

LA JUNTA CITY OF 2024 Drinking Water Quality Report

Covering Data For Calendar Year 2023

Public Water System ID: CO0145420

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact THOMAS SEABA at 719-384-7358 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality.

General Information

All 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

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 can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

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:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes

regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact THOMAS SEABA at 719-384-7358. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcdcompliance.com/ccr. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports". Search the table using our system name or ID, or by contacting THOMAS SEABA at 719-384-7358. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

<u>Sources (Water Type - Source Type)</u>	<u>Potential Source(s) of Contamination</u>
WELL NO 07 SOUTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 08 SOUTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 09 NORTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 12 NORTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 13 WEST C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 15 SOUTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 01 WEST C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 03 WEST C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 04 WEST C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 05 WEST C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 06 SOUTH C12 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 11 NORTH (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 10 NORTH (Groundwater-Well)	Commercial/Industrial/Transportation, Row Crops, Small Grains, Pasture / Hay, Deciduous Forest, Evergreen Forest, Septic Systems, Road Miles

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **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 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 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.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment** – 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 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.

Detected Contaminants

LA JUNTA CITY OF routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm <i>OR</i> If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm						
Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2023	<u>Lowest period</u> percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	10	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	06/08/2021 to 06/09/2021	0.23	20	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	06/08/2021 to 06/09/2021	1.4	20	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	3.1	3.1 to 3.1	1	ppb	60	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalome thanes	2023	9.3	9.3 to 9.3	1	ppb	80	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
(TTHM)									

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Combined Uranium	2022	4	4 to 4	1	ppb	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Barium	2020	0.01	0.01 to 0.01	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2020	0.22	0.22 to 0.22	1	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2023	0.33	0.33 to 0.33	1	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2020	1.8	1.8 to 1.8	1	ppb	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Thallium	2020	0.02	0.02 to 0.02	1	ppb	2	0.5	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

Secondary Contaminants**

**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2020	32	32 to 32	1	ppm	N/A

Unregulated Contaminants***

EPA has implemented the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. EPA uses the results of UCMR monitoring to learn about the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to decide whether or not these contaminants will be regulated in the future. We performed monitoring and reported the analytical results of the monitoring to EPA in accordance with its Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). Once EPA reviews the submitted results, the results are made available in the EPA’s National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) (epa.gov/dwucmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod) Consumers can review UCMR results by accessing the NCOD. Contaminants that were detected during our UCMR sampling and the corresponding analytical results are provided below.

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure

***More information about the contaminants that were included in UCMR monitoring can be found at: drinktapp.org/Water-Info/Whats-in-My-Water/Unregulated-Contaminant-Monitoring-Rule-UCMR. Learn more about the EPA UCMR at: epa.gov/dwucmr/learn-about-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule or contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

Health-Based Violations

Maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations: Test results for this contaminant show that the level was too high for the time period shown. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We are evaluating, or we already completed an evaluation, to find the best way to reduce or remove the contaminant. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.

Treatment technique (TT) violations: We failed to complete an action that could affect water quality. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We were required to meet a minimum operation/treatment standard, we were required to make upgrades to our system, or we were required to evaluate our system for potential sanitary defects, and we failed to do so in the time period shown below. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.

Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects	Compliance Value	TT Level or MCL

Health-Based Violations

Maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations: Test results for this contaminant show that the level was too high for the time period shown. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We are evaluating, or we already completed an evaluation, to find the best way to reduce or remove the contaminant. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.

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Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects	Compliance Value	TT Level or MCL
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M617	09/28/2023 - 11/09/2023	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water. This is due to one or more of the following: We have permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we failed to comply with the requirements for surveying our system for cross connections, AND/OR we failed to complete the testing requirements for backflow prevention devices or methods, AND/OR we failed to notify the State Health Dept of a backflow contamination event.	N/A	N/A
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M611	09/28/2023 - 11/09/2023	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water. This is due to one or more of the following: We have permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we failed to comply with the requirements for surveying our system for cross connections, AND/OR we failed to complete the testing requirements for backflow prevention devices or methods, AND/OR we failed to notify the State Health Dept of a backflow contamination event.	N/A	N/A

Additional Violation Information

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Health-Based Violations

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Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects	Compliance Value	TT Level or MCL
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Those customers that were in violation for failing to have backflow devices properly tested were notified immediately and were given 120 days to achieve compliance. All devices in question were tested and passed inspection well within this period. All customers will continue to receive notification reminders throughout the year to ensure necessary testing is accomplished in order to achieve proper backflow protection and cross connection control. Upon further review, it was determined that the drinking water within the system was never impacted as a result of the non-compliant connections.

Non-Health-Based Violations

These violations do not usually mean that there was a problem with the water quality. If there had been, we would have notified you immediately. We missed collecting a sample (water quality is unknown), we reported the sample result after the due date, or we did not complete a report/notice by the required date.

Name	Description	Time Period
CHLORINE	FAILURE TO MONITOR AND/OR REPORT - R536	09/28/2023 - 09/28/2023

Additional Violation Information

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

At about 1415 hours on 8/28/23 the chlorine analyzer at the reverse osmosis plant started to malfunction, showing an alarm and a high level of chlorine. Operators at the plant immediately sampled multiple sites for chlorine residual in the plant as well as throughout the distribution system, and all samples were normal. The analyzer began functioning properly soon after.

At approximately 1900 hours on 8/28/23 the analyzer began malfunctioning again and after similar samples were taken, operators locked chlorine pumps in to normal operating speeds to prevent overuse and overdosing. Numerous manual daily plant checks were also done to verify a safe chlorine residual as well as other correct levels and operations of the automated system to ensure the safety of our drinking water. In addition to the standard daily checks, multiple grab samples were recorded during this period that indicated all levels were safe, proving that the safety of our drinking water was never compromised. While not completely necessary, as an extra precaution the manganese filter chlorine set point was also raised at this time. The analyzer was offline for approximately 25 hours, although it is estimated and confirmed by manual monitoring that it had only malfunctioned for approximately 12 hours. Operators were able to fix the issue and the analyzer was returned to normal operations.

Backflow and Cross-Connection

We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water.

The City of La Junta had some customers that failed to provide required annual testing paperwork for their backflow prevention devices. Those customers that were in violation were notified immediately and were given 120 days to achieve compliance. All devices in question were tested and passed inspection well within this period. Going forward, all customers will continue to receive notification reminders throughout the year to ensure necessary testing is accomplished in order to achieve proper backflow protection and cross connection control; those that fail to do so will face service suspension until the matter is resolved. Upon further review, it was determined that the drinking water within the system was never impacted as a result of the non-compliant connections.