

# 2015 Annual Water Quality Report

Coronado  
PWS ID: 3710001



## A Message from California American Water President Rob MacLean

Dear Customer:

The attached water quality report is our “report card” that gives you the results of the quality of the water we provided to your business or home in 2015. Since 2015 was the 4th year of the worst drought to hit California in 100 years, I want to thank you for your water conservation efforts throughout last year. The drought is a good reminder of how precious water is, and how much we can do to reduce our use when needed.

This report includes information about the quality of the water we provide to our customers. As you read through our Annual Water Quality Report, you will see that we continue to supply water that meets or surpasses all state and federal water quality standards. Better yet, the price you pay for this high quality water service remains about one penny per gallon.

Due to recent events in Flint, Michigan, I want to draw your attention to the sections of this report related to lead that demonstrate our compliance with the lead standard and provide helpful information for customers wishing to learn more about this topic. You can find more information on our [lead fact sheet](#), or at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

Water is still an exceptional value when you consider the facilities and technology needed to draw water from the source and treat it, along with miles and miles of pipeline hidden below the ground to bring water to your tap. What’s more, our plant operators, water quality experts, engineers and maintenance crews work around the clock to make sure that quality water is always there when you need it. Delivering reliable, high-quality water service also requires significant investment to maintain and upgrade aging facilities. In 2015 alone, we invested more than more than \$64 million in local infrastructure across California.

Because water is essential for public health, fire protection, economic development and overall quality of life, California American Water’s employees are committed to ensuring that quality water keeps flowing not only today but well into the future.

Sincerely,

Robert G. MacLean  
President

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.

## 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 2015. 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

California American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), provides high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to more than 615,000 people.

## About American Water

American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. Marking its 130th anniversary this year, 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).

### 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 are intended to let consumers know what contaminants, if any, are in their drinking water. They also provide possible health effect information on all of the contaminants that are detected. The CCR helps consumers make informed choices about the water they drink. CCRs are also intended to educate customers on what it takes to deliver safe drinking water, raise understanding of drinking water contaminants in the water supply and need to protect drinking water sources.

In 2015, we collected numerous samples for contaminants at various sampling points in your water system; all of which were below state and federal maximum allowable levels. This report provides an overview of last year's (2015) water quality data. It also includes the details about where your water comes from, how it is treated and what it contains. The water quality data presented in this report is derived from multiple sources and 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

The Coronado water system is served entirely by treated surface water purchased from the City of San Diego. The City of San Diego obtains 80 to 90% of its raw surface water supplies from the San Diego County Water Authority and the remainder from local reservoirs. The San Diego County Water Authority in turn obtains the majority of its supply from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC) as well as through transfers from other water agencies. MWDSC has two main raw water sources: the Colorado River and the Sacramento River Delta. Water is conveyed to MWDSC via the Colorado and California aqueducts. The MWDSC water is then conveyed to the San Diego County area via the San Diego County Water Authority and accounts for approximately 80 to 90% of the City of San Diego's water supply. The City of San Diego has three water treatment plants that treat its available raw water supplies. The Coronado System receives its drinking water from only two of the City's three water treatment plants (WTPs): Alvarado and Otay. The City of San Diego water quality data presented represents the water quality data only taken from the Alvarado (Alv) and Otay WTPs. The water from the City's Miramar WTP does not reach the Coronado water system and is not included. In February 2011, the City of San Diego began fluoridating the water it produces at all its treatment plants at an optimized target level of 0.6 mg/L.



Drinking water treatment technologies used in your water system include conventional treatment (coagulation, filtration and disinfection). The water supply is distributed for residential and commercial use in the following communities: Coronado, Imperial Beach, and portions of Chula Vista and San Diego. For more information on who to contact for specific information on how your water is treated, please refer to the Water Information Sources section.

### Fluoride

Fluoride is a naturally occurring substance. It can be present in drinking water from two sources: 1) by nature when groundwater comes into contact with fluoride containing minerals naturally present in the earth; or 2) by a water purveyor through addition of fluoride to the water they are providing in the distribution system. The Coronado system receives fluoridated water from the City of San Diego at an optimized target level of ~0.6 mg/L.

### Notice of Source Water Assessment

Large water utilities are required by the Division to conduct a Watershed Sanitary Survey every five years to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination.

The City of San Diego completed its last "Watershed Sanitary Survey (WSS)" in 2010. The 2010 WSS is available at [www.sandiego.gov/water/quality/environment/sanitarysurvey.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/water/quality/environment/sanitarysurvey.shtml). This survey examined the potential impacts of the watershed surrounding the nine reservoirs maintained by the City of San Diego. The Executive Summary of this document can be viewed by contacting the City of San Diego Water Department Public Information Officer by phone at (619) 527-3121 or by email to [water@sandiego.gov](mailto:water@sandiego.gov).

MWDSC's surveys were completed and submitted to the State Board's Division of Drinking Water in March (Colorado River) and May of 2012 (State Water Project). The survey included suggestions for how to better protect these source waters. EPA also requires utilities to complete one SWA that utilizes

information collected in the watershed sanitary surveys. The SWA is used to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed.

MWDSC's supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban/storm water run-off, wildlife, agriculture, recreation and wastewater. A copy of the assessments can be obtained by contacting MWDSC at (213) 217-6850.

### **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% 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, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised 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.

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

**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)



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
[www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com)

**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)

**City of San Diego Water Department**  
[www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water)

**San Diego County Water Authority**  
[www.sdcwa.org](http://www.sdcwa.org)

### **What are the 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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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

**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.

**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.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

#### **Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)**

The USEPA created the Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to assist them in the determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether new regulations are warranted. The first Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR1) testing was completed in 2003 for a list of contaminants specified by the USEPA. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the USEPA has not established drinking water standards. UCMR2 testing was conducted between November 2008 and August 2009, and UCMR3 assessment monitoring is currently scheduled from January 2015 to December 2015. The results from the UCMR monitoring are reported directly to the USEPA and mostly not detected. The results of this monitoring are incorporated in the data tables in this report as appropriate. For more information, contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333.

#### **TTHMs – Total Trihalomethanes**

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.

#### **Chloramines**

Chloramines are a California and federally approved alternative to free chlorine for water disinfection. Chloramines minimize disinfection by-product formation. Another benefit of chloramines is improved taste of the water as compared with free chlorine. Chloramines are also used by many American Water systems and many other water utilities nationally. Chloramines have the same effect as chlorine for typical water uses with the exception that chloramines must be removed from water used in kidney dialysis and fish tanks or aquariums. Treatments to remove chloramines are different than treatments for removing chlorine. Please contact your physician or dialysis specialist for questions pertaining to



kidney dialysis water treatment. Contact your pet store or veterinarian for questions regarding water used for fish and other aquatic life. You may also contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333 for more chloramine information.

#### **Educational Information – 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 call 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. 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 may be particularly at risk from 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 from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

#### **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 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/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

#### 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 2015, 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.

Starting with a **Substance**, read across. **Year Sampled** is usually in 2015 or year prior. **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed). **Average Amount Detected** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **No** under **Violation** indicates government requirements were met. **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.

#### Definitions of Terms Used in This Report

**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

**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

#### Water Quality Statement

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and California State drinking water health standards. California American Water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies, and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

## Water Quality Results

### Regulated Substances -Measured on the Water Leaving the Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) or within the Distribution System

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	CAW's Coronado Distribution System		City of San Diego's Alvarado & Otay WTPs		Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
				Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High		
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2015	15	(0)	NA	NA	5.4	4.4 – 6.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	2014	20	0.43	NA	NA	2.3	1.8 – 2.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	2.0	1.0	NA	NA	0.5	0.3 – 0.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) <sup>1</sup>	2015 (LRAA)	80	NA	38.0	12.5 – 60.6	43	11.9 – 68.2	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2015 (LRAA)	60	NA	9.3	3.2 – 17.3	15	1.1 – 18.7	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloramines (ppm)	2015 (RAA)	MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	1.63	ND – 2.3	2.1	ND – 3.5	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chlorite (ppb) <sup>2</sup>	2015	1.0	0.05	NA	NA	0.15	ND – 0.51	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

### Secondary Substances -Measured on the Water Leaving the Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) or within the Distribution System

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	CAW's Coronado Distribution System		City of San Diego's Alvarado & Otay WTPs		Violation	Typical Source
				Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High		
Chloride (ppm)	2015	500	NS	NA	NA	108	89 – 164	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Seawater influence
Color (color units)	2015	15	NS	NA	NA	ND	ND – 1	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor (units)	2015	3	NS	NA	NA	1	1 – 2	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2015	1,600	NS	NA	NA	1,002	637 – 1,170	No	Substances that form ions when in water; Seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2015	500	NS	NA	NA	226	129 – 270	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2015	1000	NS	NA	NA	621	531 – 699	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

## Bacterial Results- Measured on Total Coliform Rule Samples Across CAW's Coronado Distribution System

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Percentage Detected	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	2015	More than 5% of monthly samples are positive	(0)	0 %	No	Naturally present in the environment

## Turbidity – Measured on the Water leaving the City of San Diego's Alvarado and Otay Water Treatment Plants

Plant	Year Sampled	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Single Measurement	Violation	Typical Source
Turbidity (NTU)	2015	TT	NA	0.17	No	Soil runoff

## Unregulated Substances- Measured on the Water leaving San Diego's Alvarado and Otay Water Treatment Plants

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Notification Level (NL)	CAW's Coronado Distribution System		City of San Diego's Alvarado & Otay WTP's	
			Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High
Boron (ppm)	2015	1	NA	NA	0.14	0.12 - 0.17

## Lead and Copper Results- Measured on Tap Water Samples Collected Across CAW's Coronado Distribution System

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Action Level	PHG (MCLG)	Number of Samples	Amount Detected at the 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Homes Above Action Level	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2015	1.3	0.3	31	0.35	0	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2015	15	0.2	31	1	0	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing system; Discharges from industrial manufacturers; Erosion of natural deposits

## Additional Water Quality Parameters of Interest

This table below shows the average levels of additional water quality parameters, many of which are often of interest to consumers. Values shown are averages of operating data for 2015. Values may vary from day to day. There are no health-based limits for these substances in drinking water.

## Additional Constituents- Measured on the Water leaving San Diego's Alvarado and Otay Water Treatment Plants

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	CAW's Coronado Distribution System		City of San Diego's Alvarado & Otay WTP's	
		Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2015	NA	NA	125	111 - 171
Calcium (ppm)	2015	NA	NA	69	48 - 77
pH	2015	NA	NA	8.15	7.70 - 8.59
Sodium (ppm)	2015	NA	NA	96	81 - 126
Total Hardness CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2015	NA	NA	288	251 - 323
Total Hardness CaCO <sub>3</sub> (gpg)	2015	NA	NA	17	15 - 19

ND- Not Detected

NA- Not Analyzed

NS- No Standard

<sup>1</sup> Trihalomethanes are present throughout the distribution system.

**Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years experience problems with their livers, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.**

<sup>2</sup> Chlorite is a byproduct of disinfection using chlorine dioxide at the City of San Diego's Otay Water Treatment Plant and only present in the Southern section of the distribution system (Imperial Beach, San Diego, and portions of Chula Vista).