2025 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System: Liberty Packing Company, LLC

Report Date: 05/14/2026

Type of Water Source in Use: Groundwater

Liberty Packing LLC, a food processing and packaging facility located at 12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, in the county of Merced, owns and operates four wells.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: A water source assessment was completed and reported on 12/19/2023. Copies of the assessments are available by requesting a summary.

Time and place of colleague potable water meetings are posted on the Liberty and Morning Star Conference Rooms' Outlook Calendar

For More Information, contact: Tod Harter, phone 209-829-5002, email tharter@morningstarco.com

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and may include earlier monitoring data.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Liberty Packing Company, LLC 12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, 209-826-7100 in Merced para asistirlo en español.

这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 [Enter Water System Name] 以获得中文的帮助: 12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, 209-826-7100.

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa Liberty Packing Company, LLC,12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, o tumawag sa 209-826-7100 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ Liberty Packing Company, LLC tại 12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, 209-826-7100 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu Liberty Packing Company, LLC ntawm 12045 S. Ingomar Grade Road near Los Banos, 209-826-7100 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of contamination is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of contamination in drinking water is below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	The highest level of disinfectant is allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	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.
Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)	MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
Public Health Goal (PHG)	The level of contamination in drinking water is below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set up by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)	MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect health at the MCL levels.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- 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, that 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, that 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, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can naturally occur or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Table 7 is additional information regarding the violation Citation and Compliance Order No. 03_11_26J_004 Lead and Copper Monitoring Violation for #Y 2023 = 2025 Monitoring Period

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform *	1	0	TT = No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
					present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples	90th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	Range of Results	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	08/10/22	5	0	0	0 - 0	15	0.2	Corrosion of plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	08/10/22	5	0.43	0	0 - 654	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	10/14/25	250	82 - 250	None	None	Salt is present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	10/5/23	300	190 - 300	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppb)	4/16/25	168	0 - 168	1000	2000	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Hexavalent (ppb)	10/5/23	6.58	0 – 6.58	10	100	Erosion of natural deposits; transformation of naturally occurring trivalent chromium to hexavalent chromium by natural processes and human activities such as discharges from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production,
Fluoride (Natural Source) (ppm)	7/22/25	0.36	0 – 0.36	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm) **	1/21/26	13.2	0 – 13.2	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks

						and sewage; erosion of natural deposit
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	4/16/25	6.55	0 - 6.55	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Note: There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity	5/22/23	1.7	0.2 – 1.7	5	None	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids	10/5/23	1,100	456 – 1,100	1000	None	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	10/22/23	2,150	923 – 2,150	1600	None	Substances that form ions when in water leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	10/5/23	634	142 - 634	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	10/5/23	124	72 - 124	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

Note: There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects
Boron (ppb)	10/05/2023	1640	475 - 1640	1000	None

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 health care providers. U.S. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Coliform – Specific Language *: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. The distribution system was flushed then sampled and tested. The required repeat sampling and testing concluded coliforms were absent.

Nitrate – Specific Language **: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies.

The well that is the source of the nitrate has been taken offline and a new well is being installed.

Table 7. additional information regarding the violation Citation and Compliance Order No. 03_11_26J_004 Lead and Copper Monitoring Violation for #Y 2023 = 2025 Monitoring Period

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
Lead and Copper Monitoring Violation	Did not sample and test	3Y2023 -2025	Sampling and testing will be completed by June 2026	Lead and copper are naturally occurring elements found in small amounts in Earth's crust. Lead and copper compounds can be found in all parts of our environment—the air, soil, water, and have been used in a variety of products in and around our homes,

				including paint, ceramics, pipes and plumbing materials, solders, gasoline, batteries, ammunition, and cosmetics. These elements have beneficial uses for product manufacturing but can also be harmful when ingested. However, lead can accumulate in the body over time, while copper eventually leaves the body. Lead particles can enter drinking water when plumbing materials containing lead are disturbed by corrosion, removal, or replacement.

Lead-Specific Language: 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 plumbing. Liberty Packing Company LLC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components at our facility. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your colleagues from the lead in our facility's plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within the plumbing and taking steps to reduce your and our colleagues' risk. Before drinking tap water, flush the pipes for several minutes by running your tap, you can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in our water and wish to have your water tested, contact Liberty Packing Company, LLC and Tod Harter, phone 209-829-5002, email tharter@morningstarco.com Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.