

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT 2021



## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Brentwood utilizes ground water and surface water for its fresh water sources. The ground water is pumped from the City's operations of six ground water wells. Surface water originates from rivers within the Sierra Mountain Range; the water flows into the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta. The surface water is treated at the City of Brentwood's Water Treatment Plant and/or Contra Costa Water District's Randall-Bold Water Treatment Plant. The average Brentwood water customer receives a blend of surface and ground water from these sources.



In 2021, the City of Brentwood delivered water to over 20,000 connections; the Brentwood Water Treatment Plant provided over 2.80 billion gallons and City wells supplied 0.62 billion gallons. An additional 0.31 billion gallons were purchased from the Randall-Bold Water Treatment Plant.

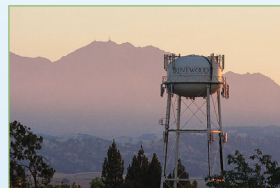
The City of Brentwood's distribution system consists of six water tanks with a total storage capacity of 18.8 million gallons, three pressure zones, and six water booster pump stations located within the city limits.

Brentwood Wastewater Treatment Plant supplied over 320 million gallons of recycled water to customers, City parks, parkways and medians for irrigation. An additional 169 million gallons of untreated surface water was used to irrigate parks and medians. This wise use of non-potable water is one of the many ways that Brentwood is able to conserve water and help the City irrigate parks, parkways and medians during times of drought.



## Educational Information

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. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.



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).

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) or visit EPA's website - <http://water.epa.gov/drink/standards/hascience.cfm>.

**Consumers who would like more information on water quality should contact Jaci Parsons, Regulatory Compliance Supervisor, at (925) 516-6060.**

## 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 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 can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 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. Additional information on bottled water is available on the California Department of Public Health website - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/FoodSafetyProgram/Water.aspx>

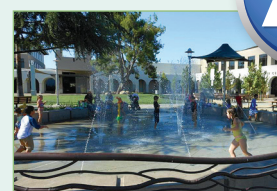
## The Lead and Copper Rule

In Brentwood, the greatest chance of exposure to lead is from the piping and fixtures used in older homes, usually those built before 1986. The most common problem is with brass or chrome plated brass fixtures which can leach significant amounts of lead into the water, especially hot water. None of the Brentwood public water system is constructed of lead pipe.

Effectiveness of the City's corrosion control program is tested every three years by collecting and testing over 30 different water samples directly from homeowner's taps throughout the City. This is required under EPA's Lead and Copper Rule which has been in effect since 1991, and enforced by the State of California. The houses selected for testing follow certain criteria, mainly the year the homes were constructed. Older homes are preferred as they may have been built with lead within the structure. Brentwood has always been well below the Action Level (AL) for both lead and copper. This is due to Brentwood using ground water that is naturally noncorrosive due to hardness levels, and continuously monitoring the pH balance of the water leaving the treatment plants.

### ▶ 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 Brentwood 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>.



## Community Participation

The City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the City Council Chambers located at City Hall, 150 City Park Way.

**Hardcopies of this report are available at Public Works, City Hall or by calling 925-516-6000.**

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Brentwood a 150 City Park Way para asistirlo en español.*



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PWS ID #CA0710004

The City of Brentwood is proud to produce high quality water that continues to be lower than every federal and state standard for safe drinking water. The tables included in this report have been compiled to show what substances were detected in Brentwood's drinking water during 2021. Although the

average readings on all of the substances listed within these tables are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), the City feels it is important that City water consumers know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS			City of Brentwood Ground Water (Wells) Sample Year 2021		City of Brentwood Surface Water (Plants) Sample Year 2021		Violation	Typical Source
Regulated Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average	Range Low-High	Average	Range Low-High		
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	1.9	ND – 3.0	n/a	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (Total) (ppb)	50	(100)	6.0	4.7 – 8.9	n/a	ND	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1	0.3	0.2 – 0.3	ND	ND – 0.8	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	2.4	ND – 5.2	6.7	6.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	50 <sup>1</sup>	(0)	5.0	ND – 6.2	5.7	5.7	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10	10	3.6	0.9 – 5.7	ND	ND – 0.8	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	30	8.6	5.8 – 14.0	n/a	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Regulated Substances (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG	Maximum Value	Lowest monthly % of samples that meet requirements	Maximum Effluent Value	Lowest monthly % of samples that meet requirements	Violation	Typical Source
Turbidity (NTU) Surface Water	n/a	TT=1 NTU TT=95% of sample ≤0.3 NTU	n/a	n/a	0.18	100%	No	Soil runoff
Regulated Substances in the Distribution System (Unit of Measure)	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MRDLG]	Highest Quarterly LRAA	Range of all Distribution Sites Tested	Highest Quarterly LRAA	Range of all Distribution Sites Tested	Violation	Major Source in Drinking Water
Chloramines (ppm)	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	2.00	1.35 – 2.66	n/a	n/a	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	60	n/a	6.0	ND – 8.8	n/a	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	n/a	40.0	29.3 – 43.4	n/a	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

<sup>1</sup> State Water Resources Control Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS			City of Brentwood Ground Water (Wells) Sample Year 2021		City of Brentwood Surface Water (Plants) Sample Year 2021		There are no PHGs, MCLGs or mandatory standard health effects for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.	
Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MRDLG]	Average	Range Low-High	Average	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Chloride (ppm)	500	NS	222	160 – 350	104	64 – 150	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Odor (TON)	3	NS	ND	ND	ND	ND – 1.0	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1600	NS	1520	1200 – 1800	648	510 – 650	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500	NS	240	150 – 300	71	40 – 96	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	NS	938	720 – 1100	345	283 – 415	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

GENERAL WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS			City of Brentwood Ground Water (Wells) Sample Year 2021		Violation	Typical Source
Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG	Average	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Turbidity Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.	5 NTU	n/a	0.06	ND – 0.18	No	Soil runoff

### Nitrate

Nitrate 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 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.

### PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances)

While there are no suspected sources of PFAS in Brentwood drinking water, the City would like you to know about them. Please visit [EPA Fact Sheet](#) and [EPA Infographic](#) for more information.

LEAD COPPER STUDY Sample Year 2021	Action Level	PHG	Amount Detected (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	Site Above Action Level	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.16	None	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	0.94	None	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper: 31 sites sampled

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCE	City of Brentwood Ground Water (Wells) Sample Year 2021		City of Brentwood Surface Water (Plants) Sample Year 2021	
	Average	Range Low-High	Average	Range Low-High
Alkalinity (ppm)	208	200 – 220	80	64 – 100
Boron (ppm)	1.3	1.1 – 1.6	n/a	n/a
Bromide (ppm)	n/a	n/a	0.2	0.1 – 0.3
Calcium (ppm)	88	76 – 100	22	17 – 32
Hardness (ppm) Hardness is the sum of positive ions present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The ions are usually naturally-occurring.	388	330 – 450	120	94 – 142
Hardness in grains	23	19 – 26	7.0	5.5 – 8.3
Magnesium (ppm)	41	34 – 48	15	13 – 16
pH (units)	7.9	7.7 – 8.0	8.2	7.8 – 8.7
Potassium (ppm)	3.4	2.5 – 3.9	3.7	2.7 – 4.1
Sodium (ppm) Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally-occurring.	158	100 – 200	80	61 – 110
Vanadium (ppb)	7.9	4.7 – 13	n/a	n/a

### Definitions, Acronyms, and Units

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

**LRAA:** Locational running annual average.

**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 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. However, MRDLGs do not reflect the beneficial use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**n/a:** 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. Equivalent to 1 second in nearly 32,000,000 years.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter). Equivalent to 1 second in nearly 32 years.

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter). Equivalent to 1 second in 11.5 days.

**ppt (parts per trillion):** One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter). Equivalent to 1 second in nearly 32,000 years.

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

**TON:** Threshold Odor Number.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

UCMR4 Assessment Monitoring (2018-2020)		City of Brentwood Ground Water (Wells)		City of Brentwood Surface Water (Plants)		City of Brentwood Distribution System	
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	Average	Range Low-High	Average	Range Low-High	Average	Range Low-High
Bromide (ppb)	2018	n/a	n/a	180	88 – 275	n/a	n/a
Total Organic Carbon (ppb)	2018	n/a	n/a	3394	2000 – 5400	n/a	n/a
Manganese (ppb)	2019	0.88	ND – 4.9	2.0	1.2 – 2.9	n/a	n/a
Total HAA5 (ppb)	2019	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.8	1.9 – 7.8
Total HAA6Br (ppb)	2019	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.0	1.4 – 13
Total HAA9 (ppb)	2019	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.9	3.4 – 16

### Water Source Assessment and Sanitary Survey

Sanitary surveys are conducted every three to five years. The sanitary survey conducted in 2021 concludes that Brentwood delivers water meeting all primary drinking water standards and secondary MCLs.

Water assessments are one-time studies conducted to determine how susceptible a

water supply is to contamination. An assessment of the drinking water sources for the Brentwood Water System was completed in 2002. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: gas stations and septic systems. *For more information contact City offices at (925) 516-5400.*