

Historic Drinking Water Action Levels (ALs)
for Chemicals with Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)

NOTE: MCLs supersede ALs. ALs are now called Notification Levels (NLs).

Contaminant	AL/NL (mg/L)	Date ^a	MCL (mg/L)	Date ^b
Inorganics				
Perchlorate	0.018	02/1997	0.006	10/18/2007
	0.004	01/2002		
	0.006	03/2004		
Radionuclides				
Uranium	Revised to 20 pCi/L	01/05/1986 memo	20 pCi/L	01/01/1989
VOCs				
Benzene	0.0007	10/1986 DWP list	0.001	02/25/1989
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.005	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.0005	04/04/1989
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.13	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.6	09/08/1994
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.013	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.005	04/04/1989
	0.0005	12/10/1986 memo		
1,1-Dichloroethane	0.020	03/20/1986 DWP list	0.005	06/24/1990
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.001	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.0005	04/04/1989
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.00010	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.006	02/25/1989
	0.006	12/10/1986 memo		
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.016	01/26/1986 DWP list	0.006	09/08/1994
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.016	01/26/1986 DWP list	0.01	09/08/1994
Dichloromethane	0.040	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.005	06/24/1990
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.010	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.005	06/24/1990
Ethylbenzene	0.680	10/1986 DWP list	0.68	02/25/1989
Methyl-tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	0.035	02/19/1991 memo	0.005 ^c	01/07/1999
			0.013	05/17/2000
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	0.004	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.005	05/1989
Toluene	0.1	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.15	09/08/1994
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.2	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.200	02/85/1989
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.030	10/1986 DWP list	0.032	04/04/1989
	0.100	12/10/1986 DWP list	0.005	09/08/1994
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	0.005	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.005	02/25/1989
Trichlorofluoromethane	3.4	05/23/1986	0.15	06/24/1990
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2- Trifluoroethane	18	05/23/1986	1.2	06/24/1990
Vinyl chloride	0.002	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.0005	04/04/1989
Xylenes	0.620	08/24/1984 DWP list	1.750	02/25/1989

Historic Drinking Water Action Levels for Chemicals with MCLs

Contaminant	AL/NL (mg/L)	Date ^a	MCL (mg/L)	Date ^b
SOCs				
Alachlor	0.0002	10/1987 DWP list	0.002	09/08/1994
Atrazine	0.015	10/07/1985 memo	0.003 0.001	04/05/1989 06/12/2003
Bentazon	0.008	10/07/1985 memo	0.018	04/04/1989
Chlordane	0.000055	08/02/1983 DWP memo	0.0001	06/24/1990
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)	0.001	09/24/1982 DWP list	0.0001 0.0002	07/26/1989 05/03/1991
Endrin	0.00002	09/24/1982 DWP list	0.0002 0.002	1977 09/08/1994
Ethylene dibromide	0.00005 0.00002	08/24/1984 DWP list 06/17/1985 DWP list	0.00002 0.00005	02/25/1989 09/08/1994
Glyphosate	0.5	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.7	06/24/1990
Heptachlor	0.00002	09/24/1982 DWP list	0.00001	06/24/1990
Heptachlor epoxide	0.0001	09/24/1982 DWP list	0.00001	06/24/1990
Molinate	0.020	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.02	04/04/1989
Pentachlorophenol	0.030	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.001	09/08/1994
Simazine	1.505 0.150	10/07/1985 memo 05/1986 memo	0.0100.0 04	04/04/1989 09/08/1994
Thiobencarb	0.010 (health; 0.001 (taste & odor)	08/24/1984 DWP list	0.07 0.001 ^c	04/04/1989 04/04/1989

a. Dates obtained from various source documents, including memos and historic action level lists from the Drinking Water Program (DWP) of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), previously, the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), and from CDHS' former risk assessment entities, the Community Toxicology Unit (COMTU) and the Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Section (PETS). COMTU and PETS were precursors of Cal/EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). DWP is now the Division of Drinking Water in the State Water Resources Control Board. For more on ALs/NLs, go to http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/NotificationLevels.shtml.

b. A date with the month, day and year reflects the effective date for the State MCL; other date formats reflect the fact that the precise dates could not be found.

c. Secondary MCL, based on taste, color and/or odor effects.