

City of Galt 2015 Annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

THIS REPORT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Please take a few minutes to read your annual water quality report. From the information inside, you will learn:

- Sources of your drinking water
- What is in the water you drink
- Water quality test results
- Common water-related concerns
- Water conservation tips

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua potable (para tomar). Por favor, tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que se lo pueda leer.



If you have any questions regarding this report or concerning your water quality, please contact the Public Works Utilities Division at (209) 366-7260. The Utilities Division is working daily to improve the water quality and efficiency of our system for the citizens of Galt. Supplying sufficient, safe drinking water is our foremost concern.

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2015 **CITY OF GALT**

This Report, prepared May 2016, is designed to inform you about the quality of water the City delivers to you every day. The City's mission is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and we want you to understand our ongoing efforts to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The City is committed to ensuring the quality of your water and maintaining excellent customer service.

Este informe, listo en el Mayo de 2016, es un resumen de la calidad del agua potable que proveimos el año pasado. Este informe muestra que el agua es segura y que reúne los requisistos estatales como agua saludable. El estado requiere que hagamos pruebas regularmente para asegurarnos de la calidad del agua potable. Nosotros estamos comprometidos a proveerle información para tener al cliente informado ya que el es nuestro mejor aliado. Si desea hablar con alguien en Español sobre este reporte, comuníquese al El Condado del sur Atiende (South County Services) al (209) 745-9174.

Where does the City of Galt get its water?

The City of Galt supplies water through the operation of eight active wells at locations throughout the City. These wells draw water from the Sacramento Valley groundwater basin. We are fortunate to have good quality groundwater in our area. The water is treated to remove iron and manganese to improve taste and reduce odor. Some wells are also treated to remove arsenic, a naturally occurring contaminant. Finally, low levels of chlorine are added as a disinfectant.

The City's water system is a closed system with all wells contributing to the water delivered throughout the City. No users are served by just one well ensuring a blend of water. In total, the wells pumped 1,357 million gallons of water in 2015 down 22% from 2014. More information, including individual well data, may be obtained by contacting Mark A. Clarkson, P.E., Utilities Manager of the City's Public Works Utilities Division, at (209) 366-7260.

Summary of Testing Results

The City tests its water system extensively to ensure that we deliver safe drinking water. Water quality and testing standards are set by the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (State Board). The constituent amounts reported are based on a "flow weighted average" from all wells in the system and these figures can be used as an indication of the overall water quality.

The enclosed table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. All drinking water, bottled water included, may be expected to contain at least small amounts of some natural contaminants. The normal presence of these contaminants at low levels within State Board standards does not necessarily indicate a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or also at the following website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>. The test data indicates that water provided by the City of Galt is in compliance with all State Board standards.

The City regularly monitors the water system at various points for indications of bacterial contamination and other constituents such as Trihalomethanes (which are by-products of the disinfectant process treatment), and for other potentially harmful contaminants. We also examine other desirable characteristics of the water. Our filtered water has low turbidity as well as low levels of total dissolved solids. These factors make our water aesthetically pleasing and better tasting.

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

The State Board and the USEPA require that the language in this section be included in this notice. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immuno-system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 land surface 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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The City participated in a Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWASP) which assessed the vulnerability of our ground water sources. The DWASP was completed on our wells between August 2002 and September 2007. A copy of the assessments are available at the Public Works Office located at 495 Industrial Drive, in Galt. In summary, the DWASP determined that "There have been no contaminants detected in the water supply, however the source is still considered vulnerable to activities located near the drinking water source".

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

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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 Galt 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

TEST RESULTS THROUGH 2015

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Sample Year	Average Value	Value Range	Units	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Likely Source of Contamination
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Table 1: Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria (Total Coliform Rule)	No	2015	ND	ND	Absence/Presence	Presence in 2 or more monthly samples	(0)	Naturally present in the environment.
Heterotrophic Plate Count	No	2015	7.29	ND-83	Number	TT	N/A	Naturally present in the environment.

Table 2: Lead and Copper* (Please note that Lead was not detected in tap samples during the 2015 monitoring round)

Lead	No	2015		90 th % = 0.00	ND-.01	ppm	AL=1.3	.03	Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	2015		90 th % = 0.26	ND-.23	ppm	AL=1.3	.03	Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.

Table 3: Sodium and Hardness

Sodium	No	2015	30	N/A	ppm	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
Hardness	No	2015	57	N/A	ppm	N/A	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.

Table 4: Primary Drinking Water Standards (Please note that Disinfection Byproducts were not detected in 2015)

Antimony	No	2015	ND	ND	ppb	6	20	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Arsenic	Yes	2015	6.46	ND-12	ppb	10	4	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass & electronics waste.
Barium	No	2015	0.91	N/A	ppb	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Cadmium	No	2015	ND	ND	ppb	5	0.04	Internal corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from electroplating and industrial chemical factories, and metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints.
Chlorine	No	2015	.718	0.49-1.16	ppm	[MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[MRDLG = 4 (as Cl ₂)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Fluoride	No	2015	ND	ND	ppm	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Methoxychlor	No	2015	ND	ND	ppb	30	0.09	Run-off/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, and livestock.

Table 5: Secondary Drinking Water Standards (There are no PHG/MCLG for these constituents because these MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.)

Iron	No	2015	ND	ND	ppb	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese	No	2015	6.07	ND-22	ppb	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
Zinc	No	2015	ND	ND	ppm	5	N/A	Run-off/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	No	2015	210	210	ppm	1000	N/A	Run-off/Leaching from natural deposits.
Specific Conductance	No	2015	280	280	µS/cm	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride	No	2015	8.5	N/A	ppm	500	N/A	Run-off/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Sulfate	No	2015	4.9	4.9	ppm	500	N/A	Run-off/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
pH	No	2015	6.93	6.93	pH Units	8.5	N/A	Measure of acidity/alkalinity.

Data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations. In this table you may find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with, the following definitions have been provided for your convenience:

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Notification Level (NL) - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers special statement to notify consumers about the exceeded constituent.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Public Health Goal or (PHG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. *MCLGs and PHG's allow for a margin of safety.*

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS) - MCLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring, reporting, and water treatment requirements.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - Level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - Level of disinfectant added for water treatment for which there is no known or expected risk to health. (Set by USEPA)

* Lead and Copper samples were taken at 42 residences and no Regulatory Action Levels (RAL) were exceeded.



Drought Update (Water Restrictions)

The citizens of Galt are commended for the fantastic job of reducing their water usage in 2015. The State of California set a state wide mandatory reduction of water usage of 32% *over the year 2013*. *With your help we were able to meet that goal and avoid any state fines.* Recently, some water conservation restrictions were lifted by the California State Water Resources Control Board (State). Still, new regulations were adopted which will require the City to prepare and submit water conservation objectives and goals for the State to approve. These new requirements are expected to be in place by July 2016. The City will announce the new requirements once the State approves the City's water conservation methods. Until that time, please keep conserving water. For Water Conservation Tips check-out <http://saveourwater.com/>

Water Quality

Water Quality has been a hot topic in the news. Many items have been reported related to the contamination of drinking water. You may have also seen an increase in advertisements for water filtration systems for people's homes. Though there are many reasons people decide to select a particular water filtration system, please note that our water does not need any other treatment to meet the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. We have, and continue to meet all required safe levels for drinking water consumption.

The City has a very large responsibility to assure that the water we deliver is safe for the citizens of Galt. We are monitored by the State of California Water Board, Drinking Water Division. We collect hundreds of samples per year at our facilities and in our distribution systems to make sure we stay in compliance with the current regulations set by the Water Board and the EPA. We also complete additional weekly in-house monitoring to check our water quality and treatment process to assure the water is safe for you and your family. Please note that many of the City's work force are also City water customers. The City staff's families, friends, and children are also consuming the City's water on a daily basis. Therefore, as the City provides drinking water we know we are not only providing it to our customers, but also to our friends and families.

Help Protect Our Drinking Water System

Tampering with a public water system is a federal offense. Please report any suspicious activity occurring at any water facility or hydrant to the Galt Police Department at (209) 366-7000.