CITY OF ALTURAS



2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: City of Alturas

Report Date: March 1, 2024

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater

Name and General Location of Source(s): Well 5, Well 6, Well7, and Well 8 are located within the City Water comes from the South Fork Pit River Groundwater Sub-basin

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: Alturas City Council Chambers, 2 PM every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101.

For More Information, contact: City of Alturas, (530) 233-2512

About This Report

The City of Alturas vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and diligently ensures samples are professionally tested 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

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Alturas a City of Alturas 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101, (530) 233-2512 para asistirlo en español.

Language in Mandarin: 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 City of Alturas 以获得中文的帮助：City of Alturas 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101, (530) 233-2512.

Language in Tagalog: Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Alturas 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101 o tumawag sa (530) 233-2512 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Language in Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ City of Alturas tại City of Alturas 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101, (530) 233-2512 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Language in Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau City of Alturas ntawm City of Alturas 200 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101, (530) 233-2512 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

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 *E. coli* 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.

Term	Definition
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 (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)

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 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 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.

Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Testing for bacterial contaminants in the distribution system is required by State regulations. The testing is done regularly to verify that the water system is free from coliform bacteria. The minimum number of tests required per month is **five**. The highest number of samples found to contain coliform bacteria during any one month in 2023 was **zero**. Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment.

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	08/09/2022	10	0	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	08/09/2022	10	0	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

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. The City of Alturas 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/lead.

Table 2. 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)	08/09/2022	31.5	19.0-41.2	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	08/09/2022	115	96-165	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

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
Arsenic (ug/L)	08/09/2022	4.7	3.38-5.98	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoffs from orchards
Fluoride (mg/L)	08/09/2022	0.16	0.14-0.18	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; *water additive* that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	08/09/2022	1.4	0.63-2.99	10 (as N)	10 (as N)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer; leaching from septic tanks
Radium-228 (pCi/L)	10/24/2016 (Well 5: 08/14/2023)	1.1	0-2.77	5	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	08/09/2022	8.6	6.22-14.5	500	N/A	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Conductivity (uS/cm)	08/09/2022	358	329-410	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	08/09/2022	22.8	21.5-24.9	500	N/A	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
TDS (mg/L)	08/09/2022	265.3	253-288	1000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (ug/L)	08/09/2022	4.78	0-13.7	5000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Table 5. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects
None in Last 9 Years					

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

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
None				

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information

The Division of Drinking Water completed source water assessments on the City's four (4) wells in April 2002. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

- Automobile – gas stations; injection wells/dry wells/sumps; underground injection of commercial/industrial discharges; contractor or government agency equipment storage yards; funeral services/graveyards; housing – high density (> 1 house / .5 acres); motor pools; wells – water supply; historic gas stations.

The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with nitrate detected in the water supply:

- Fertilizer/pesticide/herbicide application; septic systems – low density (> 1/ acre); and sewer collection systems.

Nitrate is believed to be associated with runoff and leaching from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks and sewage, and erosion of natural deposits.

A copy of the completed assessments may be reviewed at: City of Alturas, 200 W. North Street Alturas, CA 96101

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).