

What is the Santa Susana Field Laboratory?

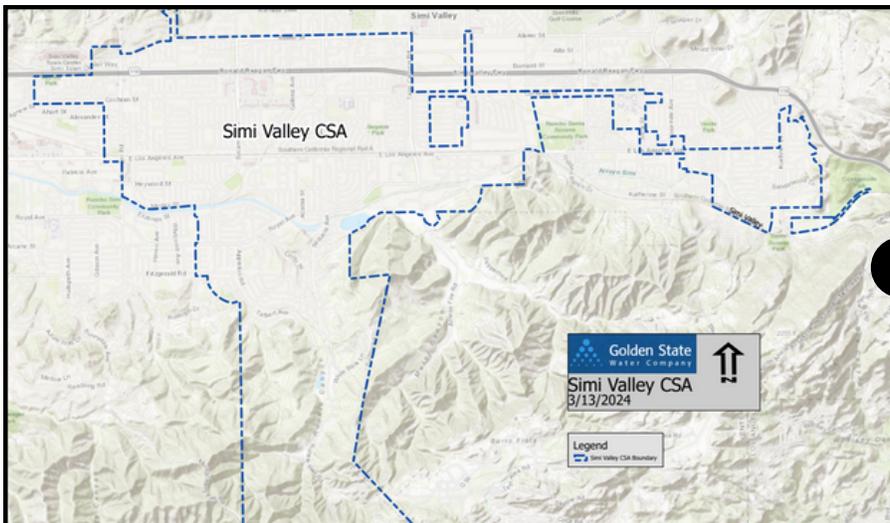


The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is a complex of industrial research and development facilities located on a 2,668-acre portion of the Simi Hills in Simi Valley, which operated from 1949 to 2006 for the development and testing of liquid-propellant rocket engines, nuclear reactors, and the operation of a U.S. government-sponsored liquid metals research center. The SSFL reportedly experienced a partial nuclear meltdown in 1959. Golden State Water Company (Golden State Water) is aware of reports of environmental contamination at the SSFL, including groundwater contamination directly under the site, and understands the community's concern regarding a potential impact on public health. Golden State Water joins the community in requesting reports from state and federal agencies regarding measures to clean up the site. Water regulators have found no evidence that SSFL contaminants have impacted wells serving Golden State Water customers.

Who is Golden State Water Company?



Golden State Water Company (Golden State Water) delivers quality, reliable water to more than 1 million people in over 80 communities throughout California, employing over 500 scientists, engineers, and water experts. Golden State Water has proudly served Simi Valley since 1965, providing quality, reliable water to approximately 13,300 local customers.



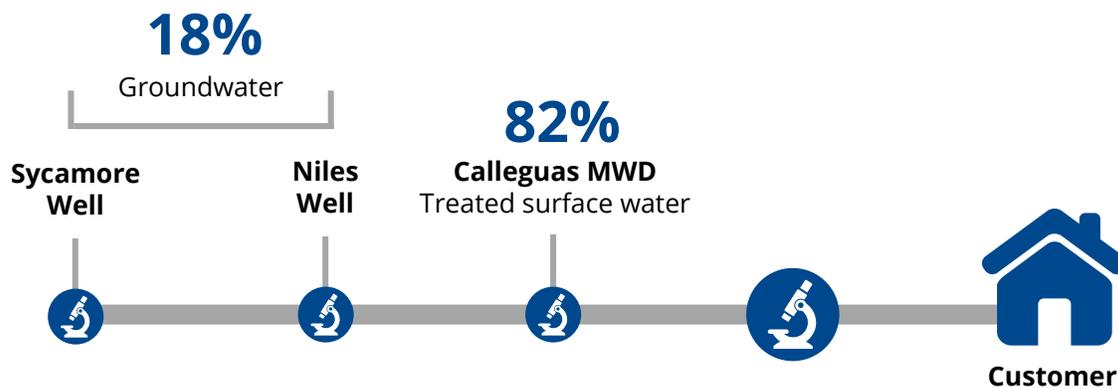
Golden State Water Company
Simi Valley Customer Service Area

Is Golden State Water Investing in Simi Valley's water system?



To fulfill our commitment to quality water and reliable service, between 2019- 23 **Golden State Water has invested over \$14 million in upgrading the treatment and delivery of water to create sustainable, long-term value for our Simi Valley customers.** Proactive investments to replace and protect California's water infrastructure system avoid the costly and sometimes dangerous effects of deferring maintenance or delaying the replacement of aging infrastructure.

Simi Valley's Water Treatment Process



Water Meets Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Standards



Groundwater (18%) is tested and blended with treated Calleguas MWD water (82%) and tested again before distributed to customers

How is Simi Valley's water quality monitored?



Golden State Water scientists, engineers, and water experts have a successful record of protecting our water systems and ensuring the water we deliver to our customers meets the stringent standards set by the state and federal governments, and is safe to drink. We have consistently scored among the top water companies for compliance with water quality regulations. The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW), comprised of highly trained water quality experts, closely monitors all water testing and has confirmed that Golden State Water's water in Simi Valley meets all water quality standards (Maximum Contaminant Levels/MCLs) and is safe to drink for all customers.

What are Golden State Water Company's sources of water?



Golden State Water consistently meets state and federal quality standards when providing its customers with drinking water. The water delivered to customers is treated surface water purchased from the Calleguas Municipal Water District (MWD), which obtains its supply from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This treated water is blended with water drawn from the Simi Valley Groundwater Basin.

Is groundwater the primary source of drinking water?



The customer service area's primary source of drinking water is treated surface water from Calleguas MWD (82%). To ensure that groundwater (18%) from the Simi Valley Groundwater Basin meets the strictest drinking water standards, it is blended with the treated surface water and routinely tested before being delivered to customers. The ratio of surface to groundwater is 5 to 1.



How is water treated and tested?



To meet safe water drinking standards, treated surface water is blended with local groundwater to dilute total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrates detected in the groundwater. TDS are naturally occurring minerals that pose no health risk but can affect the taste of water. Nitrate is commonly associated with agriculture and farming throughout California. Golden State Water routinely tests its water throughout the blending process and before safe drinking water is delivered to customers.

Have SSFL contaminants been found in Simi Valley's drinking water?



The Department of Toxic Substance Control and other water regulators have found no evidence that Santa Susana Field Labs contaminants have impacted wells serving Golden State Water customers. Radiological testing is routinely conducted at Golden State Water's Niles and Sycamore wells. The levels for gross alpha particle activity (a general test that measures the radioactivity of all alpha emitters), uranium (which is an alpha emitter), radium 226, and radium 228 consistently fall below the state's standard (MCL). The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and Golden State Water would take immediate action if there were water quality or safety concerns.

Have contaminants been detected in groundwater and treated?



Golden State Water's drinking water meets all state and federal drinking water standards. We test for hundreds of contaminants in our water systems and consistently score among the top water companies for compliance with water quality regulations. Among contaminants commonly found in water is perchlorate, which forms naturally in the atmosphere and the Southwest United States. It can also be found in some fertilizers and foods. **Golden State Water protects the public's health by reducing perchlorate below the state's detection levels by blending local groundwater with treated surface water.**

Are California's perchlorate standards among the strictest in the country?



California and Massachusetts are the only states to set enforceable perchlorate drinking water standards. Effective January 2024, **California's 2.0 ppb (parts per billion) detection limit for reporting perchlorate to state regulators, local government agencies, and customers was reduced to 1.0 ppb.** Golden State Water has met past and present safe drinking water standards. The U.S. EPA is expected to implement national standards by 2025.





If water standards were not being met, would customers be notified?

The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) monitors all water testing closely and confirms that water served by Golden State Water in Simi Valley meets all water quality standards and is safe for customer consumption and use. **If detection levels of regulated contaminants were to exceed allowable limits, Golden State Water would be legally obligated to inform DDW, local government agencies, and customers.** Golden State Water's annual Consumer Confidence Report would also document such detections.

Can customers review water quality reports for their customer service area?

Golden State Water is fully committed to transparency with its customers, publicly disclosing what contaminants are found in their water before being treated and delivered to their homes and businesses. These water quality reports, otherwise referred to as Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR), are posted on the Simi Valley Customer Service Area website's water quality tab (www.gswater.com/simi-valley). Additionally, all test results and water quality data are posted on the Division of Drinking Water's (DDW) website (sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWW/).

Does Golden State Water recommend bottled water?

Golden State Water does not recommend customers use bottled water as an alternative to its water supply. Your water meets all federal and state water drinking standards.

Does Golden State Water provide water for dust mitigation at the SSFL site?

Santa Susana Field Lab is not in Golden State Water's customer service area. All water provided by Golden State Water for construction meets the same water quality standards as drinking water.



Simi Valley Water Quality Report

Consumer Confidence Report

Visit www.gswater.com/simi-valley (see water quality tab)

