water served to LVMWD's customers exceeded the MCLs.

Parameter	Units	State / Federal MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	State DLR	Range Average	Jensen Plant	LVMWD	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Percent State Project Water	%	NA	NA	NA	Range	100	100	
					Average	100	100	
<b>CLARITY</b>								
Combined Filter Effluent Turbidity	NTU %	TT=1 TT (a)	NA	NA	Highest	0.10	0.26	Soil runoff
					% ≤ 0.3	100	100	
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>								
Total Coliform Bacteria (b)	%	5.0	(0)	NA	Range	ND - 0.2	ND - 1.0	Naturally present in the environment
					Average	ND	0.2	
Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC) (c)	CFU/mL	TT	NA	NA	Range	TT	TT	Naturally present in the environment
					Average	TT	TT	
<b>ORGANIC CHEMICALS - Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds</b>								
Acrylamide	NA	TT	(0)	NA	Range	TT	TT	Water treatment chemical impurities
					Average	TT	TT	
Epichlorohydrin	NA	TT	(0)	NA	Range	TT	TT	Water treatment chemical impurities
					Average	TT	TT	
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>								
Aluminum (d)	ppb	1,000	600	50	Range	67 - 110	10 - 85	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
					Highest RAA	84	55	
Fluoride (e) Treatment-related	ppm	2.0	1	0.1	Range	0.7 - 0.8	0.7 - 0.8	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth
					Average	0.8	0.8	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (f)	ppm	10	10	0.4	Range	0.5	0.1 - 0.6	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; septic tank and sewage; natural deposits erosion
					Average	0.5	0.4	
<b>RADIOLOGICALS</b>								
Gross Beta Particle Activity (g)	pCi/L	50	(0)	4	Range	ND - 4	3 - 4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
					Average	ND	3	
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	1	Range	ND - 2	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
					Average	1	NA	
<b>DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCT PRECURSORS (h)</b>								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (i)	ppb	80	NA	1.0	Range	9.1 - 55	16 - 66	By-product of drinking water chlorination
					Average	22	38	
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (j)	ppb	60	NA	1.0	Range	1.9 - 3.8	ND - 10.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
					Average	3.0	7.9	
Total Chlorine Residual	ppm	[4.0]	[4.0]	NA	Range	ND - 2.9	ND - 2.7	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
					Highest RAA	2.3	2	
Bromate (k)	ppb	10	0.1	1.0	Range	3.9 - 13	NA	By-product of drinking water ozonation
					Highest RAA	7.6	NA	
DBP Precursors Control as Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	TT	NA	0.30	Range	TT	TT	Various natural and man-made sources; TOC as a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products
					Average	TT	TT	
<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards</b>								
Aluminum (d)	ppb	200	600	50	Range	67 - 110	10 - 85	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
					Highest RAA	84	55	
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	NA	Range	75 - 77	76 - 94	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
					Average	76	81	
Color	Color Units	15	NA	NA	Range	1 - 2	ND - 10	Naturally-occurring organic materials
					Average	2	ND	
Odor Threshold	TON	3	NA	1	Range	3	ND - 1	Naturally-occurring organic materials
					Average	3	ND	
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1,600	NA	NA	Range	520 - 540	500 - 640	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
					Average	530	550	
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	0.5	Range	44 - 51	43 - 69	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
					Average	48	51	
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1,000	NA	NA	Range	280 - 300	270 - 360	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
					Average	290	300	

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.  
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards during the past year and, therefore, was in violation of the regulations. Even though this failure was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the second quarter 2013, we did not monitor or test for TTHM/HAA5 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do.
- The table (below) lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during

the last year, how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

- If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

#### What happened? What is being done?

The second quarter TTHM/HAA5 samples were taken on July 8, 2013 due to a schedule error. The samples showed we are meeting drinking water standards.

For more information, please contact Ken Reed at 818-251-2218 or by mail at 4232 Las Virgenes Rd. Calabasas, CA 91302

Contaminant	Required Sample Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When All Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were Taken
*TTHM/HAA5	8 per quarter	None	May 2013	July 2013
*Total Trihalomethanes/Halo Acetic Acids				

## LET'S TALK ABOUT HOW TO READ THESE TABLES

These tables look complicated, but they are not. They contain complex measurements and terminology, but with a bit of patience and time on your part, you will learn a lot of valuable information about the water delivered to your tap.

While the information in these tables is important, what you don't see is also significant. Water agencies are required to report contaminants that are detected;

none were found at levels considered to be unsafe or unhealthy.

Testing results are presented for the Jensen Water Treatment Plant operated by MWD and for LVMWD's water delivery system. If you have any questions or need clarification, please call us at 818-251-2200, or contact any of the agencies listed in this report under "Additional Information."

Parameter	Units	State / Federal MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	State DLR	Range Average	Jensen Plant	LVMWD	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>OTHER PARAMETERS</b>								
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>								
Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC) (c)	CFU/mL	TT	NA	NA	Range	ND - 1	ND - 480	Naturally present in the environment
					Median	ND	ND	
<b>CHEMICAL</b>								
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	77 - 93	93 - 150	
					Average	84	116	
Boron	ppb	NL = 1,000	NA	100	Range	160	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
					Average	160	NA	
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	22 - 26	23 - 31	
					Average	24	26	
Chlorate	ppb	NL = 800	NA	20	Range	25	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes
Corrosivity (l) (as Aggressiveness Index)	Al	NA	NA	NA	Range	12.0	NA	Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors
					Average	12.0	NA	
Corrosivity (m) (as Saturation Index)	SI	NA	NA	NA	Range	0.20 - 0.21	-0.06 - 0.18	Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors
					Average	0.20	0.06	
Hardness	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	110 - 120	110 - 144	
					Average	110	124	
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	12	13 - 16	
					Average	12	14	
pH	pH Units	NA	NA	NA	Range	8.2 - 8.4	7.4 - 9.0	
					Average	8.3	8.4	
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	2.6 - 2.7	NA	
					Average	2.6	NA	
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	57 - 60	58 - 75	
					Average	58	64	
TOC	ppm	TT	NA	0.30	Range	1.8 - 2.0	2.2 - 3.0	Various natural and man-made sources; TOC as a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products
					Highest RAA	1.9	2.7	
Vanadium	ppb	NL = 50	NA	3	Range	3.2	NA	Naturally-occurring; industrial waste discharge
					Average	3.2	NA	

Parameter	Year Sampled	Units	AL	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	State DLR	90th Percentile	# Sites Sampled	# Sites Over AL	Exceeded AL Y/N	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>										
Lead (m)	2011	ppb	15	0.2	5	7.3	30	0	N	House pipes internal corrosion; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (m)	2011	ppb	1300	300	50	110	30	0	N	House pipes internal corrosion; erosion of natural deposits

## ABBREVIATIONS AND FOOTNOTES

Abbreviations and Terms ~ Definitions and explanations to help you understand the charts		Footnotes	
AI	Aggressiveness Index	(a)	For the Jensen plant, the turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time.  For the Westlake plant, the turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.5 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time.  Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is an indicator of treatment performance.  The averages and ranges of turbidity shown in the Secondary standards were based on the treatment plant effluent.
AL	Action Level	(b)	Total coliform MCLs: No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be total coliform-positive. Compliance is based on the combined distribution system sampling from all the treatment plants. In 2013, 1185 samples were analyzed. The MCL was not violated.
CDPH	California Department of Public Health	(c)	All MWD distribution system samples collected had detectable total chlorine residuals and no HPC was required. HPC reporting level is 1 CFU/mL.
CFU	Colony-Forming Units	(d)	Aluminum has both primary and secondary standards.
DBP	Disinfection By-Products	(e)	Metropolitan was in compliance with all provisions of the State's Fluoridation System Requirements.
DLR	Detection Limits for purposes of Reporting	(f)	State MCL is 45 mg/L as nitrate, which is the equivalent of 10 mg/L as N.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	(g)	CDPH considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles; the gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirem/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	(h)	Metropolitan was in compliance with all provisions of the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products Rule (D/DBPR).
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	(i)	Metropolitan's reporting level is 0.5 ppb for each of the trihalomethanes (bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane) which is lower than the state DLR of 1.0 ppb.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	(j)	State DLR is 1.0 ppb for each of the following: dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, and dibromoacetic acid; and 2.0 ppb for monochloroacetic acid.
N	Nitrogen	(k)	Metropolitan used EPA method 326.0 which has a state DLR of 1.0 ppb. Compliance was based on the RAA.
NA	Not Applicable	(l)	Al <10.0 = Highly aggressive and very corrosive water Al >12.0 = Non-aggressive water Al (10.0 - 11.9) = Moderately aggressive water
ND	Not Detected	(m)	Positive SI index = non-corrosive; tendency to precipitate and/or deposit scale on pipes
NL	Notification Level		
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units		
pCi/L	picoCuries per Liter		
PHG	Public Health Goal		
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)		
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)		
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)		
RAA	Running Annual Average; highest RAA is the highest of all. Running Annual Averages calculated as average of all the samples collected within a 12-month period		
SI	Saturation Index (Langelier)		
TOC	Total Organic Carbon		
TON	Threshold Odor Number		
TT	Treatment Technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water		
µS/cm	microSiemen per centimeter; or micromho per centimeter (µmho/cm) Al (10.0 - 11.9) = Moderately aggressive water		