

2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT



HENDERSON

702-267-5900 | cityofhenderson.com

Why You are Receiving a Water Quality Report

The City of Henderson's 2024 Water Quality Report provides you with detailed information about your drinking water. Drinking water quality varies from city to city, depending on the condition of the source water from which it is drawn and the treatment it receives. Henderson residents and businesses enjoy some of the highest quality drinking water in the nation. Your drinking water not only comes from a safe and high quality source, the Colorado River, but also goes through a multiple-step treatment process and thousands of laboratory tests before ever reaching your tap. The City of Henderson is required by the Environmental Protection Agency to provide the information contained in this report to each and every Henderson resident and business, so that you may be better informed about your drinking water. You may contact the City of Henderson Department of Utility Services Customer Care Center at 702-267-5900 or visit cityofhenderson.com for additional information about your drinking water.

How Your Drinking Water is Treated

The community's drinking water is supplied by the Southern Nevada Water Authority, from either the Alfred Merritt Smith or River Mountains Water Treatment Facility, and is delivered to your home or business by the City of Henderson. These facilities treat the water to meet extremely high standards using a sophisticated filtration and disinfection process. This report contains the results of water quality monitoring, sampling and analysis from all three water treatment facilities, and from Henderson's water distribution system, for the year 2023. All regulated contaminants were within safe and allowable limits.



Assessment of Your Water Source

The federal Safe Drinking Water Act was amended in 1996 and requires states to develop and implement source water assessment programs to analyze existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water throughout the state. A summary of the City of Henderson’s susceptibility to potential sources of contamination was initially provided by the State of Nevada in 2003. The summary of this source water assessment may be accessed online at cityofhenderson.com. Information pertaining to the findings of the source water assessment is available at Henderson City Hall, 240 S. Water St., Henderson, NV 89015. Please call 702-267-5900 for an appointment. Additional information about the Nevada Source Water Assessment Program may be found at ndep.nv.gov.

Henderson’s Hard Water

Because our water originates in the mountains and must travel through rocky substrate from the Colorado River, there is a relatively higher concentration of naturally occurring minerals making the water “hard.”

What is hard water?

Water is considered “hard” when it contains a high level of dissolved minerals. In the Las Vegas Valley, the two nontoxic minerals that cause our hard water are calcium and magnesium. They are carried into Lake Mead from the mineral-dense Colorado River and do not pose a health risk.

How hard is our water?

The hardness of our water is typically 267 parts per million or 16 grains per gallon “gpg” and is categorized as “very hard.” If you have a water softener it should be set between 16 – 19 gpg to counteract this level of hardness.

What problems does hard water cause?

Hard water can make it difficult to produce a lather (or suds) while washing. It also can leave a chalky build-up on fixtures and spots on glassware. These effects are solely aesthetic—they do not affect your health.





Where Your Water Comes From

All of the water we use in the City of Henderson comes from the Colorado River. It begins as snow in the Colorado Rockies, then melts and travels down the Colorado River, through the Grand Canyon and into Lake Mead. As the water makes its journey through canyons, rivers and reservoirs, it picks up natural elements like calcium and magnesium that give our water its hardness and taste.

Southern Nevada Water Resources

In 1922, the Colorado River Compact divided the water supply of the Colorado River amongst seven adjacent states. Four upper states – Colorado (52%), Utah (23%), Wyoming (14%), and New Mexico (11%) – received 7.5 million acre-feet (maf) to share. Three lower states – California (59%), Arizona (37%), and Nevada (4%) – also received 7.5 maf to share. The total apportionment to all states is 15 maf.

Nevada is limited to our annual Colorado River apportionment of 0.3 maf to be drawn from Lake Mead each year.

Nearly 90% of all the water supplied to Southern Nevada communities comes from Lake Mead via the Colorado River. The remaining 10% comes from a deep groundwater aquifer beneath the Las Vegas Valley.



Lead and Copper

The City of Henderson's public water system does not have lead pipes or service laterals. Some Henderson homes built prior to 1989 may have copper pipes with lead solder joints, after which it was banned in residential construction. Lead and copper in drinking water is mainly due to the corrosion of customer household plumbing systems that contain these metals.

Our community's water comes from the Colorado River and it contains naturally occurring minerals that make it "hard" and less corrosive to piping materials. Additionally, a corrosion inhibitor called zinc orthophosphate is added to the water to help prevent metal that may be present in plumbing fixtures from leaching into the drinking water.

Due to a change in Environment Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, beginning February 2025, the Department of Utility Services will conduct lead and copper testing every February and August on tap water samples collected from participating residences that meet the sampling criteria. Including our last testing results from 2022, our results have remained below the limits set by the EPA since the test program began.

While lead levels in the water delivered to your home or business are well below the EPA's standard, if present at elevated levels this contaminant 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. Your municipal water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials that may be used in home 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 drinking 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

FREE LEAD/COPPER TESTING
To ensure a high quality of life for our residents, The City of Henderson offers lead and copper testing. If your home was built prior to 1989, you may qualify for a free lead and copper test. Please visit cityofhenderson.com/leadtest to learn more.



What Your Drinking Water May Contain

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) defines “contaminant” as any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water. By that definition, there is no such thing as naturally pure water. In nature, all water contains some impurities, also known as contaminants. Again, a contaminant is any substance other than H₂O. This means your 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. Sources of drinking 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 can collect substances from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, wastewater treatment plants and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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, which 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



Important Health Information

People who have HIV/AIDS, are undergoing chemotherapy or organ transplant, take steroids, or for another reason have a weakened immune system may be more vulnerable to contaminants in their drinking water. These immunocompromised individuals should talk to their health care provider about special precautions they may need to take with their drinking water. For more information contact the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Cryptosporidium, a naturally occurring organism found in many source waters around the world, can cause gastrointestinal distress. The City of Henderson and the Southern Nevada Water Authority test for Cryptosporidium in both source and treated water supplies, and employ proven disinfection processes to eliminate the health threat from your drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have jointly published guidelines on how to lessen the risk from Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. This document is available online at epa.gov.

How We Know Your Drinking Water Is Safe

To ensure that your drinking water is safe, the Environmental Protection Agency and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection prescribe regulations which limit the levels of certain contaminants that may be present.

Your drinking water is monitored for over 91 regulated contaminants through thousands of tests conducted on water samples collected from all three water treatment facilities, and from throughout Henderson's water distribution system. Only those regulated contaminants that were detected are included in the water quality analysis. All regulated contaminants that were detected are below the prescribed limits or their averages.

Your water is also monitored for many unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. If you would like additional information on the next round of unregulated sampling, view the American Water Works Association's fact sheet at drinktapp.org.

The following water quality analysis specifies what regulated contaminants were found in your drinking water; the levels at which they were found and how those levels compare to prescribed limits for those contaminants; and the likely source of each contaminant.

Henderson UCMR 4 Test Results: In compliance with the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR 4), these results represent levels of monitored contaminants, based on 2018 data. 2019 monitoring was only conducted for cyanotoxins, which were all non-detect. (Must report data for five years from collection.)													
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS ⁽¹⁾	UNIT	MCL (EPA LIMIT)	MCLG (EPA GOAL)	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM			HENDERSON WATER TREATMENT PLANT			HENDERSON RAW WATER			POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
				MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	
Bromide	ppb	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	80	58	Naturally occurring ion
HAA 5 ⁽²⁾	ppb	60	N/A ⁽³⁾	11	30	19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking-water disinfection
HAA 6 Br	ppb	N/A	N/A	12	27	18	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking-water disinfection
HAA 9	ppb	N/A	N/A	21	53	34	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking-water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon	ppb	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2720	3400	3105	Amount of carbon contained in organic compounds
Manganese	ppb	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.53	0.53	0.53	N/A	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

(1) Monitoring for each of the monitored contaminants in the UCMR 4 table was conducted to comply with the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR 4) set by the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Act. Per the rule, monitoring is conducted on City of Henderson's raw water, finished water, and distribution system water. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future. With the exception of HAA 5, these contaminants have no MCLs or MCLGs.

(2) Results for this regulated contaminant in the UCMR 4 table are different from the results in the Water Quality Test Results table because UCMR 4 monitoring required separate locations and monitoring periods than those used for HAA 5 compliance monitoring. Monitoring for the HAA 5 compounds, in conjunction with UCMR 4 Assessment Monitoring, is required under the authority provided in Section 1445(a)(1)(A) of the SDWA.

(3) Although there is no collective MCLG for this contaminant group, there are individual MCLGs for some of the individual contaminants. Trihalomethanes: bromodichloromethane (zero); bromoform (zero); dibromochloromethane (60 ppb); chloroform (70 ppb). Haloacetic acids: dichloroacetic acid (zero); trichloroacetic acid (20 ppb); monochloroacetic acid (70 ppb). Bromoacetic acid and dibromoacetic acid are regulated with this group but have no MCLGs.

Water Quality Analysis

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS	UNIT	MCL (EPA Limit)	MCLG (EPA Goal)	CITY OF HENDERSON DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ⁽¹⁾			CITY OF HENDERSON WATER TREATMENT FACILITY ⁽¹⁾			ALFRED MERRITT SMITH WATER TREATMENT FACILITY ⁽¹⁾			RIVER MOUNTAINS WATER TREATMENT FACILITY ⁽¹⁾			POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
				MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	AVG.	
Alpha Particles	pCi/L	15	0	Treatment Facility Monitoring Only			N/D ⁽²⁾	N/D ⁽²⁾	N/D ⁽²⁾	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
Arsenic	ppb	10	0				1.3 ⁽²⁾	1.8 ⁽²⁾	1.6 ⁽²⁾	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	2	2				0.1 ⁽²⁾	0.1 ⁽²⁾	0.1 ⁽²⁾	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; discharge of drilling wastes
Bromate	ppb	10	0				N/A	N/A	N/A	2.5	7.2	5 ⁽⁴⁾	2.5	6.7	5 ⁽⁴⁾	By-product of drinking-water disinfection with ozone
Copper ⁽⁵⁾	ppm	1.3 ⁽⁶⁾ (Action Level)	1.3	0.13 ⁽³⁾	1.2 ⁽³⁾	0.86 ⁽³⁾ (90 th % value)	Distribution System Monitoring Only						Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits			
Fluoride	ppm	4.0	4.0	0.57	0.74	0.70	0.66 ⁽²⁾	0.78 ⁽²⁾	0.72 ⁽²⁾	0.35 ⁽⁷⁾	0.75	0.71	0.68	0.80	0.72	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive(8)
Free Chlorine Residual	ppm	4.0 ⁽⁹⁾ (MRDL)	4.0 ⁽⁹⁾ (MRDLG)	N/D	1.5	0.9 ⁽⁴⁾	Distribution System Monitoring Only						Water additive used to control microbes			
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A ⁽¹⁰⁾	12	25	22 ⁽¹¹⁾	Distribution System Monitoring Only						By-product of drinking-water disinfection			
Lead ⁽⁵⁾	ppb	15 ⁽⁶⁾ (Action Level)	0	N/D ⁽³⁾	20 ⁽³⁾ ⁽¹²⁾	2.5 (90 th % value)	Distribution System Monitoring Only						Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits			
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	Entry Point Monitoring Only			0.54 ⁽²⁾	0.57 ⁽²⁾	0.55 ⁽²⁾	0.36	0.62	0.54	0.42	0.66	0.58	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	ppb	50	50				1.5 ⁽²⁾	2.2 ⁽²⁾	1.9 ⁽²⁾	1.9	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.8	2.3	Discharge from petroleum refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Total Coliforms	percent positive per month	5%	0	0%	0%	0%	Distribution System Monitoring Only						Naturally present in the environment			
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A ⁽¹⁰⁾	27	68	58 ⁽¹¹⁾	Distribution System Monitoring Only						By-product of drinking-water disinfection			
Turbidity	NTU	95% of the samples <0.3 NTU ⁽¹³⁾	N/A	Treatment Facility Monitoring Only			Data to be provided by Henderson			100% of samples were below 0.3 NTU. Maximum NTU was 0.08 on January 12, 2023.			100% of samples were below 0.3 NTU. Maximum NTU was 0.07 on February 9, 2023.			Soil runoff
Uranium	ppb	30	0	Entry Point Monitoring Only			3.8 ⁽²⁾	3.8 ⁽²⁾	3.8 ⁽²⁾	3.7	4.4	4.2	3.9	4.5	4.2	Erosion of natural deposits

FOOTNOTES:

- (1) Some Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations require monitoring from the distribution system, while other SDWA regulations require monitoring at the entry points to the distribution system (Alfred Merritt Smith WTF, River Mountains WTF, and Henderson WTF).
- (2) Since June 2022, the Henderson Water Treatment Facility has been out-of-service due to low lake levels. Data is from 2022 and annual monitoring was unavailable.
- (3) Annual monitoring not required, data from 2022.
- (4) This value is the highest running annual average reported in 2023. Reports are filed quarterly.
- (5) Samples are collected from the City of Henderson customers' taps.
- (6) Lead and copper are regulated by a Treatment Technique (TT) that requires systems to control the corrosiveness of their water. If more than 10% of tap-water samples exceed the action level, water systems must take additional steps. The action level for copper is 1.3 ppm, for lead it is 15 ppb.
- (7) AMSWTP fluoridation system was out of service at time of collection. Follow-up sampling took place when the fluoridation system returned to service and results were within operation range.

DEFINITIONS:

- Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Disinfection by-product (DBP): A substance created by the chemicals or processes used to destroy potentially harmful microorganisms.
- 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.
- 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 allow for a margin of safety.
- 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 contamination.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

- (8) By state law, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and the City of Henderson are required to fluoridate the municipal water supply.
- (9) Chlorine is regulated by MRDL, with the goal stated as a MRDLG.
- (10) Although there is no collective MCLG for this contaminant group, there are individual MCLGs for some of the individual contaminants. Trihalomethanes: bromodichloromethane (zero); bromoform (zero); dibromochloromethane (60 ppb); chloroform (70 ppb). Haloacetic acids: dichloroacetic acid (zero); trichloroacetic acid (20 ppb); monochloroacetic acid (70 ppb). Bromoacetic acid and dibromoacetic acid are regulated with this group but have no MCLGs.
- (11) This value is the highest locational running annual average reported in 2023. Reports are filed quarterly.
- (12) Maximum values greater than the Action Level are allowable as long as the 90th percentile value is less than the Action Level.
- (13) Turbidity is regulated by a Treatment Technique (TT) requirement - 95% of all samples taken after filtration each month must be less than 0.3 NTU. Maximum turbidity cannot exceed 1.0 NTU.

- Millirem (mrem): One-thousandth of a rem (roentgen-equivalent-man), which is a unit of absorbed radiation dose that is adjusted for the biological effects equal to one rad of 250 kilovolt roentgen rays (dental roentgen rays require less than 100 kilovolts).
- N/A: Not applicable.
- N/D: Not detected. Does not equate to zero, but refers to an amount below analytical reporting limits.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measurement of water's clarity.
- Part per billion (ppb): A unit used to describe the levels of detected contaminants. Equivalent to 1 cent in \$10 million.
- Part per million (ppm): A unit used to describe the levels of detected contaminants. Equivalent to 1 cent in \$10,000.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water. Low levels of radiation occur naturally in many water systems, including the Colorado River.
- Running annual average: Based on the monitoring requirements, the average of 12 consecutive monthly averages or the average of four consecutive quarters.
- Turbidity: A measure of water clarity, which serves as an indicator of the treatment facility's performance.

Water Conservation

Southern Nevada is one of the driest communities in the country. Many years of record drought have shown us just how vulnerable our limited water resources can be. We must all work together to preserve our community's water supply so we can meet our future water demands.

It is estimated that over 60% of water used in the City of Henderson is used outdoors, and the majority of that is used to irrigate outdoor landscaping. The most effective impact you can make on water conservation is to reduce outdoor use. One way is to convert water-thirsty decorative grass to drought-tolerant landscaping, which saves 55 gallons of water per square foot per year compared to grass.

The City's Department of Utility Services has always done its share of being "green" and set an example when it comes to conservation. The City of Henderson's water reclamation facilities supply highly treated wastewater to golf courses throughout Henderson. By providing this reclaimed water to the golf courses, no additional water from Lake Mead has to be used.



HENDERSON'S CALL TO CONSERVE

To keep Henderson thriving tomorrow, let's act today.

As residents of an arid region, we're under no illusion about how essential water is to the health of our City. While we all share the benefits this limited resource brings, we also share the responsibility to conserve it. So, as we embrace progress, we recognize that every person in Henderson can make a difference in reducing our water consumption. We're proud of the strides our community has already taken. But now, it's urgent. Our community can't afford to just be good at water conservation. We need to be great.

HOW YOU CAN DO YOUR PART

1. Complying with the regional watering schedule.
2. Reporting water waste to the City.
3. Taking advantage of rebates to remove useless grass and install water smart landscaping.

Learn more at
cityofhenderson.com/H2Oone





HENDERSON™

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Este reporte contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad, Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entiende bien, Si necesita ayuda con esto, llame nuestro Centro del Cuidado del cliente en 702-267-5900 para la ayuda.