## KEEP IT PURE<sup>™</sup> From your Mountains to your Tap

# Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities WATER QUALITY REPORT 2024

PWSID# UTAH 18026



#### **QUALITY FIRST**

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) water system #18026 is proud to present our annual water quality report. Our service area includes Salt Lake City and portions of Millcreek, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights, and other communities. Providing high-quality drinking water to over 365,000 customers, our service area includes Salt Lake City and portions of Millcreek, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights, and other communities. A map of our service area can be found at www.slc. gov/utilities. SLCDPU performs regular testing of our water so you can Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

be confident using the water. This report details the outstanding quality of your drinking water. Our test results demonstrate that your tap water surpasses the water quality standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state agencies. Additional protections are in place to protect both surface and ground water. It is our mission to serve and safeguard our community and environment by equitably, sustainably, and efficiently providing top-quality water, wastewater, stormwater, and street lighting services.

#### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We encourage your participation in decisions that affect our community's drinking water. The Public Utilities Advisory Committee (PUAC) is a governing body comprised of nine individuals who reside in SLCDPU's water service area. The PUAC assists the organization in continuing the orderly development and operations of public utilities throughout the service area. Members of the public are welcome to listen to the PUAC meetings, which regularly occur on the fourth Thursday of each month. For more information, please visit www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/ publicutilities-advisory-committee or contact us at 801.483.6770. The Department's Public Engagement and Communications team also provides opportunities for engagement online (via Facebook @Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities, Instagram @SLCPU, and Twitter/X @SLCPU). Please email SLCDPUEngagement@SLCGov.com for more information about the Department's engagement efforts.

#### UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SLCDPU, in partnership with the Salt Lake City Chapter of the Salvation Army, offers Project Water Assist for customers who qualify for financial aid to pay their utility bills. A customer must qualify at 150 percent of the poverty level and/or have a family member who meets one or more of the following criteria: age 60 or older; has a disability; or who qualifies for the Salt Lake County Tax Abatement Program. To learn more about the program, please visit www.slc.gov/ utilities/pay-my-bill/water-bill-assistance or www.saltlakecity.salvationarmy.org.

#### WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

SLCDPU obtains our high-quality drinking water from several sources. Our source waters include mountain streams, surface water reservoirs, and a network of groundwater wells and springs. During the summer months, when mountain stream runoff declines, groundwater from wells is combined with treated surface water throughout the system. Diversifying our water sources in this way allows us to meet increased summer water demand, while also maintaining water pressure throughout the system to meet the needs of fire protection and in support of public safety. Source redundancy enables us to diversify, avoid service disruption, and provide for future water needs.

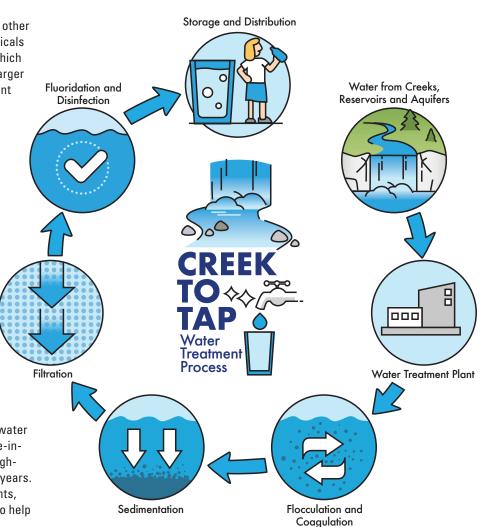
#### HOW IS MY WATER TREATED?

SLCDPU owns and operates three surface water treatment plants, all of which utilize a multi-step treatment process, including coagulation and flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, and charcoal that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before the water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community. Fluoride is also added to meet Salt Lake County Health Department requirements. Thanks to the naturally high quality of SLCDPU's groundwater, additional treatment is not required for water drawn from wells within the system. SLCDPU also purchases treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy and Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District.

Due to aging infrastructure and mechanical inefficiencies, the City Creek Water Treatment Plant (CCWTP) requires facility and process upgrades to increase the efficiency, resiliency, and reliability of the water treatment plant. The CCWTP Upgrades Project is a once-ina-lifetime project that will maintain our access to this highquality, delicious drinking water supply for the next 50+ years. Based on the criticality and needs for these improvements, FEMA has awarded Salt Lake City a \$36.7 million grant to help construct these upgrades. For more information, visit www.keepitpurecitycreek.com.

#### DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline



#### **INTAKE:**

Water from creeks, reservoirs and aquifers is directed into the water treament plant for processing

#### FLOCCULATION AND COAGULATION:

Coagulant (ferric chloride) causes small particles (floc) to stick together and form larger particles

#### **SEDIMENTATION:**

Larger particles (floc) settles out naturally

#### FILTRATION:

Anthracite and sand filters remove small particles

#### FLUORIDATION AND DISINFECTION:

Pathogens are destroyed using chemical addition (chlorine) and fluoride is added per Salt Lake County, Rule #33

#### **STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION:**

Treated water to your tap

#### WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table, you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

#### Artesian Well #1

Unfortunately, a large tree fell on Artesian Basin Well #1 and the required Nitrate samples were unable to be taken. The well is not in service. Full water quality sampling will be completed before this well is used again.

#### **General Information on the Tested Unregulated Substances**

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

#### 2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT (2023 Data)

TREATED SURFACE WATE									
	MCL or TT Standards	Big Cottonwood WTP	City Creek WTP	Parleys WTP	Range on Salt Lake City Wells	MWDSLS Little Cottonwood	MWDSLS Point of the Mountain WTP	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD)	Source of Contaminate
Primary Inorganics	Clandardo					Contoninood			
	Primary MCL								
Arsenic	10 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 1.4	ND	ND	1.3	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Barium	2000 ppb	42	25	60	20 - 121	67.4	68.1	50.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Chromium	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	4.6	4.7	0.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	200 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 6	ND	ND	0.9	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	4 ppm	0.55	0.68	0.44	ND - 0.32	0.652	0.615	0.43	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits. Fluoride added at source.
Lead	15 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.6	ND	ND	ND	Corrosion of household plumbing
Mercury	2 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from landfills.
Nickel	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	2.35	2.26	0.21	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Nitrate	10 ppm	0.19	0.12	0.13	0.16 - 4.18	0.366	0.334	0.67	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material.
Nitrite	1 ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.1	ND	ND	ND	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material.
Selenium	50 ppb	0.5	0.6	0.6	ND - 2.4	ND	ND	0.45	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sulfate	1000 ppm 2 ppb	34.2 ND	16.9 ND	13.3 ND	30.5 - 291 ND	42.6 ND	39.8 ND	59.4 0.00002	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from road deicing Leaching fron ore-processing sites and discharges from
TDS		230	235	328	244 - 888	232	237	292.4	electronics, glass and drug factories.
	2000 ppm	230	235	328	244 - 888	232	237	292.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Secondary	Cocondem MOI								
A	Secondary MCL	ND	ND	ND	ND 01	ND	14.0	2.0	Function of noticeally accurating dependence and twenty out worldwale
Aluminum	0.05 to 0.2 ppm (mg/L)		ND	ND	ND - 0.1	ND	14.2 29	2.8	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and treatment residuals.
Chloride Color	250 ppm CU	- 31.4	- 10.4	- 50.2	17.9 - 222	28.6	29	49.8	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
		371	- 399		- 207 1500	407	419	4.2	Decaying naturally occurring organic material and suspended particle
Conductance/Conductivity	umhos/cm	ND	13	504 ND	387 - 1509 ND - 6	407 ND	419	1.3	Naturally occuring. Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1300 ppb						107		
Iron	0.3 ppm	ND ND	ND ND	ND ND	ND - 0.03 0.5 - 1.5	162 ND	167 ND	15.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Manganese pH	50 ppb 6.5 to 8.5	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.1 - 8.1	7.62	7.7	7.6	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits. Naturally occurring and affected by chemical tratment.
Silver		ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.002	7.02	1.1	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Zinc	0.1 ppm 5 ppm	ND	ND	0.01	ND - 0.002 ND - 0.02	ND	ND	0.08	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Unregulated Parameters			ND	0.01	ND - 0.02	ND	ND	0.00	
onnegulateu Falanieteis	Unregulated	luiieu							
Alkalinity, Bicarbonate	UR-ppm	97.2	188.3	151.2	113 - 262			161.4	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Carbonate	UR-ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, CO.	UR-ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Total (CaCo <sub>2</sub> )	UR-ppm	100	192	163	113 - 262	104	116	112	Naturally occurring.
Ammonia	ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND	FUT	110	0.3	Runoff from fertilizer and naturally occurring.
Bromide	UR-ppb	7.5	ND	ND	ND - 90	ND	ND	ND	Naturally occurring.
Boron	ppb	-	-	-	-			35	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Calcium	UR-ppm	38.3	56	70.9	42.2 - 150			45.6	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Calcium	UR-ppm	-	-	-	-	114	122	116.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Total	UR-ppm	132	194	175	167 - 538	153	163	189.3	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
grains /gallon	Calculated	7.7	11.4	10.2	9.8 - 31.5				Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Magnesium	UR-ppm	13.6	16.2	10.5	45.9			16.7	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Molybdenum	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	1.97	1.34	ND	By-product of copper and tungsten mining.
	UR-ppm	0.011	0.009	0.012	ND - 0.04			0.019	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
			ND	1.2	1.1 - 3.5			2.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
	UR-ppm	0.8	ND						
Orthophosphates Potassium		24	5.7	57	11.4 - 72.5	18.2	11.9		
Orthophosphates	UR-ppm UR-ppm UR-NTU					18.2 0.026	11.9 0.03	23.2 0.3	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits. Suspended material from soil runoff.

VOC's									
Chloroform	UR-ppb	4.2	2	2.8	ND - 2.8			7.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Dibromochloromethane	UR-ppb	ND	ND	1.2	ND			1.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Bromodichloromethane	UR-ppb	1.3	0.8	1.8	ND			2.6	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
All Other Parameters	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Various sources.
PESTICIDES/PCBs/SOCs									
All Parameters		ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Various sources.
RADIOLOGICAL									
Radium 228	NE-pCi/L	-0.1	-0.165	0.04	-0.53 to 3.1	0.12	0.55	0.28	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross-Alpha	15-pCi/L	2.3	0.1	1.9	-2.4 to 5.2	1.5	-0.7	1.6	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
ORGANIC MATERIAL									
Total Organic Carbon	TT	0.848	0.788	2.01	ND - 0.8	1.92	2.18	2	Naturally occurring.
Dissolved Organic Carbon	TT	0.854	0.814	2.05	-	1.95	2.19	2.2	Naturally occurring.
UV-254	UR-1/cm	0.015	0.016	0.037	ND - 0.08	0.026	0.021	0.025	This is a measure of the concentration of UV-absorbing organic compounds. Naturally occurring.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM COMP	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM COMPLIANCE										
DISINFECTANTS / DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS MCL		SLC Range SLC . Avg Range		MWDSLS Little Cottonwood Avg	MWDSLS Point of the Mountain WTP Avg	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD) Avg					
Chlorine	4 ppm (MRDL)	0.59	0.01 - 1.3	0.92	0.81	0.77	Drinking water disinfectant.				
TTHMs	80 ppb	35.24	1.74 - 55.55	14.1	32.8	21.2	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Low-range was abnormally low and may be due to construction at that sampling site.				
HAA5s	60 ppb	40.55	1.21 - 62.71	21.8	48.2	17.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Low-range was abnormally low and may be due to construction at that sampling site				
HAA6	UR ppb	44.88	1.21 - 65.68	24.4	53	53	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Low-range was abnormally low and may be due to construction at that sampling site				
Bromate	ppb	-	-	ND	ND	ND	By-product of drinking water disinfection.				
Chlorine Dioxide	ppb	-	-			0.003	Drinking water disinfectant.				
Chlorite	ppm	-	-			0.38	By-product of drinking water disinfection.				

MICROBIOLOGICAL (Distribution System)	Presence/ Absence	# Samples	% positive	Highest Monthly %	
Total Coliform (percent positive)	Not >5%	3,050	0.16%	0.65%	MCL is for monthly compliance. No violations were issued. Human and animal fecal waste, naturally occurring in the environment.
E.coli (percent positive)	0.00	3,050	0.00%	0.00%	

#### UCMR

The EPA uses a set of rules called the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to check for substances in drinking water that aren't controlled by existing rules. The EPA completes this check every five years, focusing on substances that might affect our health. In the fifth round, called UCMR5, the EPA is looking for 30 chemicals in samples taken between 2023 and 2025, focusing on how per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium affect drinking water. Since there are no rules for PFAS and lithium right now, UCMR5 looks at how often they appear and in what amounts. This helps make rules in the future under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Collecting data helps scientists to understand and solve problems with contaminants in drinking water which might affect communities.

#### PFAS

PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are man-made chemicals used in various everyday products and industrial processes. They have been around since the mid-1900s and are known for their water and grease-resistant properties. PFAS can be found in things such as non-stick cookware, waterproof clothing, and firefighting foams. However, ongoing exposure to high levels of PFAS may pose health risks, impacting the immune system, development, and other risks. It's important to be aware of these chemicals and take steps to reduce exposure. If you want to learn more about how to lower your exposure to PFAS, you can visit the State of Utah's website at www.pfas.utah.gov.

#### LITHIUM

Lithium is a natural metal that can be found more in certain places, especially in the groundwater of dry areas in the Western United States. People have been using lithium in medicines for a long time to help with certain health issues. Even though we know a lot about using lithium in medicine, there's not much information about the health risks for people who get small amounts of lithium from drinking water, which is substantially less than what's used in medicine. Right now, the EPA is not sure about the risks for people who have low levels of lithium in their drinking water. Scientists are still learning about how lithium affects our health and at what levels it might be a concern.

If you have questions about this information, you can contact Teresa Gray at Teresa.Gray@slcgov.com or 801-483-6744. You can also contact the State of Utah's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) at 801-536-4200 or ddwpfas@utah.gov.

Per UCMR5, SLCDPU tested for 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium that are not controlled by regulations in drinking water. Sampling at the 4th Avenue Well produced the following results.

Unregulated Contaminate Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) Data (Detected)									
	Unregulated	SLC Range Avg	SLC Range						
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	UR-ppt	1.2	ND - 18.2	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products					
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	UR-ppt	0.38	ND - 5.7	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products					
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PF0S)	UR-ppt	0.47	ND - 7.1	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products					
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	UR-ppt	0.4	ND - 6.2	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products					
Lithium	UR-ppb	13.61	ND - 41.7	Naturally occurring.					
*All other Parameters	ppb	ND	ND	Various sources.					

#### UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

**ppm:** parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**MFL:** million fibers per liter, used to measure asbestos concentration

NA: not applicable

ND: not detected

**NR:** monitoring not required but recommended.

1/cm: one per centimeter

pCi/L: picocuries per liter

#### **IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS**

**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 allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

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

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

**MRDLG:** Maximum residual disinfection 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.

**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

MNR: Monitored Not Regulated

MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

#### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

After the water leaves the treatment plants and wells, SLCDPU routinely samples the water in the distribution system to monitor the quality of water as it travels from the source to your tap.

#### WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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:

 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, which 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, 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and
- radioactive contaminants, which 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



### **STORMWATER**

Did you know that things on the ground in our City can cause water pollution when it rains or snows? It's true! All sorts of things, like dirt, trash, oil from cars, and even pet waste, can wash into our waterways and make them dirty.

Sometimes, storm drains can get blocked with trash, leaves, and other debris, which can lead to flooding and more pollution in our water. But there's something we can do about it! The Adopt A Storm Drain Program lets people volunteer to take care of a storm drain near them. In 2023, 89 residents cleaned 160 storm drains and removed 1,399 pounds of debris!

If you see a clogged storm drain or anything else wrong with the water, you can report it to SLCDPU at 801.483.6700 or the Salt Lake County Health Department at 801.580.6681. And if you want to volunteer or learn more, visit https://www.slc.gov/utilities/ adoptastormdrain/.

#### **SEWAGE TREATMENT**

It's time to rethink our flushing habits! Did you know that even though some wipes say they're "flushable," they can actually cause big problems in our sewer systems? Every year, millions of dollars are spent fixing clogged pipes and backups caused by these wipes.



To keep our flushes pure, follow the 3P Rule: Only flush pee, poo, and toilet paper down the toilet. That's it!

The City maintains more than 660 miles of sanitary sewer pipelines and treats around 30 million gallons of sewage every day. Fats, oils, greases, and other material from kitchens can stick to the pipes and cause blockages. Instead of pouring these things down the sink, it's better to put them in the trash or compost.

By working together and following these simple rules, we can keep our sewers flowing smoothly!

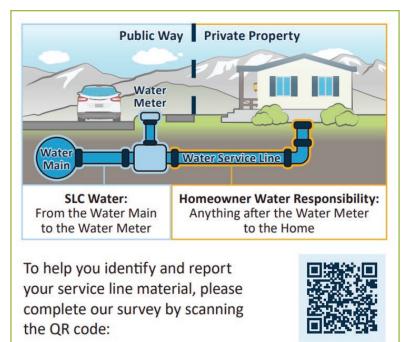
#### LEAD IN HOME PLUMBING

Lead is a soft metal found in lots of products like paint, gasoline, and even some plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. When we drink water, lead can come from the pipes in our house. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. SLCDPU is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in homes. Homeowners share the responsibility for protecting household members from lead in home plumbing. Homeowners can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within home plumbing and taking steps to reduce risk. If lead is identified in your plumbing system, these are some steps you can take to minimize your risk: Before drinking tap water, flush pipes for several minutes by running a tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. Filters that are certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water can be used. If there are concerns about lead in water, contact our Lead and Copper Program at 844-LEAD-SLC or by email at lead@slcgov.com to inquire about water testing. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps that can be taken to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

#### LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

Service lines are pipes that connect the main water pipe in the street to our houses. Usually, homeowners own part of this pipe, from the water meter to the house, while the City owns the part from the main pipe to the meter. Old service lines made of lead or galvanized pipe (which can also cause lead issues) can add lead to the drinking water in your home. To tackle this, SLCDPU is working on making a list of all these service lines, whether they're owned by the City or by homeowners. This helps to find out which lines are made of lead or galvanized pipe that could be causing issues.

The goal is to identify the material used in service lines which could potentially cause problems with your water. Please help us by telling us what your service line is made of, especially if your house was built in 1986 or earlier.





#### SALT LAKE CITY'S LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING PROGRAM FOR DRINKING WATER IN HOMES

Under the EPA Lead and Copper Rule, public water systems need to regularly test the water in homes with a higher risk of having lead and copper pipes or lead solder. These homes are more likely to have higher levels of lead. SLCDPU does this testing every three years. In 2021, we completed testing the water in these high-risk homes. The results were similar to our historical levels and in line with those across the state. SLCDPU will be testing again in the summer of 2024, and in 2025 as part of new rules from EPA. If you want your home to be included in the testing, please contact our lead hotline at 844-SLC-LEAD or by email at lead@slcgov.com

	Action Level	# of samples	number of sampling sites exceeding the action level before flushing	number of sampling sites exceeding the action level after flushing	90th percentile before flushing	90th percentile after flushing	Source of Contaminate	
Lead	15 ppb	113	1	0	3.79	1.00	Corrosion of	
Copper	1300 ppb	113	1	1	293	56.00	household plumbing	

#### HOW TO MINIMIZE YOUR EXPOSURE TO LEAD

If you have a water service line or interior plumbing that contains lead, you can take the following actions to reduce your household's risk of exposure.

#### FLUSH

If water has not been used in the property for a few hours, such as first thing in the morning or when coming home from work, run cold water from the kitchen or any bathroom faucet for five minutes. You can also run the

dishwasher, take a shower or do a load of laundry to help flush water in your home's internal plumbing before drinking, cooking or preparing infant formula.

#### **REPLACE OLD FIXTURES**

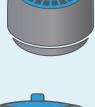
Replace faucets and indoor plumbing with "lead-free" components. Faucets and fixtures installed prior to 2014 do not meet today's requirements for "lead-free" fixtures.

### **CLEAN AERATORS**

A faucet aerator is a small screen added to the end of a faucet to mix air with water to reduce the flow of water coming from the faucet. Remove and clean the aerators on your faucets, as they may have trapped particles from your old lead service line.

#### **MAINTAIN FILTERS**

Follow the manufacturer's maintenance schedule for the filtration system you have, including water pitchers, faucet-mounted filters, under-sink filter or refrigerator filters. The results of your water quality test may help to determine if you still wish to continue using a filter. Boiling the water does not remove lead.



#### **ARTESIAN WELL PARK / LIBERTY PARK**

The Artesian Well and Liberty Park fountains are not part of SLCDPU's drinking water system, but our staff still keeps an eye on them. These natural water sources meet the requirements for drinking water set by the federal and state governments. However, we found low levels of perchlorate in the Artesian Well at 800 South 500 East. Perchlorate can come from natural sources or from making explosives. The levels we found are below what the EPA says is a worry, and this compound isn't regulated in Utah right now. If you want to know more about the Artesian Well Parks, you can visit www.slc.gov/parks. And if you have questions about the water quality data, feel free to contact us.



#### **CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION**

Our Cross-Connection Control Program makes sure that water doesn't flow backward from homes or businesses into our water system. This backward flow, called backflow, can happen if there's too much pressure or if there's a siphon effect.

Backflow preventer assemblies, devices, and other methods are installed at cross-connections to prevent backflow and protect water quality.

A cross-connection is any place where clean water can mix with

anything that could pollute or contaminate it. You can help by keeping an eye on your water connections at home or work. If these connections aren't properly managed, they could lead to polluted water.

For more information regarding cross-connection, please visit www.slc.gov/utilities/water-quality/cross-connections or email backflow@slcgov.com

#### **SOURCE PROTECTION**

Every day, we admire our Wasatch Mountains and appreciate all they provide for our community's wellbeing. But have you ever stopped to think where our drinking water comes from? We regularly monitor our sources of drinking water as well as prepare source water protection plans.

We keep a close eye on our sources of drinking water and have plans in place to protect them. Our primary source of water comes from mountain streams like City Creek, Parleys Creek, Big Cottonwood Creek, and Little Cottonwood Creek, all located in protected watersheds in the Wasatch Mountains south and east of Salt Lake City. We also receive treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, sourced from rivers like Provo, Duchesne, and Weber, stored in reservoirs like Jordanelle and Deer Creek.

Over the years, we've successfully implemented our Watershed Management Plan (WMP) and collaborated with partners to conserve our mountain watersheds. However, these areas face growing pressures, so we're updating our WMP to address these changes. You can learn more and get involved by visiting our website.

Just as we protect our mountain streams, we also safeguard our groundwater. Our wells and springs across the valley, from Cottonwood Heights to City Creek Canyon, provide essential water. The quality of this groundwater is influenced by surface activities, so we've adopted ordinances and work closely with agencies to ensure its protection. By protecting our watershed and groundwater, we're ensuring clean, safe drinking water for generations to come. You can learn more about our efforts and view maps of our protected watershed areas on our website.

#### SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TIPS

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Reach out to our team for information on volunteer opportunities.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier.



#### **AFFILIATIONS**

SLCDPU is a member of American Water Works Association, Water Research Foundation, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, American Water Resources Association, Partnership for Safe Water, Utah Water Quality Alliance, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Western Urban Water Coalition, Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition, as well as others.

#### RESOURCES

Information about contaminants and potential health effects, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure can be obtained by calling:

#### SALT LAKE CITY Department of public utilities

SLCDPU Customer Service: 801.483.6900

SLCDPU 24-hour Emergency: 801.483.6700

SLC Water Quality Division: 801.483.6832 or 801.483.6765 www.slcgov.com/utilities

#### **ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

**Utah Division of Drinking Water:** 801.535.4200 deq.utah.gov/division-drinking-water

Salt Lake County Health Department: 385.468.4100 www.slco.org/health

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800.426.4791 www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Teresa Gray,

Water Quality and Treatment Administrator 1530 S West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84115 801-483-6744

