



Training Event Summary

Event: Drinking Water Quality Workshop

Intended Audience	Community organizations and leaders	Date and Time	2023.05.25 6:30 - 8pm
Producer / Facilitator	TreePeople	Event Format	Virtual
IRWM Region	Upper Santa Clara River	Number of Participants	8

Event Summary:

This workshop was designed to achieve the following learning objectives for participants: 1) Understand the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed and its drinking water sources. 2) Understand how water gets to the tap. 3) Learn about drinking water quality concerns. 4) Be able to find, read, and understand a consumer confidence report.

The presentation was made by TreePeople staff and included multiple topics:

- 1) *Where does our water come from*
- 2) *Water system governance*
- 3) *Water sources and the path to tap*
- 4) *Common contaminants and*
- 5) *How to find and read a consumer confidence report.*

Participants were surveyed after the event. Key takeaways from participants included: Understanding who my water provider is and where my water is coming from year to year; the need to check tap water for pipe contamination; how to read a report; we are in a large watershed and we are using a lot of groundwater.

Links to additional information were sent to participants after the workshop. A companion event (a tour of the major water treatment plant for region) was held May 13. Due to scheduling conflicts, the tour was held prior to the online workshop.

The workshop presentation slides and event flier continue on the following pages.

WaterTalks Education Series Upper Santa Clara River

**WATER
talks**

Community Workshop and Site Tour

Learn About Water Treatment Firsthand!

Saturday, May 13th 2023 - 10am - 11:30am

Site Tour: Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant - Join SCV Water for a special in-person site tour to see how imported water from the State Water Project aqueduct, through Castaic Lake, is treated and managed.

Registration: bit.ly/41doGZc or Scan QR



Thursday, May 25th 2023 - 6:30pm - 8pm

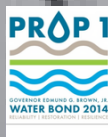
Workshop: Indoor Drinking Water Quality: The Path to Tap - Join this virtual workshop to learn more about the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed, including where your water is sourced, how it gets to your tap, and drinking water quality concerns. We will also cover how to read a consumer confidence report.

Registration: bit.ly/3HvZPYV or Scan QR



Hosted by: TreePeople

**For questions contact abegley@treepeople.org*

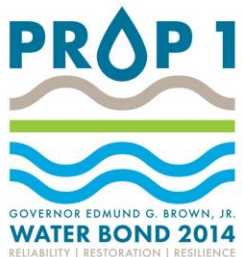




WATER talks

Drinking Water Quality Workshop

May 25, 2023



UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER
Integrated Regional Water Management



TreePeople

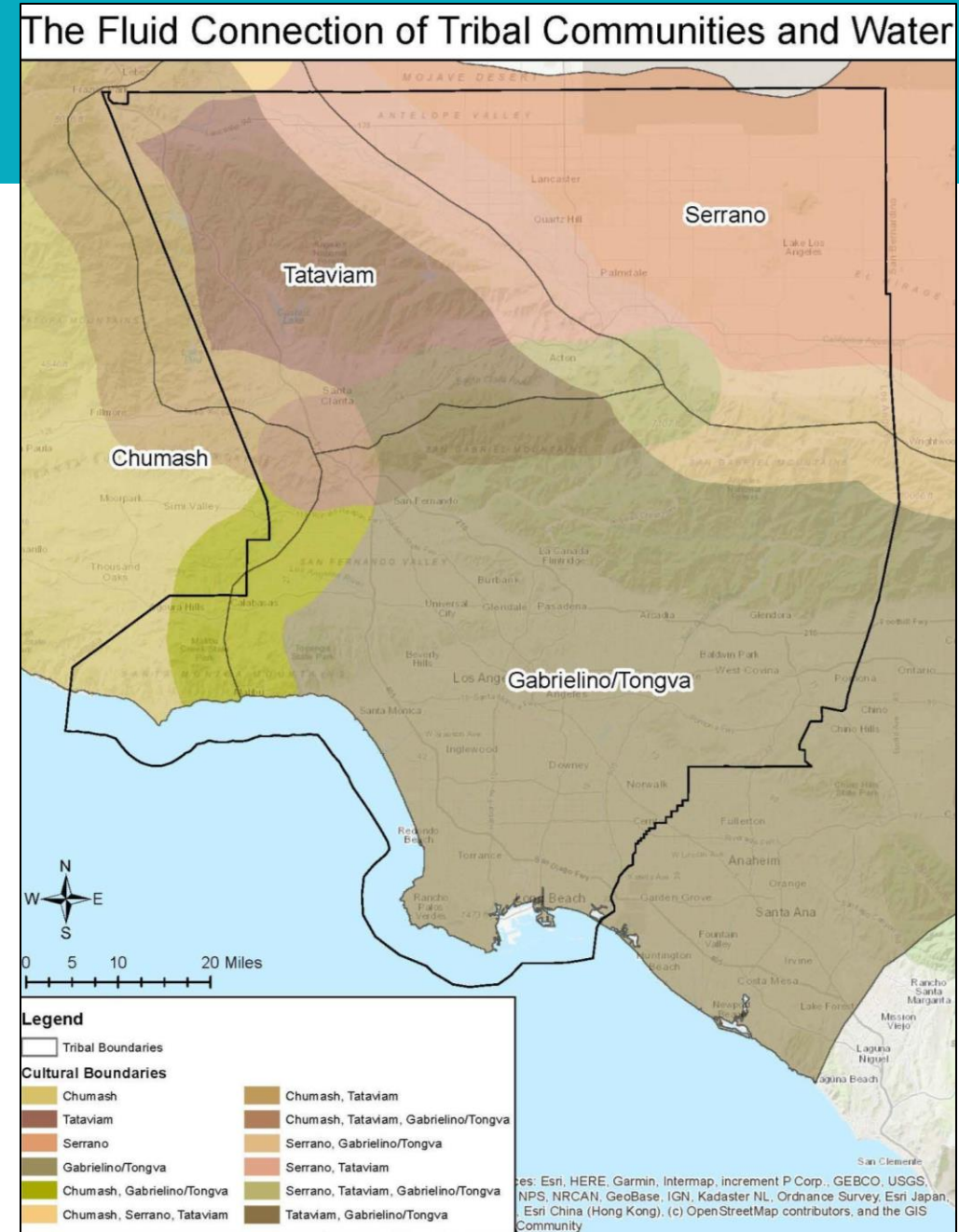


Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the lands and waters in the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region are unceded ancestral homelands of the Tataviam, Chumash, Serrano, and Tongva people.

We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose homelands we live and who are the ancestral stewards of the land and water. We make this acknowledgement out of respect for their long-standing connection to and protection of this area's watershed. We recognize that these Tribes are still present in the area along with a large number of displaced indigenous people.

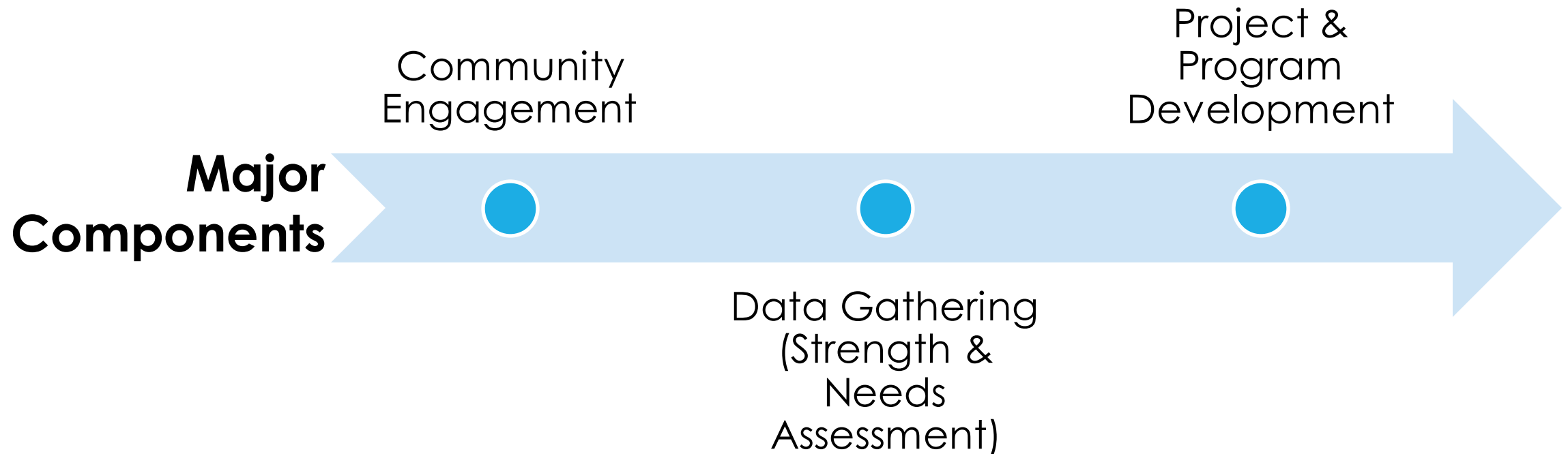
We urge you to learn more about how to engage with tribal communities in your water work and to watch the recordings of the WaterTalks training “Water Training: Allyship with Tribal Communities Workshop” organized by Sacred Places Institute. You can scan this QR code with your phone to view that workshop. Link can also be found in the chat!



What is WaterTalks?

Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP)

Program designed to generate and increase community involvement in planning a sustainable water future for California



What you will learn

1

Understand the **Upper Santa Clara River Watershed** and your water sources.

2

Understand how **water gets to your tap.**

3

Overview of **drinking water quality** concerns: contaminants and regulations.

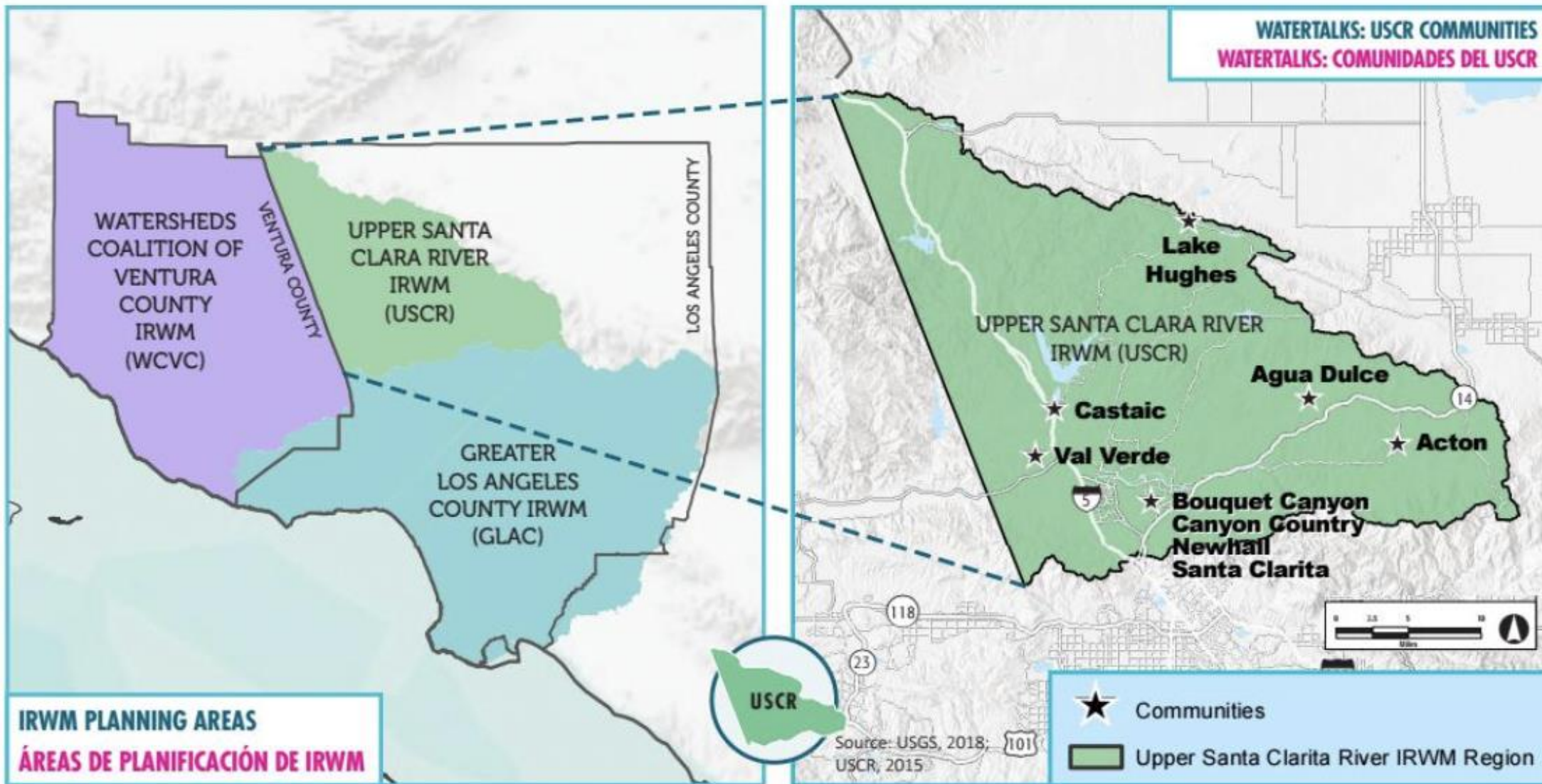
4

Be able to find, read, and **understand your annual water quality report.**

What is one
way you used
water today?



**WHERE DOES MY WATER
COME FROM?**



Water Systems



Public Water Systems

- 15 + connections or serves 25+ people for at least 60 days of the year.
- State regulated



State Small Water Systems

- 5-14 connections
- Does not regularly serve drinking water to an average of 25+ people daily for more than 60 days out of the year
- Local county environmental health department regulated



Domestic Wells

- Serve up to 4 connections
- Fall outside federal and state regulation.
- Not subject to the same periodic testing and monitoring requirements as public water systems or state small water systems

What Kind of System Are You On?



Public Water Systems

- 15 + connections or serves 25+ people for at least 60 days of the year.
- State regulated



State Small Water Systems

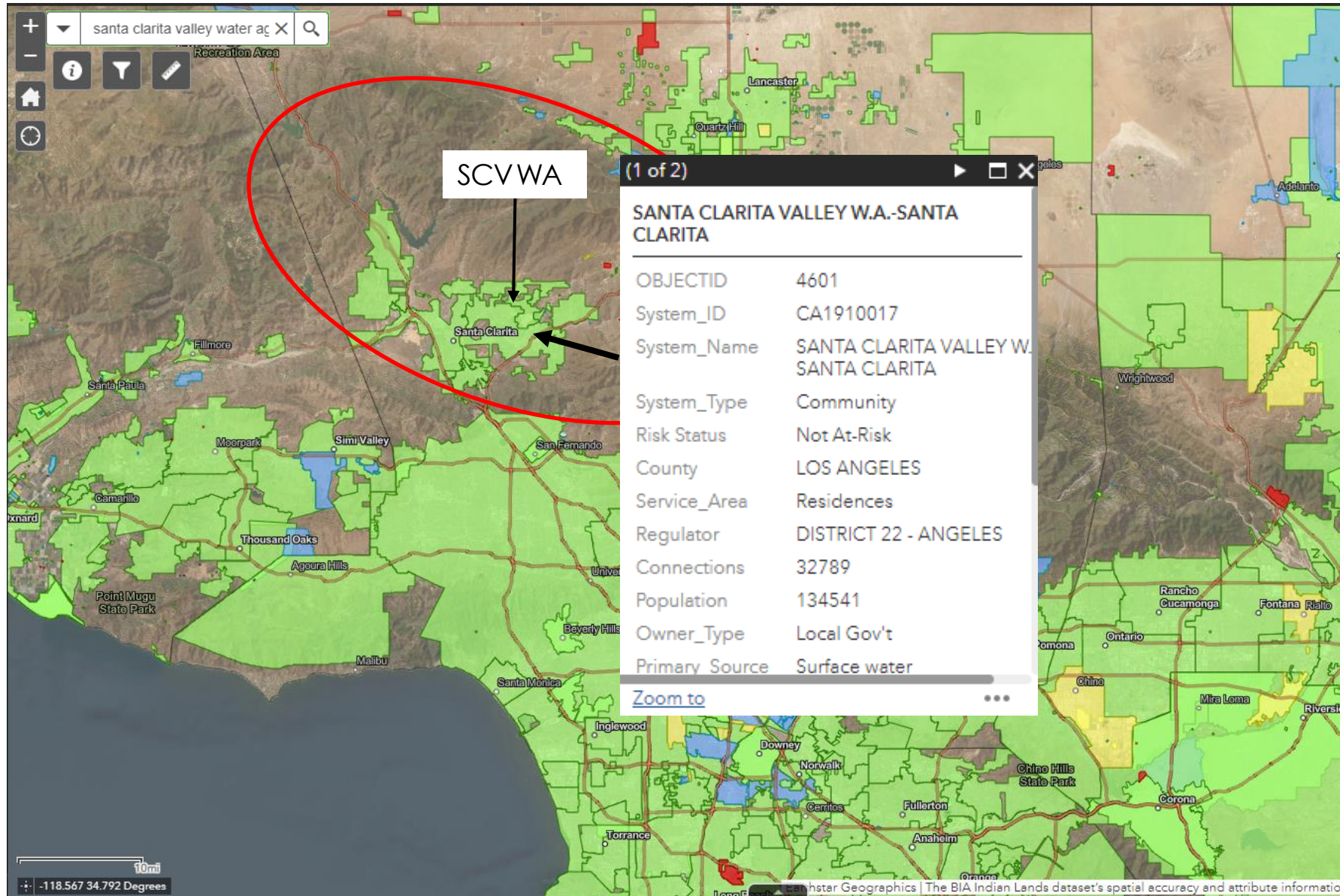
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Water System Governance



USCR Water Sources

Groundwater from the Antelope Valley Basin and imported water.

Groundwater from the Acton Groundwater Basin, alluvial wells near Santa Clara River, and imported water.

Groundwater from the Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Basin and imported water.



Water Sources for Your Region

Water Sources: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

Imported Supplies

- Water imported through the State Water Project, terminating at Castaic Lake.

Local Supplies

- Groundwater
- Recycled Water

Other

- Water Banking Programs & Transfers



FROM SOURCE TO TAP

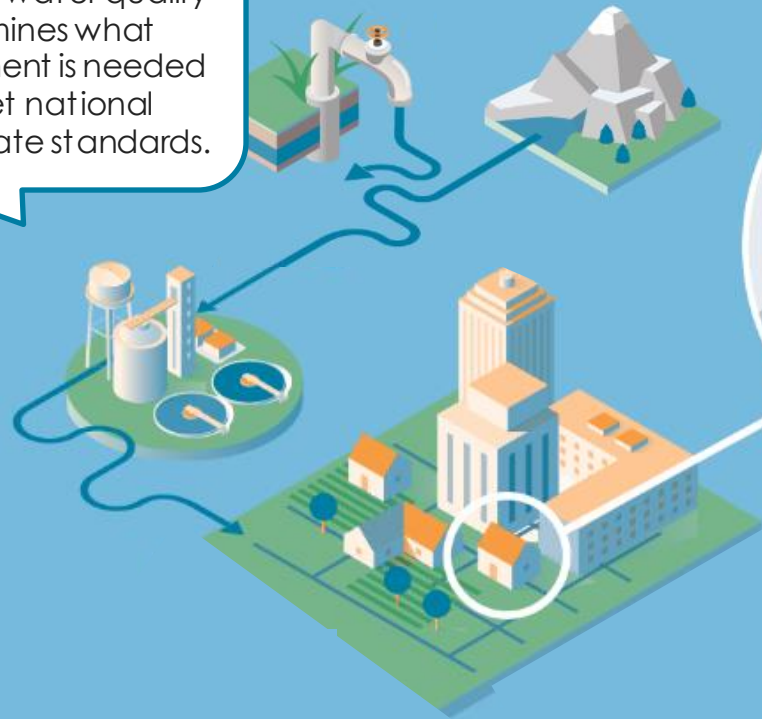


1. **Water Source:** your water may come from a variety of sources.



PATH
TO
TAP

2. Treatment: the source water quality determines what treatment is needed to meet national and state standards.



PATH
TO
TAP

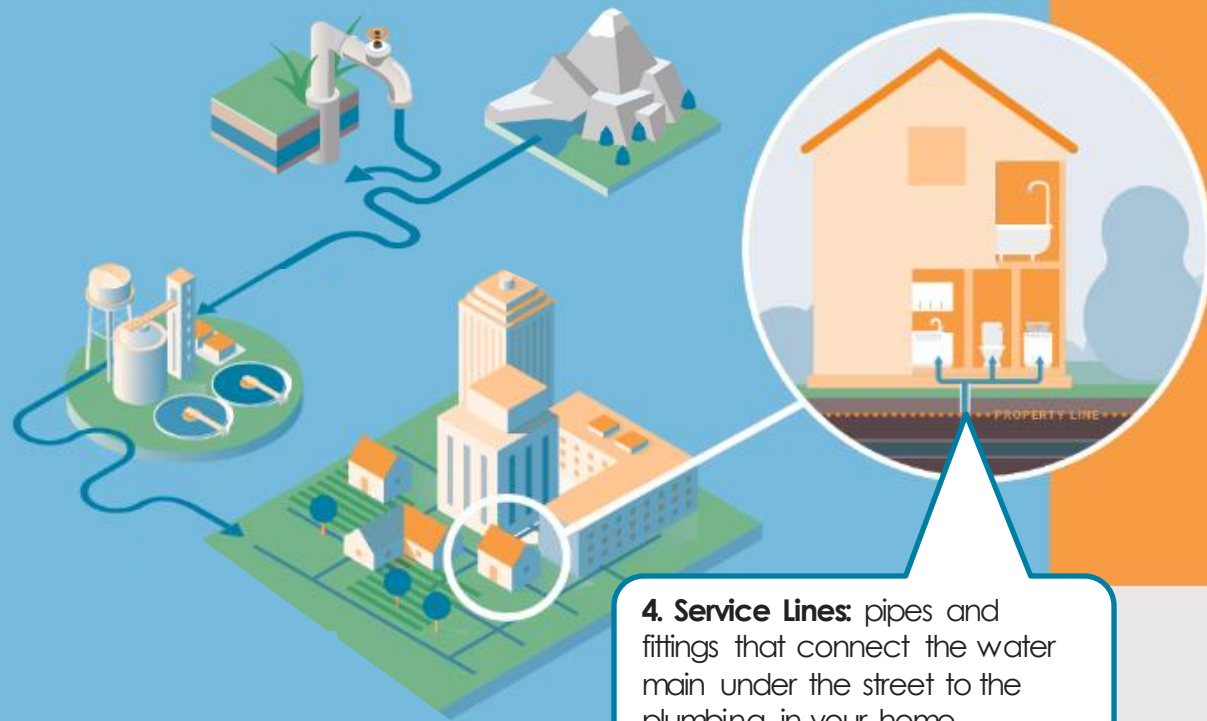




3. Distribution System:
an underground pipe system
carries water to your property.



PATH
TO
TAP



4. Service Lines: pipes and fittings that connect the water main under the street to the plumbing in your home.



PATH TO TAP

Some components of drinking water quality can change as water travels from a water distribution system through a property's premise plumbing and to your tap.



5. Premise Plumbing: piping and fixtures inside a building that are fed by a service line.



PATH TO TAP

QUESTIONS?



COMMON CONTAMINANTS

Primary Drinking Water Regulations

Legally enforceable standards for contaminants that affect health, including maximum contaminant levels, monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Regulations

Guidelines associated with non-health-related considerations such as taste, color, and odor. They are not enforceable on a national level but are enforceable in California.

National and State Regulations

Evidence that
contaminant has
negative human
health impact and
is present in water
sources

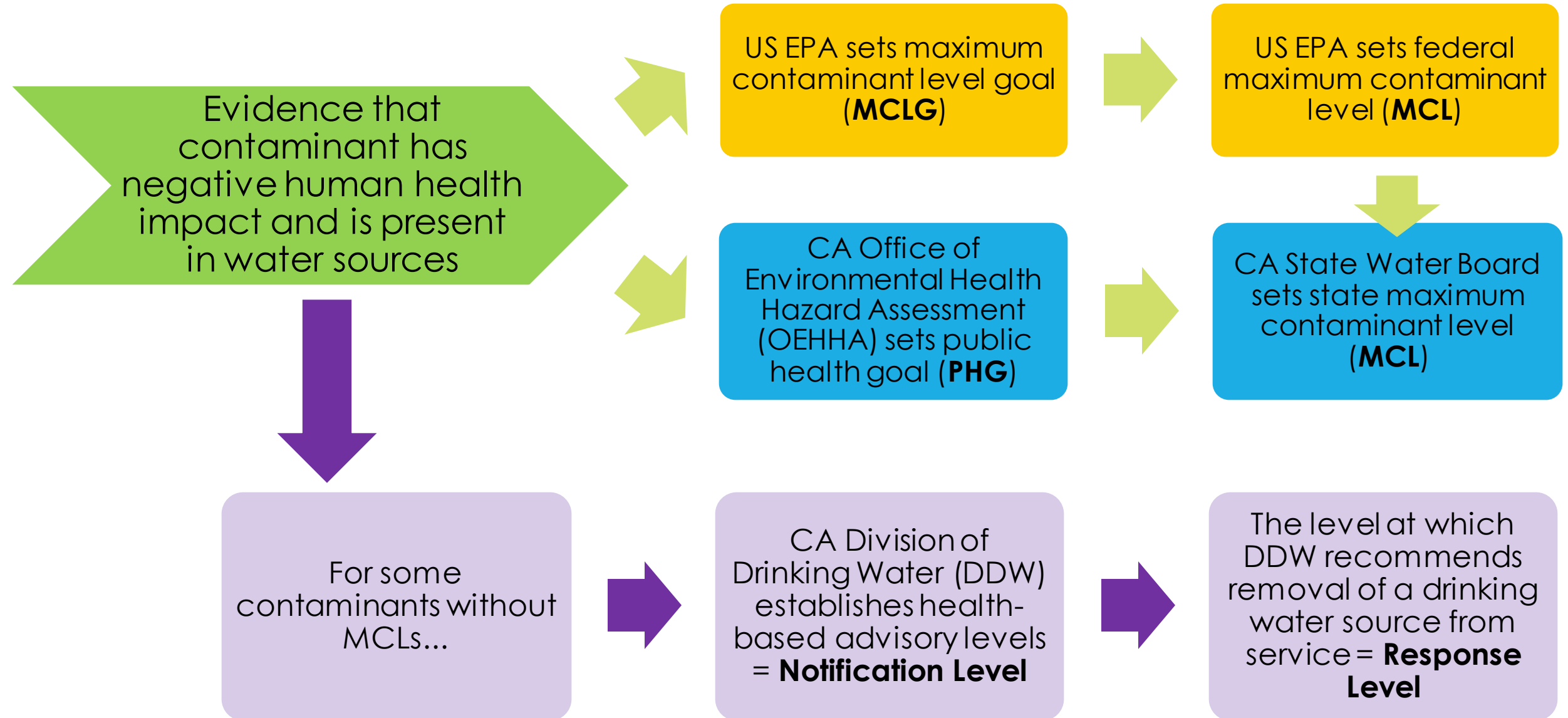
US EPA sets
maximum
contaminant level
goal (**MCLG**)

US EPA sets
federal maximum
contaminant level
(**MCL**)

CA Office of
Environmental Health
Hazard Assessment
(OEHHA) sets public
health goal (**PHG**)

CA State Water
Board sets state
maximum
contaminant level
(**MCL**)

National and State Regulations



Categories of Regulated Drinking Water Contaminants



MICROORGANISM



DISINFECTANT



DISINFECTION
BYPRODUCT



INORGANIC
CHEMICAL



ORGANIC
CHEMICAL



RADIONUCLIDES

Measuring Contamination



**Parts Per Million (PPM)
or Milligrams Per Liter**

1 drop in a hot tub



**Parts Per Billion (PPB)
or Micrograms Per Liter**

1 drop in an Olympic-
sized pool



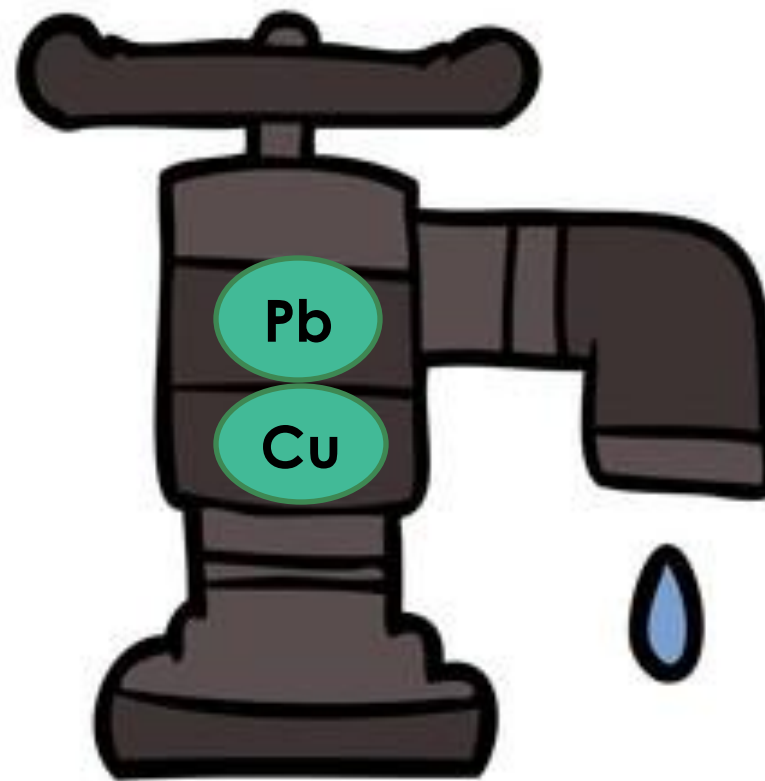
**Parts Per Trillion (PPT)
or Nanograms Per Liter**

1 drop in a 6-acre lake

Contaminants have different health
effects at different levels

About Lead and Copper

- Naturally occurring toxic metals
- Can enter drinking water when plumbing materials that contain lead or copper corrode.
 - Lead service lines and premise plumbing are typically the most significant source of lead in water.
- Lead can be harmful to human health even at low exposure levels
- Maximum contaminant level goal = 0





About PFAS: Where do they come from?

- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
 - Group of chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil
 - Non-naturally occurring substances
 - Including PFOA & PFOS
 - Called “forever chemicals”



PFAS

Per/Poly-Fluoro-Alkyl-Substances

PFOA

PFOS

PFBS

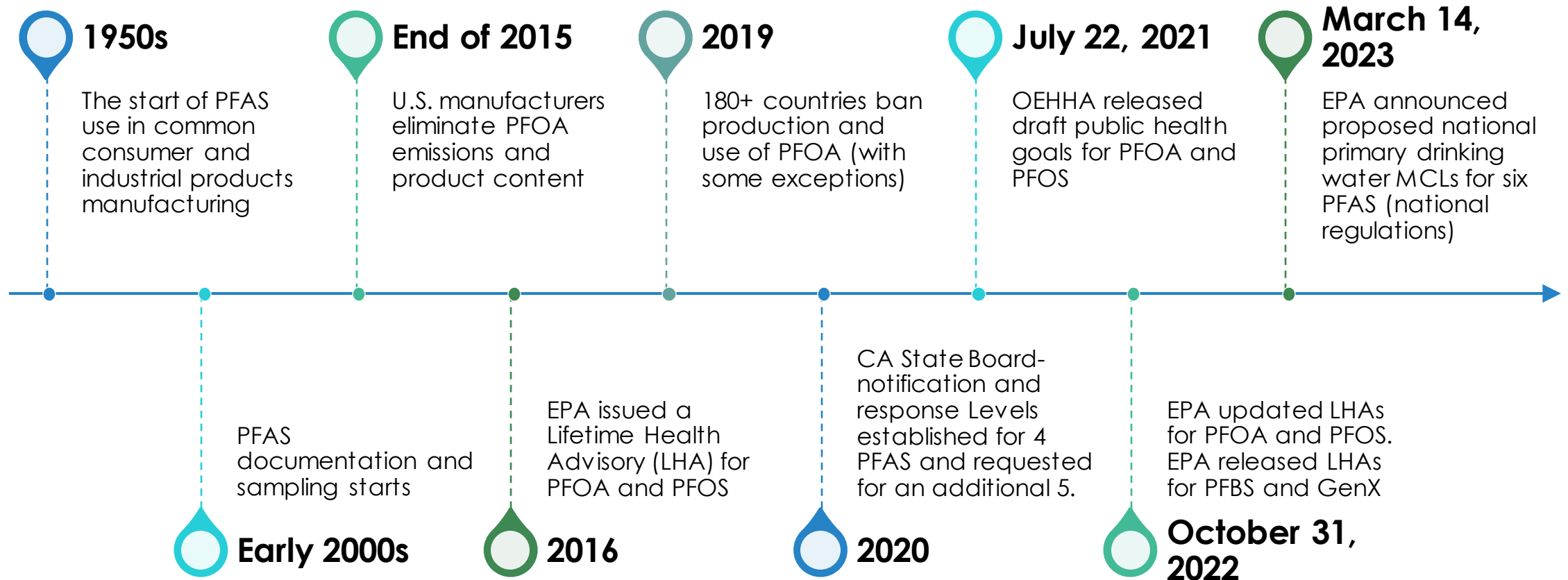
PFHxS

PFNA

GenX

Along with many more

About PFAS: History



About Disinfection By-Products

- Formed when disinfectants like chlorine interact with natural organic materials in water
 - Two of the most common types are Trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).



About Perchlorate

- Inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, and a variety of industries.
- Both naturally occurring and man-made
- Gets into drinking water through contamination from historic industrial operations that used, stored, or disposed of perchlorate.
- Regulated in California (state primary MCL).

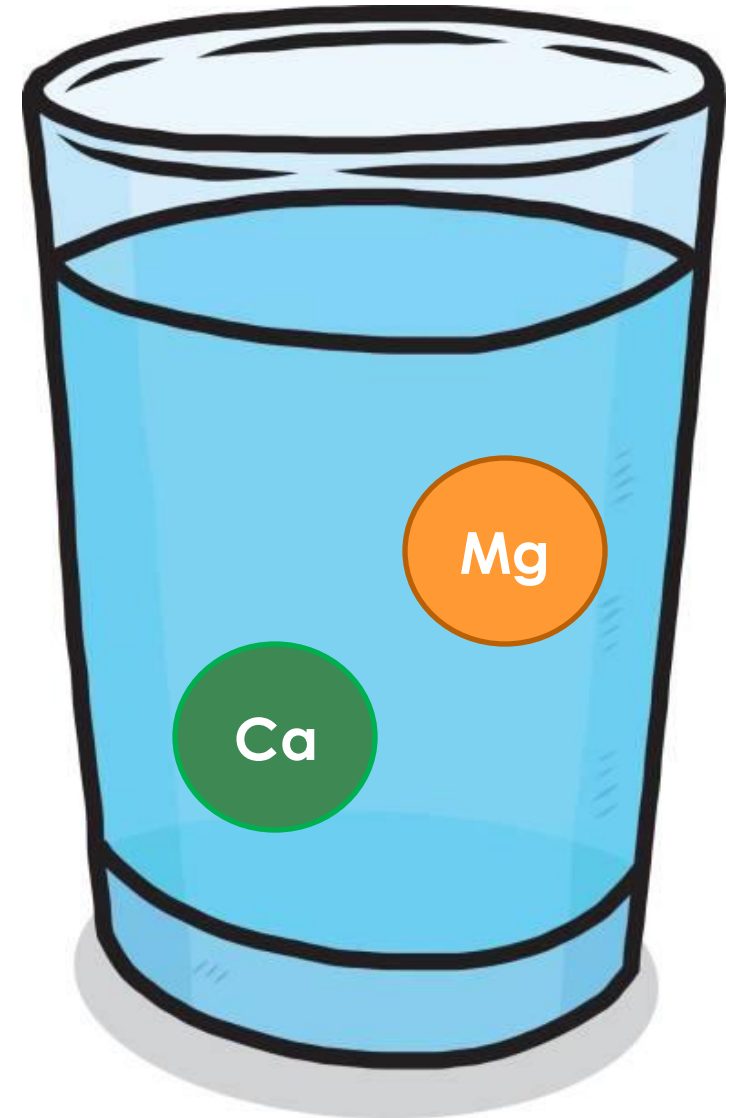


WATER QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF INTEREST



About Water Hardness

- Amount of dissolved minerals in water
 - Calcium and magnesium
- Naturally occurring in groundwater
- Aesthetic issues, but not dangerous
- Causes mineral buildup in fixtures



WHAT YOU CAN DO



For Premise Plumbing

- Test for contaminants at your tap
- Hire a local plumber to inspect the pipes and perform a visual assessment
- Schedule pipe maintenance for your house every 1-2 years.

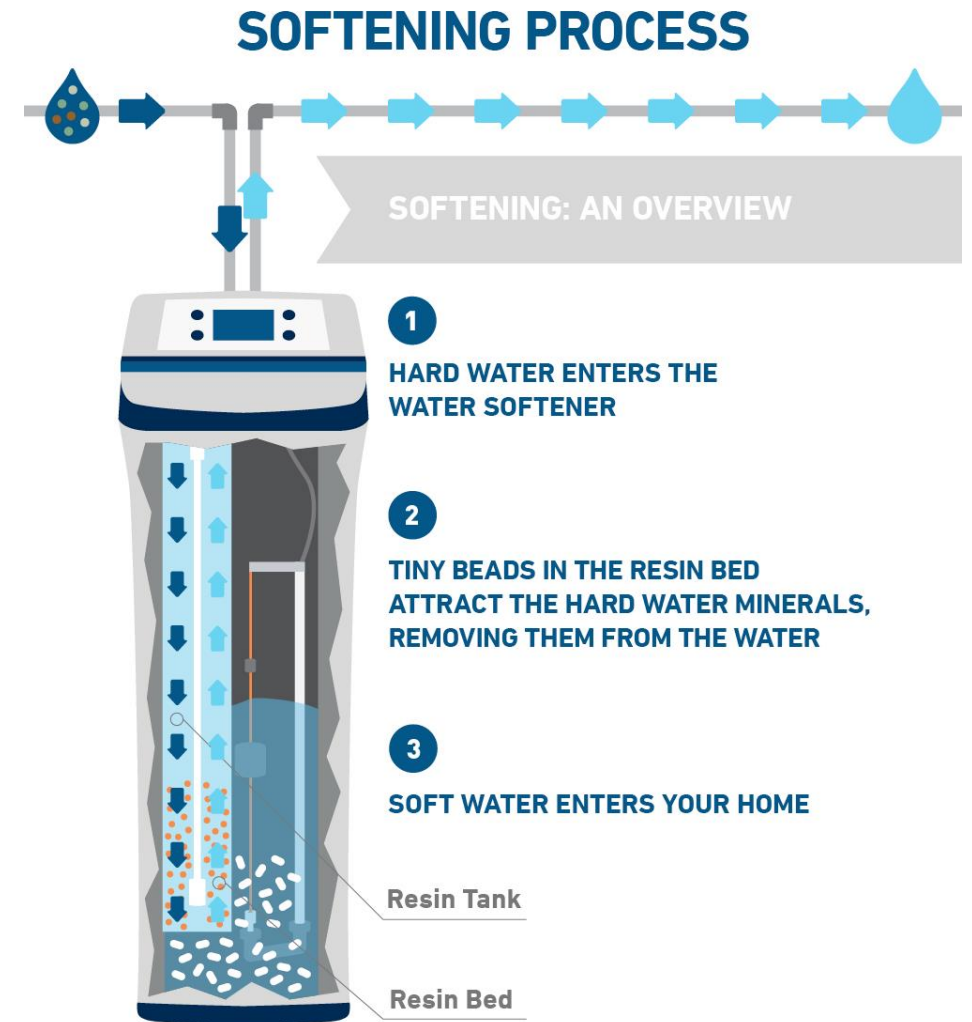


Lead and Copper: primary contaminants associated with premise plumbing.

For Premise Plumbing

- **Water Hardness:** install water softening equipment.
 - Salt-free water conditioners; exchange tank softeners
 - Automatic water softeners are **not allowed** in the Santa Clara Valley to protect the Santa Clara River-
 - Discharge a salty waste that would ultimately be released into the Santa Clara River

Aesthetic Purposes



QUESTIONS?



HOW TO FIND, READ AND UNDERSTAND YOUR ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT



Consumer Confidence Report

- CCR is an **annual water quality report** that all community water systems are required to provide to their customers
- Released every year by July 1st

Your CCR Provides Need-To-Know Information

SUCH AS:



Where your **water comes from**—such as an aquifer, lake, river, or other source.



A list of **regulated contaminants** that the CWS detected and the level.



Potential **health effects** from consuming contaminated water and additional safeguards against water-related illnesses.



Contaminant levels in your CCR compared to national standards and any violations of health-based standards.

Water Quality Data Table

Parameters/ Constituents	Units	MCL (AL) (RL)	PHG (MCLG)	DLR (MRL)	Range/ Average	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Sources
Aluminum	µg/L	1000	600	0.05	<DLR-0.1 <DLR	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Step 1: Find your water provider

- [System Area Boundary Layer Look-Up Tool](#)

Step 2: Find your CCR


- [Drinking Water Watch Website](#)

Step 3: Read your CCR

- [Example: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency CCR](#)

Upcoming Events

May 27



May 27

WaterTalks - Climate Change & Open Space Watershed Health Tour

WaterTalks Open Space Series Series: Open Space Reimagination - The Impact on watershed health, the ecology, and climate change.

By TreePeople [Follow](#)

When and where

Date and time
Saturday, May 27, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT

Location
19300 San Francisco Canyon Rd 2020
San Francisco Canyon Road Santa Clara, CA 95050
[Show map](#)

Date TBD

**Open Space
Watershed Health
Virtual Workshop**

Can you identify...

1

The **Upper Santa Clara River Watershed** and your water sources.

2

How **water gets to your tap**.

3

Local **drinking water quality** concerns: contaminants and regulations.

4

How to find, read, and **understand your annual water quality report**.

