

# KEEP IT PURE™

## From your Mountains to your Tap

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities

## WATER QUALITY REPORT 2023

PWSID# UTAH 18026



Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### QUALITY FIRST

Salt Lake City Public Utilities (water system #18026) is proud to present our annual water quality report. SLC Public Utilities' 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](http://www.slc.gov/utilities). This report, mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) covers the results of all required testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2022. SLC Public Utilities is dedicated to supplying drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards. SLC Public Utilities has 92,374 service connections serving More than 365,000

people with 30,981 million gallons a day of water a year through 1,318 miles of pipelines. We strive to serve our community and protect our environment by working to continuously improve water services in a sustainable manner. As new drinking water challenges emerge, we will be vigilant in maintaining our objective of providing high-quality drinking water at an affordable price. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, we invite you to contact our office.

### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We encourage your participation in decisions that affect our community's drinking water. The SLC Public Utilities Advisory Committee (PUAC) meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please note, the PUAC generally does not meet during the summer months. For more information, please visit [www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/public-utilities-advisory-committee/](http://www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/public-utilities-advisory-committee/) or contact us at 801.483.6770. We are committed to building trust with our community. We invite you to engage with us on our social media sites: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). You may also contact Chloe Morroni, Communications and Engagement Manager, for information on how to participate in planning and projects at [Chloe.Morroni@slcgov.com](mailto:Chloe.Morroni@slcgov.com).

### UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SLC Public Utilities, 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](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/pay-my-bill/water-bill-assistance) or [www.saltlakecity.salvationarmy.org](http://www.saltlakecity.salvationarmy.org)

Workforce Services Housing and Community Development HEAT Program can help with heating and cooling as well as water assistance to eligible households on a limited basis. You may qualify for HEAT if your household is at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty level, you are responsible for paying home energy costs, and the house contains at least one U.S. citizen or qualified non-citizen. For more information call 1-866-205-4357 or apply at [www.jobs.utah.gov/heat](http://www.jobs.utah.gov/heat). If you would like to donate to Project Water Assist, you can check the box that appears on your utility bill or your online account.

## WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Our water contains a blend of different sources depending on demand and supply. Our source waters include mountain streams, surface water reservoirs, and a network of groundwater wells and springs. We also purchase treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, which includes water that is stored in Deer Creek Reservoir. During the summer months, when mountain stream runoff

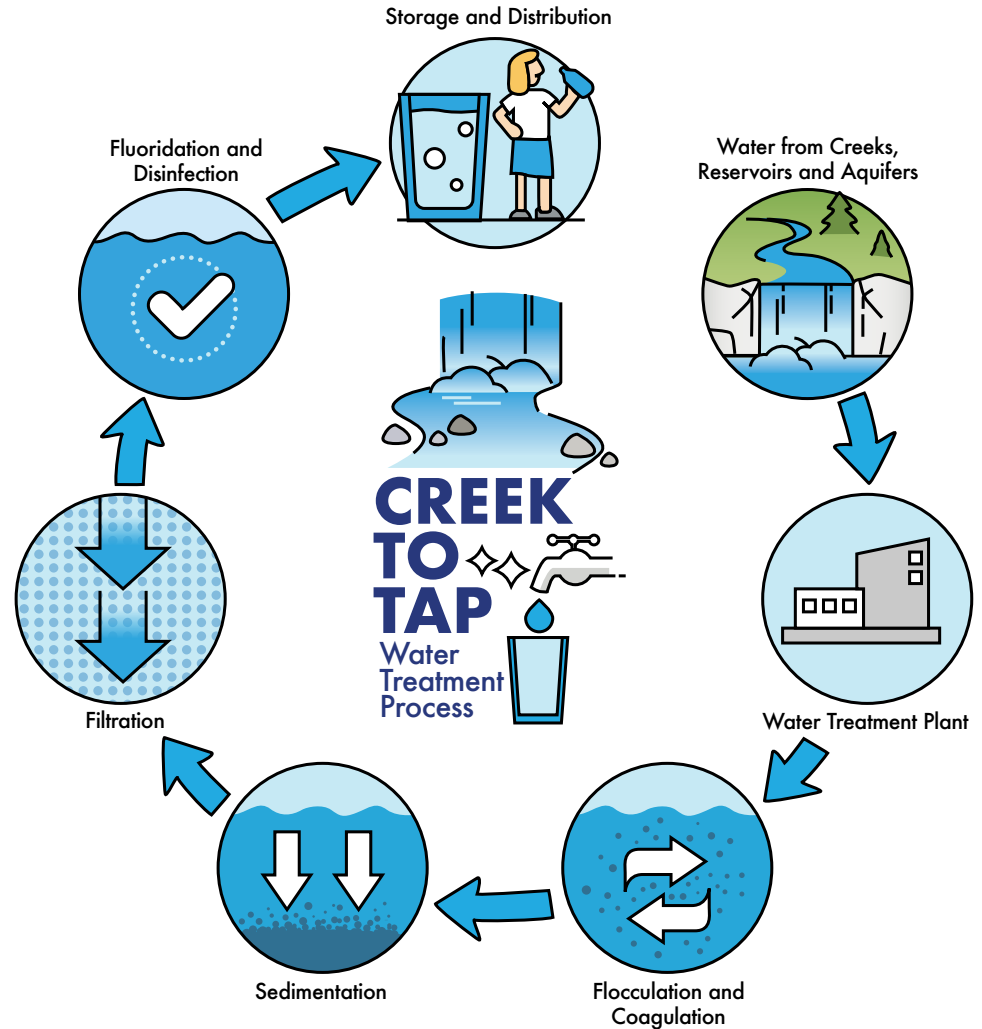
declines, groundwater from wells is mixed with the treated surface water throughout the system. This allows us to meet the increased summer water demand and maintain pressure in the water system to ensure fire flow protection for public safety. In this way, we have built redundancy into our system to avoid disruption in service and to provide for future water needs.

## HOW IS MY WATER TREATED?

SLC Public Utilities owns and operates three surface water treatment plants. The surface water treatment for SLC Public Utilities uses 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. Because of SLC Public Utilities' excellent groundwater resources, groundwater does not require special treatment.

In 2022, we received a \$36.6M grant and are developing plans to upgrade the City Creek Water Treatment Plant, which is the first municipal water treatment plant built in the State of Utah. For more information, visit

[www.keepitpurecitycreek.com](http://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. 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 healthcare providers. EPA/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 (800-426-4791).

### INTAKE:

Water from Creeks, Reservoirs and Aquifers is directed into the water treatment 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:

Anthracyte 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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. 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 for 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 U.S. EPA and the State require 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.

2023 Water Quality Report (2022 Data)

TREATED SURFACE WATER SOURCES									
	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									
Primary MCL									
Antimony	6 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.00003	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Arsenic	10 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 1.2	ND	ND	1.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Barium	2000 ppb	42	27	48	19 - 107	67.4	68.1	55.7	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Beryllium	4 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Discharge from metal refineries and coal burning factories.
Cadmium	5 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.00002	Corosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	4.65	4.75	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	200 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 8	ND	ND	0.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	4 ppm	0.6	0.64	0.6	0.6	0.656	0.692	0.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits. Fluoride added at source.
Lead	15 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.1	Corrosion of household plumbing
Nickel	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	2.43	2.26	0.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Nitrate	10 ppm	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.39 - 4.4	0.259	0.227	1.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Selenium	50 ppb	ND	0.6	ND	ND - 1.4	ND	ND	0.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sulfate	1000 ppm	49.7	8.74	17.8	30.5 - 270	50.3	48.6	40.8	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from road deicing.
Thallium	ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.00001	Erosion of naturally occurring depositsand run off from landfills.
Secondary									
Secondary MCL									
Aluminum	0.05 to 0.2 ppm (mg/L)	ND	ND	0.06	ND - 0.1	ND	0.0142	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and treatment residuals.
Chloride	250 ppm	0	8.07	58.37	17.7 - 221	29.7	30.6	40.0	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Color	CU							0.3	
Conductance/ Conductivity	umhos/cm	330	391.36	509	369-1277	433	446		Naturally Occuring
Copper	1300 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	8.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Iron	0.3 ppm	ND	0.06	ND	ND	0.149	0.222	0.01	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Manganese	50 ppb	ND	0.19	3.2	ND	ND	ND	0.1	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
pH	6.5 to 8.5	7.8	7.86	7.73		7.45	7.81	7.7	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
TDS	500 ppm*	231	221	328	180 - 868	236	246	249	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Zinc	5 ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.06	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
* If TDS is greater than 1000 mg/l the water management must demonstrate that no better water is available.									
Unregulated Parameters - Monitoring not required									
Unregulated									
Alkalinity, Bicarbonate	UR-ppm	130	185	153	111-257	114		144.6	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Carbonate	UR-ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND	120		0.3	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, CO2	UR-ppm	-	-	-	ND - 0.05	-	-	102.8	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Total (CaCo3)	UR-ppm	101	193	154	111-257	114	121	128.6	Naturally occurring.
Ammonia	ppm								
Bromide	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.05	11.84	ND	128.6	Naturally occurring.
Boron	ppb							ND	
Calcium	UR-ppm	38.9	53.2	58.2	36.1 - 135	131		44.1	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Calcium	UR-ppm					131	133	111.7	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Total	UR-ppm	145	195	184	146 - 620	172	178	174.9	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
grains /gallon	Calculated	8.5	11.4	10.8	8.5 - 36				Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Magnesium	UR-ppm	14.1	15	9.4	12.4 - 45.6	ND	ND	15.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Molybdenum	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	1.97	1.34	ND	By-product of copper and tungsten mining.
Orthophosphates	UR-ppm	0.025	0.024	ND	ND - 0.06	ND	ND	1.0	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Potassium	UR-ppm	0.9	0.5	0.8	1.3 - 3.1			2.8	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sodium	UR-ppm	18.2	4.6	32.8	10 - 55.7	18.2	11.9	20.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Turbidity	UR-NTU	0.19	0.06	0.28	0.38 - 1.37	0.03	0.033	0.5	Suspended material from soil runoff.
Vanadium	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	1.04	1.36	ND	Naturally occurring.
VOC's									
Chloroform	UR-ppb	4.2	2.9	2.5	ND	ND	ND	7.9	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Dibromochloromethane	UR-ppb	ND	ND	0.8	ND	ND	ND	0.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Bromodichloromethane	UR-ppb	1.2	1.1	ND	ND	ND	ND	2.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
All Other Parameters	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	
PESTICIDES/PCBs/SOCs									
All Parameters		ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Various sources.



RADIOLOGICAL									
Radium 228	NE	-0.15	-0.165	-0.04	-0.24 to 0.9	0.12	0.55	0.4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross-Alpha	15.0	2.3	0.1	1.9	-0.4 to 3.9	1.5	-0.7	2.8	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
ORGANIC MATERIAL									
Total Organic Carbon	TT	0.735	0.6425	1.72	0.5 - 0.7	1.62	1.92	2.0	Naturally occurring.
Dissolved Organic Carbon	TT	0.729	0.681	1.27		1.63	1.91	ND	Naturally occurring.
UV-254	UR-1/cm	0.012	0.014	0.025	0.03 - 0.05	0.02	0.017	0.020	This is a measure of the concentration of UV-absorbing organic compounds. Naturally occurring.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM COMPLIANCE							
DISINFECTANTS / DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	MCL	SLC Range Avg	SLC Range	MWDSLS Little Cottonwood Avg	MWDSLS Point of the Mountain WTP Avg	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JWWCD) Avg	
Chlorine	4 ppm (MRDL)	0.59	0.01 - 1.03	0.9	0.71	0.7	Drinking water disinfectant.
TTHMs	80 ppb	33	13.64 - 50.7	11.3	27.8	22.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5s	60 ppb	25.04	11.06 - 36.7	11.1	31.4	14.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA6	UR	31.68	12.2 - 45.6	12.6	35.3		By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Bromate	ppb			ND	ND	ND	
Chlorine Dioxide	ppb					0.04	
Chlorite	ppm					0.5	

MICROBIOLOGICAL (Distribution System)	Presence/ Absence	# Samples	% positive	Highest Monthly %	
Total Coliform (percent positive)	Not >5%	3,480	0.00%	0.00%	MCL is for monthly compliance. All repeat samples were negative; no violations were issued. Human and animal fecal waste, naturally occurring in the environment.
<i>E.coli</i> (percent positive)	0.00	34.75	0.00%	0.00%	

\*SLCDPU sets a goal of 0.1 NTU turbidity. All SLC Water Treatment Plans received the Partnership for Safe Water 15-year Directos's Award for superior water quality.

The table lists all of the parameters in the drinking water detected by Salt Lake City Public Utilities or its suppliers in the drinking water during the calendar year of this report. The presence of these parameters in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For certain parameters, EPA and/or the State requires monitoring at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently.

## 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.

## IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

**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.

**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.

**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

## CONSERVATION

Salt Lake City Water Conservation Plan 2020 provides information on water supply, historic water demand, and establishes water conservation goals. It also describes the dozens of water conservation programs and practices that will help us achieve our short and long-term conservation goals. Since the beginning of our Conservation Program in 2001, we have reduced water use by more than 27 percent. 2022 saw a continuation of a multi-year drought, resulting in a declaration of Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Response Plan for most of the year. Thanks to the efforts of our customers, we reduced water use by over 2.7 billion gallons—this followed a reduction of 2.2 billion gallons in 2021. These water use reductions, coupled with SLC Utilities' efforts in water resource planning and management, ensured that our community had adequate water to meet our needs.

We are engaged with many stakeholders to understand and prepare for annual variations in climate as well as potential long-term climate change scenarios. Regardless of snow totals, spring runoff, or supply levels, please remember—we are situated in an arid climate and conservation is always the best practice. To support our customer's efforts, this past year we sold rain barrels, low-water grass seed, participated in the Localscapes and Flip Your Strip programs, as well as continuing our partnership with USU and MWDSLS to offer Water Checks throughout our service area. Visit [www.slc.gov/utilities/conservation](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/conservation) to learn about our water conservation programs and how you can help.

Water conservation is an important action every individual can take to steward water resources. In particular, as our Great Salt Lake is in danger of ecological collapse due to lack of water, conserving water is also one of the most important strategies we can take to help provide more water for the Great Salt Lake.



## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

After the water leaves the treatment plants and wells, SLC Public Utilities routinely samples the water in the distribution system to monitor the quality of water as it travels from the source to your tap. SLC Public Utilities conducts tests on over 170 individual contaminants to ensure it meets all state and federal standards from our water sources and throughout the distribution system. Last year we conducted more than 18,000 tests.

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

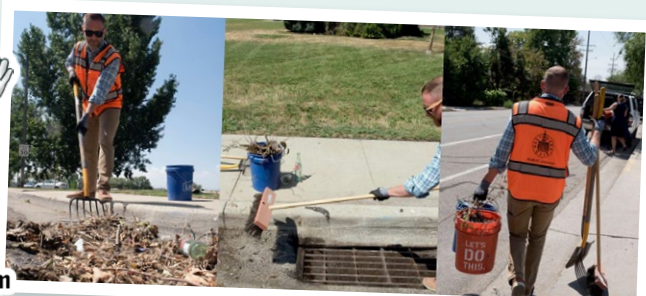
treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides 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, U.S. 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.



**We All Live Downstream**  
stormwatercoalition.org

## STORMWATER

SLC Public Utilities monitors stormwater discharges to ensure that stormwater is as clean as possible before discharging to our creeks and rivers. Storm drains can easily become clogged with plastic bottles, leaves, and more. This can lead to localized flooding or pollution in local waterways. The Adopt A Storm Drain Program allows volunteers to contribute to cleaner communities and healthier waterways by signing up to clean a storm drain of their choice. For more information or to volunteer go to [www.slc.gov/utilities/adoptastormdrain/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/adoptastormdrain/) If you observe a clogged storm drain or illegal discharge, please report the incident to 801.483.6700 (SLC Public Utilities 24-hour dispatch) or 801.580.6681 (Salt Lake County Health Department 24-hour hotline).



## WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR WASTEWATER?

It is time to clean up your flushing habits. Did you know that “flushable” wipes are not so flushable? Those soft and durable moisturized wipes that are so convenient and leave you feeling clean and fresh are wreaking havoc on our sanitary sewer system. Every year, Utah homeowners and sewer systems throughout the US spend millions of dollars unclogging pipes and repairing damage caused by backups resulting from people flushing wipes marketed as “flushable” down the toilet. Keep Your Flush Pure- Follow The 3P Rule.

**3P Rule: Only three things belong in the toilet – poo, pee, paper.**

SLC Public Utilities maintains more than 660 miles of sanitary sewer pipelines throughout Salt Lake City and treats more than 30 million gallons of sewage every day at our Water Reclamation Facility. Fats, oils, and greases (FOG) and other non-sewage discharges from commercial and residential kitchens commonly stick to the pipes and cause blockages and backups. Please dispose of FOG and other food waste in trash receptacles or compost rather than in the sink and down the drain. Working together, we can keep our sewers flowing smoothly.

## IT'S TIME TO CLEAN UP YOUR FLUSHING HABITS





LEAD AND COPPER

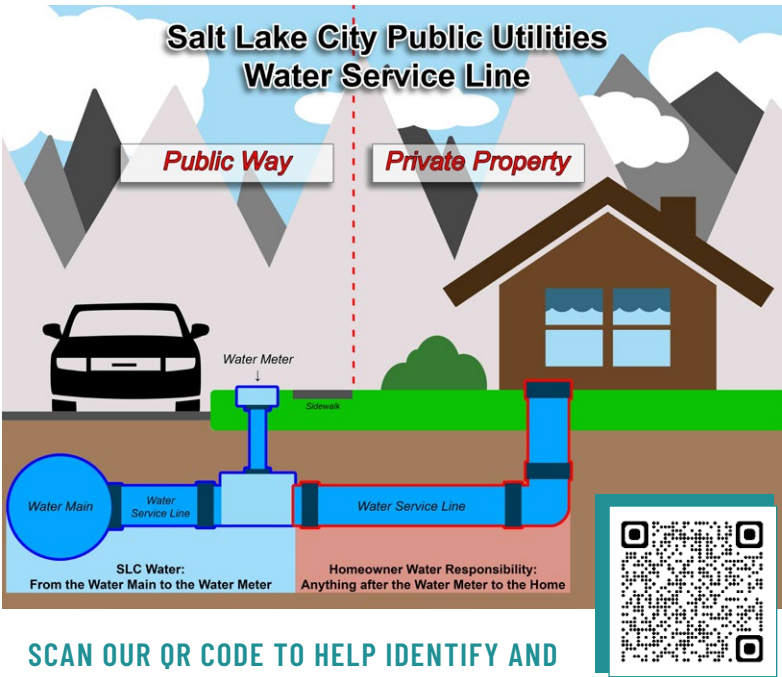
If present, elevated levels of Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. SLC Public Utilities is responsible for providing high-quality drinking 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. 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 385-419-5972 or by email at [lead@slcgov.com](mailto: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 [Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water | US EPA](#).

Service lines bring water into a home or building from SLC Public Utilities main delivery pipe in the street and are typically shared in ownership between the homeowner (from the meter to the house) and the city (from the city main to the meter). Service lines composed of lead have been determined to have a significant impact on lead in drinking water. Homes built prior to 1951 are more likely to have lead service lines. Homes built before 1986 may have lead service lines or lead solder connecting copper pipes in their plumbing. Faucets and fixtures made before 2014 do not meet today’s “lead-free” requirements.

If your residence was built prior to 1986 and you would like to help SLC Public Utilities identify the material of your service line please complete the form at [www.slc.gov/utilities/leadandcoppersurvey/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/leadandcoppersurvey/) additional inquires please call or text our lead hotline at 385-419-5972, or email [lead@slcgov.com](mailto:lead@slcgov.com). For more information including how to reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water, visit [www.slc.gov/utilities/leadandcopper](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/leadandcopper).

ARTESIAN WELL PARK / LIBERTY PARK

Artesian Well and Liberty Park fountains are not part of the SLC Public Utilities’ drinking water system but are routinely monitored by Public Utilities. These natural water sources meet federal and state requirements for drinking water. However, low levels of perchlorate, a compound that may be naturally occurring or related to explosives manufacturing, have been detected in the 800 South 500 East Artesian Well. The levels detected are below what the EPA considers a concern, and this compound is not currently regulated in Utah. For more information on the artesian well parks, please visit Artesian Well Park | Public Lands Department ([slc.gov](http://slc.gov)) If you have questions about the water quality data, please contact us.



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

Under the EPA Lead and Copper Rule, public water systems take part in annual to triennial lead and copper sampling and analysis from high-risk homes. These high-risk homes are known to contain lead and/or copper pipes and lead solder, which is more likely to contribute to elevated lead levels. Due to the high quality of our water, SLC Public Utilities is on the triennial (three-year) schedule. In 2021, we completed our triennial lead and copper sampling and analysis from high-risk homes. The results detailed below were very similar to our historical levels and in line with those across the state. SLC Public Utilities will be conducting sampling again summer of 2024, to participate please reach out to our lead hotline at 385-419-5972 or by email at [lead@slcgov.com](mailto: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 household plumbing
Copper	1300 ppb	113	1	1	293	56.00	



## 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.



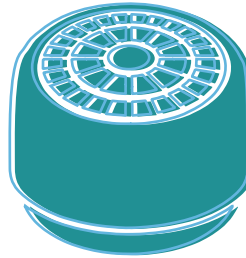
### FLUSH

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.

## CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinklers systems irrigation systems: or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line.

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed control. Garden hoses

that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We survey industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities to make sure that potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and require backflow preventers be tested annually to make sure that they provide maximum protection. For more information on backflow prevention please [www.slc.gov/utilities/cross-connections/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/cross-connections/)

### TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL CROSS CONNECTIONS:



Hose Bibs



Toilet Ball-Cocks



Lawn Irrigation



Swimming Pools



Hot Tubs



## SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

Every day, we admire our Wasatch Mountains and are thankful for all these mountains have to offer to community wellbeing, but how often do we look at our watershed areas and realize they are where our drinking water comes from? The fact is these beautiful mountains that enrich our lives in so many ways produce naturally pure water and provide more than half of the drinking water that more than 365,000 people depend on every day. We are serious about protecting our source waters as the first stage of treatment. Clean water at the start means higher quality water from your tap. We regularly monitor our sources of drinking water as well as prepare source water protection plans.

## SURFACE WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

Our primary source waters are from mountain streams including City Creek, Parleys Creek, Big Cottonwood Creek, and Little Cottonwood Creek, which are in the protected watersheds located south and east of Salt Lake City in the Wasatch Mountains. Salt Lake City Ordinances 17.04 and 17.08 were adopted to protect these mountain streams from pollution. Furthermore, we receive treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy (MWDSLS). In addition to Little Cottonwood Creek, sources of this water include the Provo, Duchesne, and Weber Rivers, stored in the Jordanelle and Deer Creek reservoirs. Over the years, we have successfully implemented our Watershed Management Plan (WMP) and collaborated with our many partners and stakeholders to conserve our mountain watersheds. However, conditions in the watershed areas have changed and these areas face tremendous pressures. Therefore, we are in the process to update the WMP to address these changing conditions. For more information, to get involved, or to see a map of our protected watershed areas visit [www.slc.gov/utilities/watershed/watershedmanagementplan](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/watershed/watershedmanagementplan). In addition, our "Keep It Pure" campaign has helped to educate the community on the value of protecting our watershed and water resources. Please help us maintain good water quality by protecting your culinary drinking water watershed.

## GROUNDWATER SOURCE PROTECTION

Just like our mountain streams from the Wasatch Mountains, our groundwater must be protected. SLC Public Utilities' wells and springs are spread across the valley from Cottonwood Heights to

the mouth of City Creek Canyon. The quality of our groundwater is affected by what happens on the ground above. Actions taken on the surface can impact the groundwater we drink. Salt Lake City Zoning Ordinance 21A.34.060 was adopted to help protect our groundwater resources. In addition, Salt Lake County Ordinance 9.25 helps protect groundwater resources outside of the Salt Lake City boundaries. SLC Public Utilities routinely monitors the quality of the groundwater and remains a concerned and active stakeholder for sites where groundwater contamination has been identified. As such, we work with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, the U.S. EPA, and others to protect our residents and their interests. For more information on protecting groundwater sources, please visit [www.slc.gov/utilities/groundwater-source-protection/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/groundwater-source-protection/)

## SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TIPS

- The protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:
- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach drinking water sources.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sewer system if possible.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

Volunteer by adopting a storm drain at [www.slc.gov/utilities/adoptastormdrain/](http://www.slc.gov/utilities/adoptastormdrain/)



## AFFILIATIONS

SLC Public Utilities is a member of the 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

**SLC Public Utilities Customer Service:**  
801.483.6900

**SLC Public Utilities 24-hour Emergency:**  
801.483.6700

**SLC Water Quality Division:**  
801.483.6832 or 801.483.6765  
[www.slcgov.com/utilities](http://www.slcgov.com/utilities)

**Utah Division of Drinking Water:** 801.535.4200  
[deq.utah.gov/division-drinking-water](http://deq.utah.gov/division-drinking-water)

**Salt Lake County Health Department:** 385.468.4100  
[www.slco.org/health](http://www.slco.org/health)

**EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:** 800.426.4791  
[www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**Teresa Gray**  
1530 S West Temple,  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115  
801-483-6744

