

# Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

**2024 Water Quality Report**

**Marine Corps Installations Pacific**

**Combined Arms Training Center, Camp Fuji, Japan**

### Introduction

This is an annual report about the quality of tap water delivered to Combined Arms Training Center, Camp Fuji. The purpose of this report is to provide customers with information about the quality of the drinking water.

### About Consumer Confidence Reports

In 1996, the United States Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), requiring all community water systems in the U.S. to provide customers with an annual water quality report called a Consumer Confidence Report. Last year, over 50 different drinking water contaminants were evaluated for compliance. Only contaminants measured in concentrations above their respective analytical methods’ detection limits are reported in this CCR.

### Safe Drinking Water

Regulations require all installations to test water supply systems for a variety of contaminants. In 2024, CATC Camp Fuji’s drinking water met the Japan Environmental Governing Standards (JEGS) health-based water quality standards. Camp Fuji personnel are committed to providing safe drinking water. The installation’s routine monitoring program ensures optimal water quality on CATC Camp Fuji, strictly following JEGS water quality standards and monitoring requirements.

### Contaminants in Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may contain small amounts of contaminants. The presence of trace amounts of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, naturally occurring radioactive material, and can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, like salts and metals, may occur naturally or originate from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants can occur naturally or as the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates water provided by public water services, dictating the amount of acceptable contaminant levels in public water. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates bottled water content, which must provide the same level of protection for public health. The Government of Japan (GOJ) and U.S. Forces, Japan both regulate drinking water in Japan.

### CATC Camp Fuji’s Water System

Camp Fuji’s installation facilities maintenance division operates and maintains the base drinking water system. A Gotemba-City water tank supplies the water, its source is groundwater under the direct influence of surface water. The Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force, Camp Takigahara’s water section maintains the water tank.

### Monitoring Drinking Water

In calendar year (CY) 2024, Fuji personnel collected samples from various locations in the installation water distribution system and residential taps. They sent the collected samples to an accredited laboratory for a full-spectrum water quality analysis. Lab workers analyzed the water using EPA and GOJ approved laboratory methods verifying that CY 2024 levels did not exceed JEGS maximum contaminant levels.

### Special Considerations

Camp Fuji’s monitoring program minimizes potential health impacts that may occur from drinking unsafe water. However, some people may be more sensitive to contaminants than the general public. For example, the elderly, infants, immuno-compromised individuals such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, and people living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), or other immune system disorders may be more sensitive to exposure to trace amounts of contaminants in drinking water. People with concerns about contaminants in drinking water, especially the groups of people previously mentioned, should seek medical advice from their healthcare providers.

**CY 2024 Water Quality Table for CATC Camp Fuji**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Inorganics** | **Violation?**  **Yes/No** | **Units** | **Highest Level Detected** | | | **MCL** | **AL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Barium | No | mg/L | 0.0021 | | | 2.0 | N/A | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium | No | mg/L | 4 | | | N/A1 |
| Nitrate (as N) | No | mg/L | 0.49 | | | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching septic tanks/sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Total Nitrate/Nitrite (as N) | No | mg/L | 0.49 | | | 10 |
| **Bacteriological** | **Violation?**  **Yes/No** | **Units** | **Highest Level Detected** | | | **MCL2** | **AL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | No | N/A | 0 | | | >1 positive sample per month, or any repeat sample is positive | N/A | Naturally present in the environment |
| **Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts** | **Violation?**  **Yes/No** | **Units** | **Highest RAA** | **Range** | | **MRDL3/MCL4** | **AL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Free Chlorine | No | mg/L | 0.66 | 0.38-0.98 | | 4.0 | N/A | Drinking water disinfectant for treatment |
| Total Trihalomethanes | No | mg/L | 12 | 4.0-8.0 | | 80 | N/A | By-products of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids | No | mg/L | 9.8 | 3.0-10 | | 60 |
| **Lead and Copper** | **Violation? Yes/No** | **Units** | **90th Percentile Value** | | | **Sites Exceeding AL / No. of Sites** | **AL5** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Lead | No | mg/L | <0.005 | | | 0 / 10 | 0.015 | Corrosion from household plumbing systems |
| Copper | No | mg/L | <0.050 | | | 0 / 10 | 1.3 | Corrosion from household plumbing systems |
| **PFAS** | **Violation? Yes/No** | **Unit** | **Highest RAA** | | **Range** | **MCL** | **PFAS AL6** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| PFOS | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND | N/A | 70 | Runoff from industrial processes and fire-retarding foams |
| PFOA | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND-2.4 | 70 |
| PFOS + PFOA | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND-2.4 | 70 |
| HFPO-DA | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND | N/A |
| PFHxS | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND |
| PFNA | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND |
| PFBS | No | ng/L | 0 | | ND |
| Hazard Index | No | ng/L | 0 | | N/A**7** |
| **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)** | **Violation? Yes/No** | **Units** | **Highest Level Detected** | | | **MCL** | **AL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| No exceedance **8** | | | | | | | | |
| ***Notes:***  1. No MCL established for Sodium. Monitoring is required so that concentration levels can be made available upon request.  2. This is the total coliform-related operational evaluation level (OEL). The MCL for *E. coli* is exceeded when routine and repeat samples for  total coliform are positive or when a system fails to take repeat samples following positive samples.  3. The MRDL for Free Chlorine is based on a running annual average of monthly averages.  4. The MCLs for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are based on locational running annual averages of quarterly samples.  5. The AL for Lead and Copper is based on a 90th percentile value – i.e., no exceedance in the AL in more than 10% of all sampled taps.  6. The DoD PFAS policy for overseas installations enforcing new PFAS MCLs begin April 2029. DoD PFAS AL was in effect in 2024.  7. N/A is used here because no PFAS compounds used to calculate the Hazard Index were detected in sampling.  8. 21 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) were monitored in 3rd Q in CY2024. Next sampling will be 3rd Q in CY2025. | | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | |  | | ***Definitions:*** | | **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.  **CY (Calendar Year):** Period of time from January through December. Data reported in the consumer confidence report were for samples collected in the reported calendar year unless otherwise stated.  **HA (Health Advisory):** Health Advisories provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water. The EPA establishes HA levels to provide technical information based on the best available data to public water systems. These levels are non-enforceable and non-regulatory.  **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.  **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.  **μg/L (Microgram per liter):** Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.  **mg/L (Milligram per liter):** Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.  **ND (Non-detect):** Concentration of contaminant below the detection limit or reporting limit of analytical method.  **ng/L (Nanogram per liter):** Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.  **N/A (Not Applicable):** Not applicable for this contaminant.  **ppt (parts per trillion):** Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.  **RAA (Running Annual Average):** Average of all the samples collected calculated within a 12-month period. | | | | | | | | | |

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How do I know if my water is not safe to drink?**

Water suppliers must notify you if your water does not meet standards or if there is a waterborne disease emergency. A notice will describe any precautions you need to take, such as boiling your water.

**Is it okay to drink from a garden hose?**

Water flowing through a hose is safe, but manufacturers treat garden hoses with special chemicals and may contain bacteria and other substances.

**Can I improve my drinking water’s quality?**

Running cold water through the tap for 30-seconds before use helps flush out small amounts of metals that may leach into water that has been sitting in metal pipes for long periods of time. Water used for consumption should always come from cold-water taps. Hot water has the potential to leach metals into tap water.

**Will a home water filter make water safer or healthier?**

Most filters improve the taste, smell, and appearance of water, but they do not necessarily make the water safer or healthier. If you use filters, keep in mind, they require regular maintenance and replacement or the filter itself can impact water quality.

**My water tastes / smells / looks odd. What’s wrong?**

Even when water meets standards, you may still not like its taste, smell, or appearance. The taste, smell, and appearance of water are known as aesthetic characteristics and do not pose adverse health risks. Cloudy water is a common aesthetic complaint. It is temporary and typically caused by air bubbles. Another aesthetic criticism is about that water may taste like chlorine. Allowing water to stand exposed to air for a moment may improve the taste.

**Why does the water sometimes look rusty?**

Rusty or reddish tinted water may occur because of a sudden change in water pressure due to fire hydrant flushing, water main breaks, or other interruptions changing normal water flow. Iron may cause discoloration but is not a health risk. Normal water flow usually clears the main lines within two-hours. If you live on or near the end of a long distribution line, it may take longer for lines to run clear. You can check your water by flushing a toilet bowl three-times every 15 to 20 minutes. Galvanized iron pipes or fittings within a home or building may also cause discolored water. Running the water will clear the piping system. If hot water is rusty, the water heater may need to be flushed.

**Who do I contact if my water smells, tastes, or appears odd?**

A change in your water’s taste, color, or smell is not necessarily a health concern. However, sometimes a change can be a sign of problems. If you notice a change in your water, contact the base environmental section.

**What is a Boil Water Notice?**

CATC Camp Fuji garrison may issue a “Boil Water Notice,” any time there’s a drop in water pressure from a water main break or system maintenance and immediately begin testing requirements. Boil water notices, in these cases, are precautionary and do not necessarily mean that contamination has been detected or is suspected. During routine testing, if total coliform bacteria is detected, garrison staff will issue a Boil Water Notice, as a precaution while corrective actions are taken. In this case, staff test the water repeatedly until corrective measures conclude and garrison leaders certify that it’s safe for consumption.

**Does the water system have a lead problem?**

Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

Japan Environmental Governing Standards state that 90% of samples must be below the action level, and the base water system met that criterion in calendar year (CY) 2024. Camp Fuji’s water system continues to be sampled for lead, and the next samples will be collected in the 3rd quarter of CY 2027. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. When water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap between 30-seconds to 2-minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking.

**What are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and where do they come from?**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals. PFAS have been used in a variety of industries and consumer products around the globe, including in the U.S., since the 1940s. PFAS are found in many consumer products, as well as in industrial products, like certain firefighting agents called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF). PFAS is also found in essential use applications such as in microelectronics, batteries, and medical equipment. PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment, and some are persistent in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.

**Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water?**

On April 26, 2024, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) final rule on drinking water standards for six PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The rule establishes the following maximum contaminant levels (MCLs):

* perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) = 4 ppt
* perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) = 4 ppt
* hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX) = 10 ppt
* perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) = 10 ppt
* perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) = 10 ppt
* HI MCL for PFHxS, PFNA, perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), and GenX = 1 (unitless)

Under NPDWR, regulated public water systems (PWS) are required to complete initial monitoring by April 26, 2027. Beginning April 26, 2027, regulated PWSs will conduct ongoing compliance monitoring in accordance with the frequency dictated by the rule and as determined by the initial compliance monitoring results. Regulated PWSs must demonstrate compliance with the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) by April 26, 2029.

In order to provide safe drinking water to all Department of Defense (DoD) personnel, the Office of the Secretary of Defense policy extends this requirement to all DoD systems which provide drinking water for human consumption, regardless of size of the drinking water system. In addition to the six regulated compounds, DoD-owned systems are required by to monitor for all 25 compounds detected when using EPA Method 533.

Protecting the health of our personnel, their families, and the communities in which we serve is a priority for the Department. DoD is committed to complying with requirements of the NPDWR and the continued provision of safe drinking water to those that work and live on DoD installations.

While the EPA regulation is not applicable overseas, we expect the future DoD policy will still have requirements for overseas installations.

**Did CATC Camp Fuji test its water for PFAS in 2024?**

Yes. In February, May, September and November 2024, samples were collected from facility #190, a water tank. PFOA was detected. One of the 291 PFAS covered by the sampling method were detected in the water system. The results, along with the Running Annual Averages (RAA) for the MCLs and Hazard Index (HI)2, are provided in this report’s table. EPA does not have an MCL for all of these compounds at this time. The RAAs for the regulated compounds are below the trigger levels for the new MCLs.

**What’s next?**

Camp Fuji’s initial monitoring for PFAS is complete, in accordance with EPA requirements. Based on these results, the installation will begin quarterly monitoring required by EPA in the second quarter of 2027.

**Is there a Japanese translation of the CCR?**

The CCR is in English. Contact the Environmental Section at 224-8402 for a Japanese version.

CCRの全てが英文の文書です。日本語訳希望者は環境課までご連絡下さい。基地内： 224-8402 基地外から：0550-89-6102, Ext: 224-8402.

**Where can I find additional information?**

The CATC Camp Fuji, Environmental section webpage: <https://www.fuji.marines.mil/Environmental/>

1. Total number of analytes must be verified against your sample results dependent upon the method(s) used.

2. Hazard Index is a long-established approach that EPA regularly uses to understand health risk from chemical mixture. The HI is made up of a sum of fractions. Each fraction compares the level of each PFAS measured in the water to the highest level determined not to have risk of health effects.