



# CAMP LEMONNIER, DJIBOUTI (CLDJ) 2019 DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



01 JULY 2020

## Is our water safe to drink?

Yes! The Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti (CLDJ) drinking water system continues to provide water that is safe and Fit for Human Consumption (potable), as determined by the CLDJ Commanding Officer's Record of Decision dated 05 November 2013 and as routinely confirmed by laboratory sampling results (received monthly, quarterly, and yearly). We are proud to support the Navy's commitment to provide safe and reliable drinking water to our service members and their families. This annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for calendar year 2019 includes general and mandatory information to educate everyone about our water sources, treatment processes, standard requirements, and other details to help assure you that our water is safe to drink.

The managing of CLDJ's drinking water fully complies with the safe drinking water criteria specified in the DoD Overseas Environmental Baseline Guidance Document (OEBGD), which is derived from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water standards. When any OEBGD and U.S. standards differ, the *most protective* requirement is adopted. A detailed list of constituents found in our drinking water is included in this report, along with a comparison to the maximum levels considered safe for the general public by these standards. The CNIC M-5090.1, Navy Overseas Drinking Water Program Ashore Manual, reflecting this stateside requirement, mandates that all overseas installations operating drinking water systems produce a CCR.

## Where does our water come from and how is it treated?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. The CLDJ water supply is provided by groundwater pumped from aquifers underlying the Camp through wells located on site. An aquifer is a body of sub-surface saturated rock that is both permeable and porous allowing water to move through it. Groundwater has to migrate through the pore spaces of rock and sediment to move through an aquifer. There are two aquifers underlying CLDJ: a shallow (15-meter to 49-meter thick) unconsolidated aquifer with total dissolved solids (TDS) concentrations less than 10,000 mg/L, which receives water recharge from the surface water of the Wadi Ambouli located immediately west of Camp, and a deeper aquifer with TDS near 35,000 mg/L. The amount of water in storage in an aquifer is reflected by the elevation of its water table and can vary from season to season and year to year. Currently, there are three drinking water wells at Camp Lemonnier and the groundwater pumped from these wells is piped to an on-site treatment plant.

At CLDJ, pumped groundwater enters a treatment process consisting of several different technologies: filtration, ultraviolet (UV) disinfection, reverse osmosis (RO) and chemical disinfection. The treatment plant, which is called a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU), consists of eight multimedia filters, eight granular activated carbon filters, eight cartridge filters and four parallel RO treatment trains to ensure that CLDJ's tap water meets all aforementioned regulatory requirements throughout the water distribution system.

## Why are there contaminants in drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, or may pick up other substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. As a result, some contaminants may be present in source drinking water. Contaminants may include -

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from wildlife, sewage treatment plants, septic systems, and livestock;
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;



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- **Inorganic contaminants**, naturally occurring such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
- **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 storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, regulations limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Regular sampling is conducted to detect the level of contaminants in the water system. If the results are above regulatory limits, you will be notified by e-mail and Public Notification. You can learn more about contaminants and any potential health effects by visiting the EPA's Drinking Water Standards web site:

<http://permanent.access.gpo.gov/lps21800/www.epa.gov/safewater/standards.html>

## Water System Assessments

In September 2017, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) conducted a comprehensive Sanitary Survey of the Camp Lemonnier's drinking water system. Sanitary Surveys are conducted every three years, and provides an evaluation of the adequacy of the drinking water source, facilities, equipment, operation and maintenance for producing and distributing safe drinking water. NAVFAC is continually improving the drinking water system based on the recommendations in the report.

## Some people must use special precautions

There are people who may be more sensitive 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. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water website <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

## Additional information for lead

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. NAVFAC CLDJ Public Works is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water at CLDJ and has direct control over the materials used in plumbing components on the facility. This ensures that no lead service lines or components are used on the drinking water system. As a general safety practice, whenever - and wherever - you plan to use tap water for drinking or cooking, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes prior to use. Information on lead in drinking water and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water webpage [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).



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**Drinking Water Monitoring**

CLDJ's drinking water is monitored for and analyzed (analyzing agency shown in italics) for the following constituents at the frequencies shown below:

**Daily** (*PWD BOSC*) – pH, Turbidity, Residual Chlorine, Temperature, and Conductivity

**Monthly** (*PWD BOSC*) – Total Coliform

**Quarterly** (*Lab*) – Inorganic Chemicals, Nitrate/Nitrite, PCBs, Herbicides, Pesticides, Organic Chemicals, Radionuclides, Disinfection By-Products (TTHM and HAA5)

**Semi-annually** (*Lab*) – Lead and Copper

**Annually** (*Lab*) – Corrosion Control

The water samples are collected from water faucets and fountains located throughout CLDJ. The following table provides the results of the above testing for calendar year 2019 (unless otherwise noted). CLDJ samples for many more chemicals than are found in this table. Only those contaminants detected in the water are presented in the table. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For those contaminants that are not sampled annually, sample results in this table are the most recent required by the applicable regulations.

**Water Quality Data Table** Note \*: Lowest and Highest Sample Reading collected in 2019.

Contaminant		Typical Sources	Unit of Measure	Regulatory Criteria – OEBGD & CNICINST 5090.1		Laboratory Results		
				MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Result*		Violation
						Low	High	
Inorganics	Heavy Metals	Erosion of natural deposits	mg/L	0.0005 to 2.0	0.002 to 2.0	ND	0.02	No
	Total Nitrite & Nitrate	Run off from fertilizer use	mg/L	Nitrate 10.0 Nitrite 1.0	Nitrate 10.0 Nitrite 1.0	1.4 EHT	3.0	No
Radionuclide <sup>1</sup>	Gross Alpha/ Radium-226 and 228	Erosion of natural deposits	pCi/L	NA	5	ND	0.829	No
Microbiological	Total Coliform Bacteria	Naturally present in the environment	NA	0	No more than one positive sample per month	0 Negative	1 Positive	No

<sup>1</sup>: Radionuclide testing done every 4 years. – Next testing in 2020.



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Contaminant	Typical Sources	Unit of Measure	Regulatory Criteria – OEGBD & CNICINST 5090.1		Laboratory Results*		Violation
			MCLG	AL	Low	High	
<b>Copper</b>	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.	mg/L	1.3	1.3 based on 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile results exceeding AL	0.002	0.213	No

**Data Table Key: Unit Descriptions**

mg/L	mg/L: number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ND	ND: not detected

**Important Drinking Water Definitions**

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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
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 systems must follow.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health (4 mg/L of chlorine). 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 (4 mg/L of chlorine). There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.



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## Violations and Exceedances:

A fire hydrant tested positive for coliform bacteria in December 2019. A repeat sample was collected the following day from the same location and it tested negative for coliform bacteria. The single positive test was the only positive coliform test detected that month and in 2019.

Compliance DW Sample Testing as reported in the 2018 Consumer Confidence report were delayed as a result of administrative funding issues. As a result, five sampling events are included in this reporting period to cover all sampling that took place in 2019. No MCL exceedances were reported in 2018 or 2019.

## CLDJ Water Conservation is Everyone's Responsibility



Lastly, in a desert environment that we live and work in, it is imperative to practice water conservation, saving water is simple and inexpensive. Practicing a few of the following tips can make a difference in conserving our planet's most precious resource:

- For repair of any water leaks anywhere and at any time; e.g., faucets and toilets, water line breaks. Call DSN: 824-2653 – the Base Operations Control Center (OCC) immediately!
- Take short showers - a 3 - 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Run the clothes washer on a full load. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## Points of Contact

If you have any questions and concerns regarding this report or about the drinking water processes, please contact any of the following CLDJ Installation Water Quality Board (IWQB) members below:

Public Works Officer  
DSN: 311-824-4064

Installation Environmental Program Director  
311-824-5523

Environmental Health Officer/Industrial Hygiene Officer  
DSN: 311-824-4910