

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



***Presented By***  
**City of Rohnert Park**



## Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our priority.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Rohnert Park delivers to its customers treated water produced by Sonoma Water (approximately 60%) and the City of Rohnert Park's local groundwater supply (approximately 40%). Water produced by Sonoma Water originates from six Ranney collectors (or caissons) along the Russian River and three production wells near the Cotati Aqueduct in the Santa Rosa plain. The water received from Sonoma Water is blended with water from a series of groundwater wells located throughout the city. Prior to blending, the water distributed from city wells is treated with a chlorine disinfectant to protect the community against microbial contaminants. The city's water system provides roughly 1.5 billion gallons of clean drinking water from its combined sources to the community every year. Rohnert Park has eight water storage tanks with a total capacity of approximately five million gallons. The stored treated water is used to balance water system pressure during peak demand, and the tanks provide emergency water storage for fire protection.

## Important Health Information

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 from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791 or [epa.gov/safewater](https://www.epa.gov/safewater).



## Community Participation

Citizens may address comments directly to the Rohnert Park City Council, which meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, 130 Avram Avenue. City council meetings are open to the public. Corresponding agendas are posted to <https://www.rpcity.org/> prior to each meeting.

## What's a Cross-Connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air-conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems), or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (back-siphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test backflow preventers to make sure that they provide maximum protection. For more information on backflow prevention, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Think Before You Flush!

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Properly disposing of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of our waterways by disposing responsibly. To find a convenient drop-off location near you, please visit [bit.ly/3IeRyXy](https://bit.ly/3IeRyXy).

## QUESTIONS?

If you are interested in learning more about water quality or our water utility, please direct your questions, concerns, or comments to our Utilities Manager from the Department of Public Works at (707) 588-3300.

## Substances That Could Be in 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 by-products 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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.

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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Source Water Assessment

The SWRCB, Division of Drinking Water, completed a drinking water source assessment for the City of Rohnert Park in 2020, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Public Health. The purpose of the drinking water assessment is to determine if water sources in the community are vulnerable to contamination. The assessment includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area and provides a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the drinking water source assessment, our water sources are most vulnerable to the following identified activities: chemical/petroleum storage, fertilizer/pesticide applied at parks and golf courses (note: minimal pesticides and fertilizers are used in city parks), transportation corridors (railroad/freeways/highways/road rights-of-way), storm drain discharge points, stormwater detention, and high-density housing. If you would like to review the source water assessment, please contact our office during regular business hours at (707) 588-3300.



## Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Rohnert Park is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.

Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead or galvanized service line requiring replacement, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact the Department of Public Works at (707) 588-3300. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](https://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be accessed at [https://www.rpcity.org/city\\_hall/departments/public\\_works/water](https://www.rpcity.org/city_hall/departments/public_works/water). Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

# Test Results

This report provides a summary of the city's 2024 water quality monitoring efforts and results:

**Coliform Testing:** Out of 600 samples tested for coliform bacteria (a general indicator of water contamination), 2 showed positive results. These were later retested and confirmed negative, meaning no harmful bacteria were present. False positives can occur due to contamination during sample collection or testing.

**Other Contaminants:** The report only includes substances that were actually detected in the water. Some contaminants are tested less than once a year, as per state recommendations, because their levels don't usually change significantly. For these substances, the most recent data is reported, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the US EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES											
				City of Rohnert Park			Sonoma Water				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
Arsenic (ppb)	2024	10	0.004	3.6 <sup>1</sup>	2.5–4.7	<2	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes		
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	2.0	1	0.1	0.1–0.2	<1.0 <sup>2</sup>	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories		
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2019, 2023	15	(0)	1.905	1.05–2.43	0.431 <sup>3</sup>	-0.324–1.52	No	Erosion of natural deposits		
HAA5 [sum of 5 haloacetic acids] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	1.73	ND–1.73	8.45	1.87–26.09	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2024	10	NA	3.2	0.26–6.2	NA	NA	No	Industrial applications; naturally occurring		
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	2024	10	10	2.3	0.4–7.3	<0.40 <sup>2</sup>	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits		
Total Radon 222 (pCi/L)	2024	NS	NA	NA	NA	132.85	96.1–177.0	No	Naturally occurring		
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	14.57	4.19–24.95	0.0123	0.0050–0.0288	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
Uranium (pCi/L)	2024	20	0.43	4.2	3.9–4.4	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits		
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community											
				City of Rohnert Park			Sonoma Water				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper <sup>4</sup> (ppm)	2022	1.3	0.3	0.25	NA	0/30	<50 <sup>3</sup>	NA	0	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2022	15	0.2	10	ND–15	0/30	<5 <sup>3</sup>	NA	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES									
			City of Rohnert Park			Sonoma Water			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2024	500	NS	17.2	9.4–42 <sup>5</sup>	6.2 <sup>2</sup>	5.8–6.8	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2024	15	NS	1.0	ND–3.0	6.17 <sup>2</sup>	4.0–10.0	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Corrosivity (units)	2024	Non-corrosive	NS	11.6	11.1–12.1	11.22 <sup>2</sup>	11.07–11.49	No	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen affected by temperature and other factors
Iron (ppb)	2024	300	NS	15.6	ND–140	<100 <sup>2</sup>	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2024	50	NS	7.6	ND–68	<20 <sup>6</sup>	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor, Threshold (TON)	2024	3	NS	ND	NA	<1.0 <sup>6</sup>	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	2024	1,600	NS	455	330–600	238	230–260	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2024	500	NS	16.7	2.9–34.0	13.5	13–15	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2024	1,000	NS	306.7	180.0–480.0	147	140–150	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2024	5	NS	0.2	ND–1.6	0.04	0.016–0.072	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2024	5.0	NS	21.6	ND–130	<50 <sup>7</sup>	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES <sup>8</sup>									
			City of Rohnert Park			Sonoma Water			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE			
1H,1H,2H,2H-Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [6:2FTS] (ppt)	2024	7.1	ND–7.1	NA	NA	NA			
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2024	188.9	140–320	109	104–123	Natural geology			
Calcium (ppm)	2024	19.0	19.0–72.0	21.5	20–24	Natural geology			
Hardness, Total [as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ] (ppm)	2024	174.9	104.0–341.0	109	104.0–123.0	Sum of polyvalent cations present in water			
Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid [HFPO-DA; GenX] (ppt)	2024	NA	NA	0.53	0.19–0.62	NA			
Lithium (ppb)	2024	14.5	11.0–39.0	NA	NA	Naturally occurring			
Magnesium (ppm)	2024	16.5	14.0–21.0	13.5	13.0–16.0	Natural geology			
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppt)	2024	NA	NA	0.38	0.14–0.45	NA			
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	2024	4.65	3.6–5.7	0.51	0.19–0.61	NA			
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA] (ppt)	2024	NA	NA	0.41	0.15–0.49	NA			
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2024	4.5	ND–4.5	0.64	0.23–0.75	NA			
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2024	NA	NA	0.42	0.15–0.49	NA			
pH (units)	2024	7.5	7.1–8.0	7.37 <sup>7</sup>	7.33–7.48	Measure of acidity in water			
Sodium (ppm)	2024	26.4	16.0–62.0	8.3	7.7–8.8	Natural geology			
Total Alkalinity (ppm)	2024	174.9	104.0–341.0	107.0 <sup>6</sup>	100.0–110.0	Natural geology			

<sup>1</sup> Based on a running annual average. While your drinking water meets U.S. EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. U.S. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. U.S. EPA 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 linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

<sup>2</sup> Sampled in 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Sampled in 2024.

<sup>4</sup> The City of Rohnert Park is on a reduced monitoring schedule for copper and required to sample every three years. The next sampling event occurs during 2025.

<sup>5</sup> The high value of 42 ppm was obtained from Well 42, which is not used for consumption.

<sup>6</sup> Sampled in 2021.

<sup>7</sup> Sampled in 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

## Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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. EPA.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND (Not Detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS:** No standard.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

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

**PHG (Public Health Goal):** 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.

**ppb ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm ( $\text{mg/L}$ ) (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

**ppt ( $\text{ng/L}$ ) (parts per trillion):** One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

**TON (Threshold Odor Number):** A measure of odor in water.

**$\mu\text{mho/cm}$  (micromhos per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

