



# 2013

# City of Hemet 2013 Drinking Water Quality Report

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## Public Participation Opportunity

The Hemet City Council meets twice each month on the second and fourth Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers located at 450 E. Latham Avenue. Public comment is accepted during "Communications from the Public" on the agenda.

## Espanol

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

## What is in this Report?

The purpose of this report is to inform City of Hemet water customers about the sources and quality of our drinking water. The report includes details about where the City of Hemet's water originates, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. All water suppliers

are required by federal and state law to prepare and provide a brief annual water quality report to their customers.

In 2013, your drinking water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State drinking water health standards. The City of Hemet drinking water system did not

violate any of the maximum contaminant levels or any other water quality standards.



## Microbiological Contaminants

—In 2013, the City of Hemet collected 572 bacteriological samples to test for the presence of bacteria, including total coliform bacteria and E. coli. One of the 572 samples, taken on 7-24-2013, tested positive for total coliform, but negative for E. coli. Per procedures prescribed by the Department of Public Health, re-sampling was conducted and all samples were negative. As a precaution, chlorine is added to the water system to maintain a "residual" of 0.4 ppm to eliminate any bacteria that may enter the system.

**Our Water Sources**—The City of Hemet has two water supply sources. Local groundwater is pumped from both the Hemet and San Jacinto Groundwater Basins by nine deep wells. Seven wells are in the Hemet Groundwater Basin and two wells are in the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. Stormwater collected in basins infiltrates into the soil to eventually replenish our groundwater supply. The City of Hemet also has one connection with Eastern Municipal Water District, which is used only as needed to supplement our water supply.

**Source Water Assessment**—An assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of Hemet was completed in June 2002. City of Hemet wells are not considered vulnerable to any potential activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply. The wells are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: sewer collection systems, a fire station, high density housing, and transportation corridors or road right of ways. To review a copy of this report, contact Ron Proze, City of Hemet Water Superintendent at (951) 765-3710.

## Notice of Monitoring & Reporting Violation

TT Violation	Explanation	Length	Steps Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
Failed to collect the Stage 1 Disinfectants / Disinfection Byproducts Rule annual sample	The City is required to collect an annual sample for the analysis of total trihalomethane (TTHM) and haloacetic acid (HAA5), which are byproducts of drinking water disinfection, and report the results to the California Department of Public Health within 10 days after the end of the quarter in which the sample was taken.	During the third quarter of 2013	Improved procedures were implemented to assure all mandatory sampling is completed per the requirements of the California Department of Public Health. A sample collected on 10-30-2013 showed our water meets all state standards for disinfection.	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. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## Why is there Anything in 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 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). In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, *USEPA and the California 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

### SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS TO THOSE VULNERABLE TO CONTAMINANTS

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 partic-

ularly 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 Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## How Drinking Water Sources Become Polluted

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 storm water 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 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 be the result of oil /gas production and mining activities.

### Important Drinking Water Definitions

**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.

**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 Standard (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.



### IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

**Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L [milligrams per liter—equivalent to parts per million (ppm)] is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 ppm may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

# 2013 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AL</b>	Action Level	<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (a measure of water cloudiness)
<b>MCL</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level	<b>pCi/L</b>	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
<b>MCLG</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	<b>PHG</b>	Public Health Goal
<b>Micro ohms</b>	A measure of conductivity (electric current in water)	<b>ppb</b>	Parts per billion
<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable	<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million
<b>ND</b>	Non-Detected		

CONTAMINANT	UNIT	STANDARDS		CITY OF HEMET WELL WATER		VIOLATION	YEAR SAMPLED	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
		STATE MCL/AL	PHG (MCLG)	AVERAGE	RANGE			

## PRIMARY STANDARDS - Mandatory Health Related Standards by California Department of Health Services

### Microbiological Contaminants

<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b>	Sample	MCL = More than 5% of monthly samples positive		<b>572 samples collected; 1 sample positive</b>		<b>NO</b>	2013	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.
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### Radioactive Contaminants

<b>Gross Alpha</b>	pCi/L	15	0	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.02-5.94</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Uranium</b>	pCi/L	20	0.43	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0-4.08</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Erosion of natural deposits

### Inorganic Contaminants

<b>Arsenic</b>	ppb	10	4	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0-3.2</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass/electronics production wastes
<b>Barium</b>	ppb	1000	2000	<b>77</b>	<b>1-100</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Fluoride</b>	ppm	2	1	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3-2.0</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Nitrate (N03) ♦</b>	ppm	45	45	<b>22</b>	<b>2-59</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits. <b>HEALTH EFFECTS:</b> Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.
<b>Perchlorate ♦</b>	ppb	6	6	<b>3.5</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Perchlorate is an inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries. It usually gets into drinking water as a result of environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts.
<b>Selenium</b>	ppb	50	50	<b>6</b>	<b>0-18</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Discharge from petroleum, glass, metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)

### Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors

<b>TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)</b>	ppb	80	N/A	<b>4.9</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	2013	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b>	ppb	60	N/A	<b>ND</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	2013	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

## SECONDARY STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards Established by California Department of Health Services

<b>Chloride</b>	ppm	500	N/A	<b>163</b>	<b>44-500</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Runoff/leaching from natural sources; seawater influence
<b>Iron</b>	ppb	300	N/A	<b>100</b>	<b>0-200</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Leaching from natural sources; industrial wastes.
<b>Specific Conductance</b>	micro ohms	1600	N/S	<b>1351</b>	<b>770-2200</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.
<b>Sulfate</b>	ppm	500	N/A	<b>180</b>	<b>110-290</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
<b>Total Dissolved Solids</b>	ppm	1000	N/A	<b>859</b>	<b>480-1300</b>	<b>NO</b>	2010-2013	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.

### METALS - As a by-product of corrosion of consumer's plumbing

<b>Copper</b>	ppb	AL = 1300	300	90th percentile of 30 samples: 220 ppb		<b>NO</b>	2013	Lead and copper are regulated in a Treatment Technique under the Lead and Copper Rule. It requires systems to take water samples at the consumer's tap every three years. The federal action level (AL), which triggers water systems into taking treatment steps if exceeded in more than 10% of the tap water samples, is 1300 ppb for copper and 15 ppb for lead.
<b>Lead</b>	ppb	AL = 15	2	90th percentile of 30 samples: ND		<b>NO</b>	2013	

### ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED

<b>Hardness</b>	ppm	N/A	N/A	<b>256</b>	<b>77-370</b>	N/A	2010-2013
<b>pH</b>	pH units	N/A	N/A	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.4-8.4</b>	N/A	2010-2013
<b>Potassium</b>	ppm	N/A	N/A	<b>6</b>	<b>3-9</b>	N/A	2010-2013
<b>Sodium</b>	ppm	N/A	N/A	<b>123</b>	<b>87-330</b>	N/A	2010-2013

**WATER QUALITY MEASUREMENTS**  
**Trace chemicals in water are measured in parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb).**  
**Parts per million = 1 drop in 10 gallons**  
**Parts per billion = 1 drop in 10,000 gallons**

♦ When well water contains high levels of contaminants it is blended with water from other wells to assure the water delivered to customers meets all health requirements.



**The City of Hemet is committed to providing fast, friendly and fulfilling customer service!**

**Let us know how we are doing—complete a Customer Satisfaction Survey—<http://cityofhemet.info/>**

**City of Hemet  
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## REDUCE OUTDOOR WATER USE TODAY!

With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record, Governor Brown declared a drought State of Emergency in January 2014. Over 50% of water use in Southern California's homes is outside, watering lawns and gardens. If each of us changed our outdoor water-use habits, we could save billions of gallons of water!

Here's what you can do reduce your outdoor water-use:

- Water your lawn 1 to 2 days a week instead of 5 days a week
- Water your plants in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation and ineffective watering due to wind
- Mulch! Save hundreds of gallons a year by using organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation.
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads and repair promptly
- Install a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on weather, soil type, amount of shade and plant type
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks

