



# Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report Calendar Year 2021

**This report contains important information about your drinking water.**

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. El informe está disponible en español en el sitio web de la Ciudad en [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR) o contáctenos al (805) 385-8136 para recibir asistencia en español.**



Letter from the Oxnard Water Division Manager	3
Drinking Water Sources and Treatment	4
Water Quality Monitoring	6
Important Health Information	7
Water Quality Results	8
Investing in a Sustainable Water Future	10
Water Conservation	11

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Councilmember, District 6

**City Council Office**  
300 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

## Public Information

You are invited to participate in or view any of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings.

**When:** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

**Where:** City Council Chambers  
305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

Meetings can be watched live and are taped for later viewing. The City has also expanded public participation options to be able to provide public comment in person or remotely. For details, visit [www.oxnard.org/city-meetings](http://www.oxnard.org/city-meetings).

*For more information about this report:*

Visit [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR) or (805) 385-8136

*For additional information:*

Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
(800) 426-4791

California Division of Drinking Water, District 06-Santa Barbara  
(805) 566-1326

## DEAR VALUED CUSTOMER,

I am pleased to share the 2021 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report. This report contains important water quality testing results, background on our water resources, and health information for sensitive populations. As you will read, the City has successfully met strict water quality guidelines set by the California Division of Drinking Water (CDDW) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

During this challenging time, the Water Division team continues its commitment to work hard each and every day to ensure the delivery of safe, clean and reliable drinking water to more than 200,000 residents. More than ever, tap water is vital to our community's health and safety. Please rest assured that our water treatment processes, as they always have, will continue to protect you and your family by removing harmful organisms and viruses, including COVID-19. In addition, I am proud that our entire staff have taken all necessary actions to maintain essential water operations during this public health emergency.

Through the dedication and commitment of our essential workforce we continue to serve you safe and reliable drinking water. Our skilled and State Certified personnel ensure water treatment facilities are maintained and water quality is monitored, sampled, and tested regularly. All water served to you and your

family is treated and tested rigorously to meet state and federal drinking water standards.

Due to our investments in infrastructure, we continue to make our water system resilient and responsive to your needs and the community we serve. Investments in our diverse water supply portfolio include leveraging recycled water in the future to further help us to prepare for dry periods and allow us to serve safe and reliable drinking water for generations to come.

Please share this information with others at your location by posting this notice in a public place or common area. This Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report is available in English and Spanish (español) on the City's website at [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR). For any questions about this report, please call (805) 385-8136.

Thank you for reading this important report because informed customers are our best allies. We truly appreciate your support.

*Sincerely,*

Omar Castro  
Water Division Manager



# Drinking Water Sources and Treatment

Oxnard’s drinking water is a blend of sources. Our water supplies include imported water from the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas), regional groundwater purchased from the United Water Conservation District (United), and water pumped from City groundwater wells, a portion of which is treated by the City’s Desalter Facility.

## IMPORTED WATER: *Calleguas Municipal Water District*

Calleguas is a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), the major water importer and wholesale agency for Southern California. Water supplied to Oxnard from Calleguas originates in Northern California via the State Water Project: a system of reservoirs, aqueducts and pump stations. This water is treated either by Metropolitan’s Jensen Water Treatment Plant or by Calleguas’ Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant. Both Metropolitan and Calleguas perform routine watershed surveys, source water quality sampling and analyses, and operational and treatment activities to ensure the water supplied maintains a high quality.

## REGIONAL GROUNDWATER: *United Water Conservation District*

United Water manages, stores and may periodically release water from Lake Piru into the Santa Clara River. During

high flows (during and after storms), United may also divert Santa Clara River water into spreading ponds near El Rio, capturing water that would have otherwise been lost to the ocean. This river water infiltrates and recharges the Oxnard Plain groundwater aquifer. Later the groundwater is extracted, treated, and delivered to several retail water agencies in the region including Oxnard. Groundwater from United is blended with water from Calleguas or water from the City’s Desalter Treatment Facility before delivery into the water distribution system. United performs regular watershed surveys as well as routine sampling and water quality analyses to ensure that water stored, treated, and delivered to its customers maintains a consistent quality.

## LOCAL GROUNDWATER: *Oxnard*

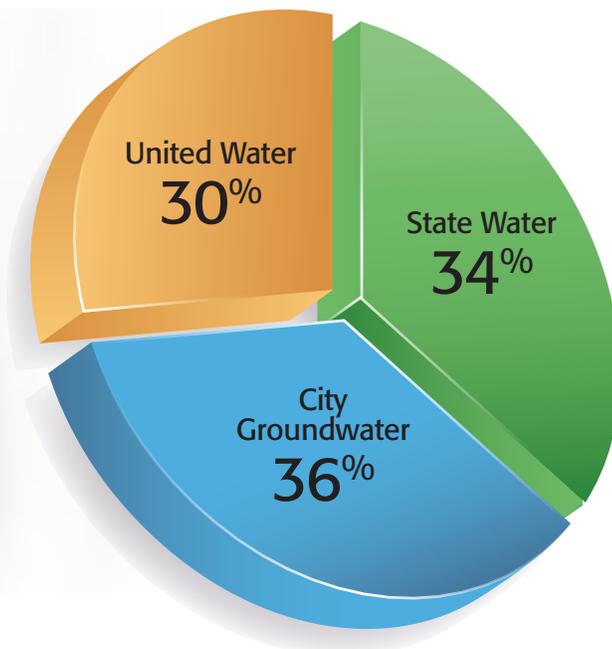
The Water Division operates ten groundwater wells that are tested and monitored on a regular basis to meet all drinking water standards. Oxnard’s treatment process includes disinfection

using chloramines which removes and kills viruses, including coronaviruses, as well as bacteria and other pathogens.

To produce an aesthetically pleasing drinking water quality, City well water is blended with water from Calleguas or treated water from the City’s Desalter Treatment Facility. The Desalter, fed by City wells, improves water quality by using reverse osmosis treatment to remove dissolved minerals and is capable of processing up to 7.5 million gallons of water per day.

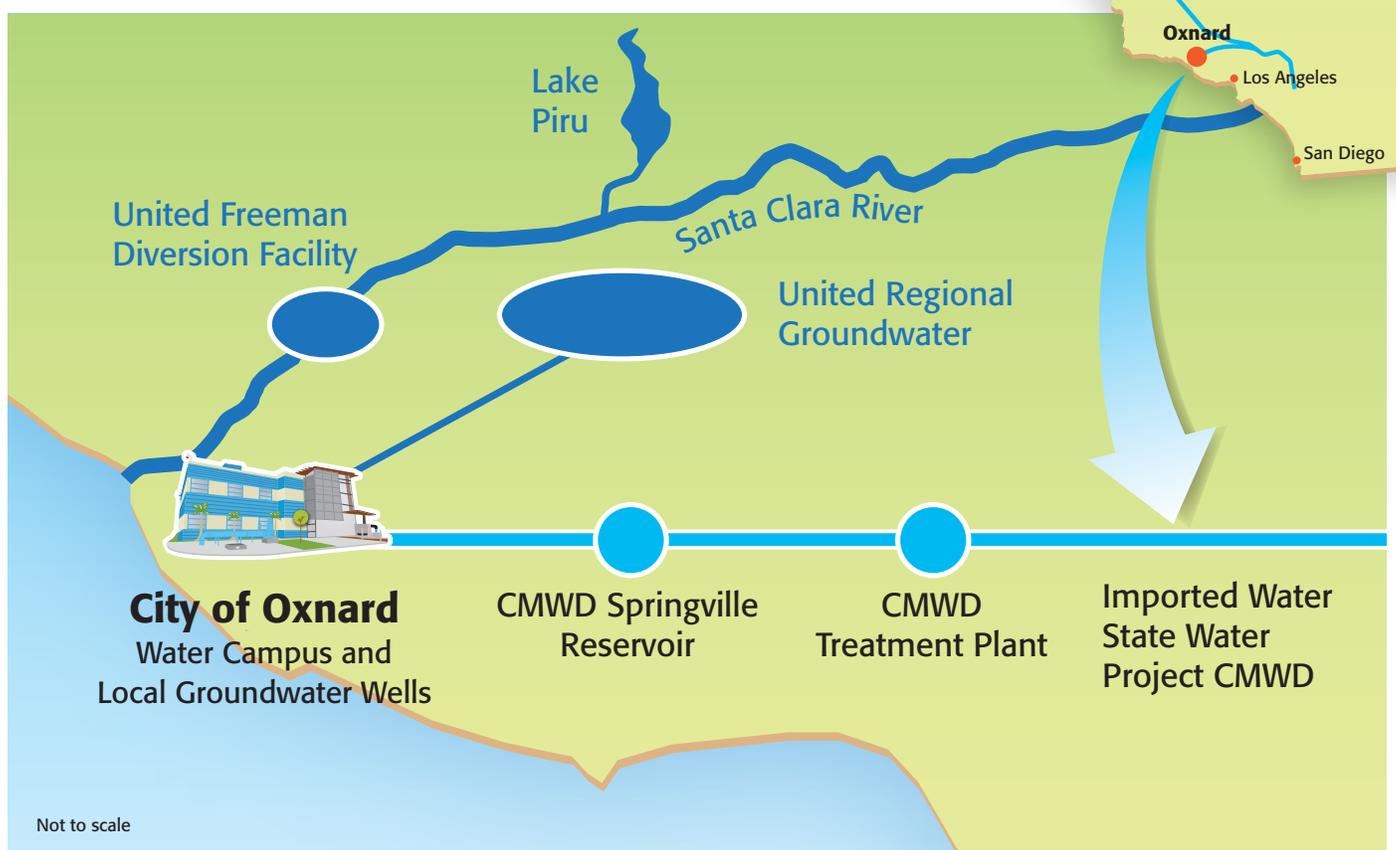
The City’s Water Division also conducts routine source water assessments in order to detect potential contaminants in the groundwater before they become a problem. This includes possible contaminants from local gas stations, private septic systems, drainage from agriculture, and industrial facilities such as chemical and petroleum processing and storage facilities, dry cleaners, metal plating, finishing and fabricating facilities.

### OXNARD WATER SUPPLY



# Water Supply Map

Oxnard Water is a blend of imported water, regional groundwater, and local Oxnard groundwater.



Not to scale

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**Northern California Imported Water**  
State Water Project, Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD)
- 

**Regional Groundwater**  
United Water Conservation District (United)  
Lake Piru, Santa Clara River, Freeman Diversion Facility
- 

**City of Oxnard Water Campus**  
Local Groundwater Wells, Pumping Stations, Treatment, Water Supply Blending, Testing, and Distribution



## WATER QUALITY MONITORING

All of the monitoring conducted is necessary to ensure that your water is safe to drink and also aesthetically pleasing. Monitoring is a result of prescribed regulations from the USEPA as well as the CDDW. These regulations limit the amount of certain health-based and aesthetic contaminants in water provided by all public water systems. Many of the monitoring, treatment, and water quality requirements that are placed upon local drinking water supplies are actually more stringent than for bottled water.



Operation staff sampling water for contaminants

## 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, 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, which 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and State Water Resources Control Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. USEPA regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably

Here is some additional information that may provide assistance in interpreting information in the 2021 Water Quality Tables:

- Some of the parameters measured will change very infrequently in their environment. For these parameters, the State allows the City to monitor them less than once a year. Therefore, some of the City's data, although representative, is more than one year old.
- Unregulated contaminant monitoring is conducted every five years in order to assist USEPA and CDDW to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. During 2018-2021, the City monitored 30 unregulated contaminants from its wells along with a corresponding sampling from the distribution system reflecting water from each well. The testing data is collected nationally and used to evaluate if new drinking water regulations would increase public health protection.
- There are many more contaminants that were monitored than what is reported in the included water quality tables; however, they were never detected in your drinking water so they are not listed.
- The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



Operation staff testing the Desalter Facility membranes

be expected to contain 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).



## IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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

Nitrate (as Nitrogen) in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L 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 (as Nitrogen) levels above 10 mg/L 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.

In 2021, the City sampled various residential homes for lead and copper. Lead and copper results indicated that one residential sample was above the action level. Lead and Copper testing will be conducted again in 2024 in accordance with the EPA's Lead and Copper rule of testing every three years.

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

# City of Oxnard Summary of Water Quality Results for 2021

The following water quality tables describe the parameters measured in the various water supply sources and results of those measurements from January through December 2021, unless otherwise indicated. Please note that the results represent a blend of water quality which is delivered to customers through the water distribution system, unless otherwise indicated.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

## PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - Jensen/MWD and Lake Bard/Calleguas

Parameter	PHG (MCLG)		Jensen Plant	Lake Bard	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
	MCL	MRDLG				
Combined Filter Effluent Turbidity (NTU)	Highest Single Value		0.06	0.06	2021	Soil runoff
	TT = % of samples ≤ 0.3 NTU		100%	100%		

## PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - Water system data (Calleguas, United, and Oxnard water)

Parameter	PHG (MCLG)		Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
	MCL (MRDL)	MRDLG				
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>						
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	ND - 3.3	2.0	2021	Erosion of natural deposits, orchard runoff
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1.0	ND - 0.82	0.56	2021	Water additive that promotes strong teeth, naturally occurs in groundwater
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	10	10	0.19 - 6.7	3.3	2021	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer and sewage
Selenium (ppb)	50	30	7.2 - 9.7	8.2	2021	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries
<b>RADIOLOGICALS (a) (b)</b>						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	0	3.68 - 7.48	5.7	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	50	0	4.34 - 5.5	4.9	2021	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	4.2 - 4.9	4.5	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>MICROBIALS</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	≤ 5% of monthly samples are coliform positive	0	0% - 0.77%	Highest monthly = 0.77%	2021	Naturally present in the environment

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - Water system data (Calleguas, United, and Oxnard water)

Parameter	Secondary MCL	Notification Level	Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chloride (ppm)	500		56 - 76	68	2021	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits, seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	300		ND - 100	32	2021	Leaching from natural deposits, industrial waste
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	1,600		1,050 - 1,190	1,143	2021	Substances that form ions when in water, seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500		110 - 350	306	2021	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000		728 - 1,500	772	2021	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5.0		0.10 - 0.11	0.107	2021	Soil runoff
United Groundwater Turbidity (NTU)	5		0.01 - 0.30		2021	Well corrosion byproducts. Microscopic soil particles

## ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (UNREGULATED) - Water system data (Calleguas, United, and Oxnard water)

Parameter	Secondary		Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
	MCL	Notification Level				
Alkalinity (ppm)	NS	NS	150 - 170	163	2021	Erosion of natural material
Calcium (ppm)	NS	NS	24 - 150	92	2021	Erosion of natural material
Hardness (Total Hardness) (ppm)	NS	NS	100 - 570	350	2021	Erosion of natural material
Magnesium (ppm)	NS	NS	10 - 49	32	2021	Erosion of natural material
pH (pH units)	NS	NS	7.75 - 7.99	7.87	2021	
Potassium (ppm)	NS	NS	3 - 4	3.7	2021	Erosion of natural material
Sodium (ppm)	NS	NS	74 - 92	85	2021	Erosion of natural material, seawater influence

**ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (UNREGULATED) - Source water prior to blending**

Parameter	Secondary MCL	Notification Level	Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorate (ppb)	NS	800	ND - 51	17	2021	By-product of water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	NS	50	1 - 2	2	2021	Various natural and manmade sources
Boron (ppb)	NS	1,000	420 - 560	460	2021	Naturally present in the environment

**UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE (UCMR 4) 2018**

Manganese (ppb)	50	500	ND - 14	4.64	2018	Naturally present in rock and soil
1-Butanol (ppb)	NS	NS	ND - 2.1	0.64	2018	

**ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS - Water system data (Calleguas, United, and Oxnard water)**

Parameter	State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range	Average	Greatest RAA	Major Sources in Drinking Water
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**DISINFECTION RELATED MONITORING**

Disinfectant Residual Total Chlorine, as residual (ppm)	[4.0]	[4.0]	0.11 - 2.8	1.65	1.69	Disinfectant added to control microbiological parameters
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Parameter	State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range	Average	Greatest LRAA	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Disinfection By-Products Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	N/A	ND - 7.3	4.43	5.8	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM (ppb)	80	N/A	1.3 - 29	20.6	26.3	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine
Source water prior to blending Bromate (ppb)	10	0.1	1.5 - 1.9	1.13		By-product of drinking water disinfection
Metropolitan (Jensen Plant) Bromate (ppb) (c)	10	0.1	1.2 - 9.8	4.5		By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Lead and Copper Rule**

**LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING 2021**

Copper (ppb)	1,300 (AL)	300	90th percentile value	870	Erosion of natural materials and corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
			No. of sites sampled	52	
			Sites exceeding AL	0	
Lead (ppb)	15 (AL)	0.2	90th percentile value	4.2	Erosion of natural materials and corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
			No. of sites sampled	52	
			Sites exceeding AL	1	

**SCHOOL LEAD SAMPLING 2018-2019 - Number of schools sampled: 41; Number of results exceeding the AL: 1**

**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 USEPA.

**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.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)**

MCLs, MRDLs, and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)**

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of 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.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL)**

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT)**

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Abbreviations**

<b>CDDW</b>	California Division of Drinking Water
<b>LRAA</b>	Locational Running Annual Average
<b>NA</b>	Not Applicable
<b>ND</b>	Not Detected
<b>NS</b>	No Standard
<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

<b>pCi/L</b>	picoCuries per liter
<b>ppb</b>	Parts per billion - Micrograms per liter (ug/l)
<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million - Milligrams per liter (mg/l)
<b>RAA</b>	Running Annual Average
<b>SWRCB</b>	State Water Resources Control Board
<b>uS/cm</b>	microSiemen per centimeter

**References**

- a SWRCB DDW considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles; the gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirem/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ.
- b Radionuclides are sampled over a range from throughout a given year to every 6 years.
- c Bromate is an ozonation treatment by-product. Bromate values shown are solely contributed by the Jensen Plant and only occur in the system when water originates from that location.

# Investing in a Sustainable Future



AMI meter and customer portal

## ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI)

The Oxnard Water Division remains committed to helping customers use water efficiently. One very efficient method of assisting customers in doing so is to empower them with smart water meters. The currently installed water meters will be upgraded within the next three years with smart meters that utilize Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology. These smart meters will allow customers to:

- Obtain near real-time water usage data
- Receive leak detection alerts
- Improve customer water conservation efforts



Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF)

## AQUIFER, STORAGE, AND RECOVERY WELL DEMONSTRATION (ASR)

Securing water supplies is critical for future generations. A reliable water supply will help during droughts and provide safe, reliable drinking water for public health and safety. That is why the Oxnard Water Division has invested in an Aquifer, Storage, and Recovery (ASR) well demonstration pilot program that is currently in construction. If successful, the ASR program will:

- Store recycled water from the City's Advanced Water Purification Facility to blend with other water resources
- Provide an additional water supply during a drought
- Secure water supplies for future generations to utilize



Groundwater wells at Blending Station No. 3

## INVESTING IN OUR WATER SYSTEM TODAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE

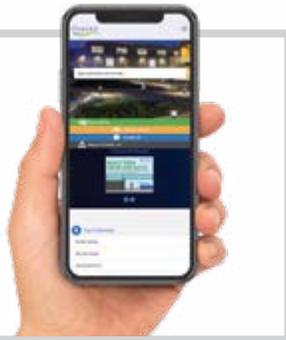
Critical water infrastructure continues to age, costs of operation and maintenance items have increased, the population has grown, and climate variability continues to be a huge challenge. Now, more than ever, is a critical time to take action to ensure a safe and reliable future water supply. The Oxnard Water Division has efficiently utilized ratepayers' fees to operate four years without a rate increase. The Oxnard Water Division will explore all options to secure the City's future water supply, including improving operational efficiencies to save on costs and conducting a water rate study to ensure equitable water rates.

# Water Conservation is an Oxnard Way of Life

California is in its third consecutive year of drought. Water conservation by customers is an important part of the City's water supply. Being water wise is one of the best ways to help make sure we have enough water to meet our essential needs. Your ongoing efforts — like taking shorter showers, replacing water wasting toilets with newer, high-efficiency models, checking for leaks, and planting California Friendly gardens — make a big impact in conserving water.

From water efficient tips to rebates and workshops, the City of Oxnard Water Division provides resources to customers to help make every drop count.

**STAY UP-TO-DATE**  
on the latest water waste restrictions and mandatory conservation measures by visiting [OxnardWater.org](http://OxnardWater.org).



## FIND AND FIX LEAKS

The average household loses more than 10,000 gallons of water each year through leaks. Fortunately, most leaks are easy to find if you know where to look!



- Check your meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used in the home. If the meter numbers change at all, you probably have a leak.
- Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, hoses, spigots, and broken sprinkler heads. You may just need to tighten the connection, or maybe it's time to replace some of your fixtures with water efficient EPA WaterSense labeled devices.
- Identify silent toilet leaks by placing drops of food coloring in the tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. Flush the toilet to prevent staining. It's time to replace the flapper!
- If you need more information on how to detect and repair the most common leaks, check out our web page for DIY videos and helpful tips.



# Be in-the-know about **Oxnard's H<sub>2</sub>O!**



## Facility Tours

See how Oxnard keeps your water safe, clean and reliable.



## Conservation Rebates

Save money on new indoor/outdoor appliances and devices.



## Water Quality Reports

Read how your drinking water meets or exceeds strict Federal and State water quality standards.



## Fix-A-Leak

Learn easy tips to stop wasteful leaks and save money.



## Landscape Classes

Learn about efficient irrigation and water-wise gardening techniques.



(805) 385-8136  
OxnardWater.org

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**OXNARD**  
CALIFORNIA