

# CAN YOU TASTE THE DIFFERENCE?



## WATER LIST

tasting notes

### Water-Quality Tasting Tips

- 1. LOOK.** Is the color clear or milky? Reddish, yellowish, or blackish in hue?
- 2. SMELL.** Swirl to loosen aromas. Does it smell earthy, grassy, musty, or like rotten eggs? Is there a methane, phenolic, or chemical odor?
- 3. TASTE.** Sip. Pause. Swallow. How does it feel (smooth? silky?)? Does it taste salty, sweet, bitter, alkaline, perfumed, oily, or metallic?
- 4. VOTE!** Which tastes best...and worst? Cast your vote in person on the community board

and tell everyone about it here:  
 @laurbanrangers  
 #WaterBar  
 @Current\_LA

*How does the quality of the water you drink in L.A. depend on where you live and how much you're willing (or able) to spend?*



### ----- ON TAP -----

Whether locally sourced or imported, these L.A.-area municipal waters all enjoy an advanced brewing process that includes filtration, chlorination, fluoridation, & ozonation.

**“The Westside” Water** . . . . . L.A. DWP  
 A uniquely low-toxic City of LA blend of Northern California waters, with refreshing Owens Valley undertones  
*Sources: Los Angeles Aqueduct, California Aqueduct*

**“The Valley” Water** . . . . . L.A. DWP  
 The same blend of imported waters as “The Westside” brew, but enlivened with a local aerospace-industry hint of acceptable chromium levels  
*Sources: Local groundwater, Los Angeles Aqueduct, California Aqueduct*

**“The Southeast” Water** . . . . . Maywood Mutual (cities of Maywood, Bell, & Vernon) Water Co. #3  
 An assertive industrial Flint-style water, with a dark manganese amber hue & persistent undertones of TCE, PCBs, & vinyl chloride  
*Sources: groundwater, in a heavily industrial area near the Pemaco superfund site*  
 (NOTE: Many residents of these low-income cities south of Downtown L.A. elect to buy the pricier bottled waters.)

### ----- BOTTLED -----

Whether originating from the ground or the tap, these private brews tend to be more expensive—\$150-\$300/keg—but all share the classic polyethylene terephthalate (PET) finish that matures with age.

**Aquafina** . . . . . PepsiCo, Inc.  
 A filtered-tap-water classic, with an earthy aroma of South L.A. & the added touch of PET  
*Sources: Compton area municipal water, supplied by the private California Water Service Group; drawn from California Aqueduct, Colorado River Aqueduct, & local groundwater*

**Glacéau Smartwater** . . . . . CocaCola Co.  
 A French-accent domestic brew of mysterious origins, enhanced by an intelligent distillation process that removes all essential minerals & then adds a few of them back in  
*Sources: municipal U.S. tap waters (most bottles) & groundwaters of unknown provenance*

**FIJI Water** . . . . . The Wonderful Company\*  
 An unusually pure & expensive South Pacific island water, pumped directly from a pristine aquifer into square bottles  
 \*The LA-based water & agribusiness empire that includes POM Wonderful and is owned by Stewart & Lynda Resnick  
*Source: artesian wells, Island of Viti Levu, Fiji*  
 (NOTE: DO NOT confuse with Fiji Island public water! — which is mostly unsafe to drink.)

# Where does your drinking water come from?

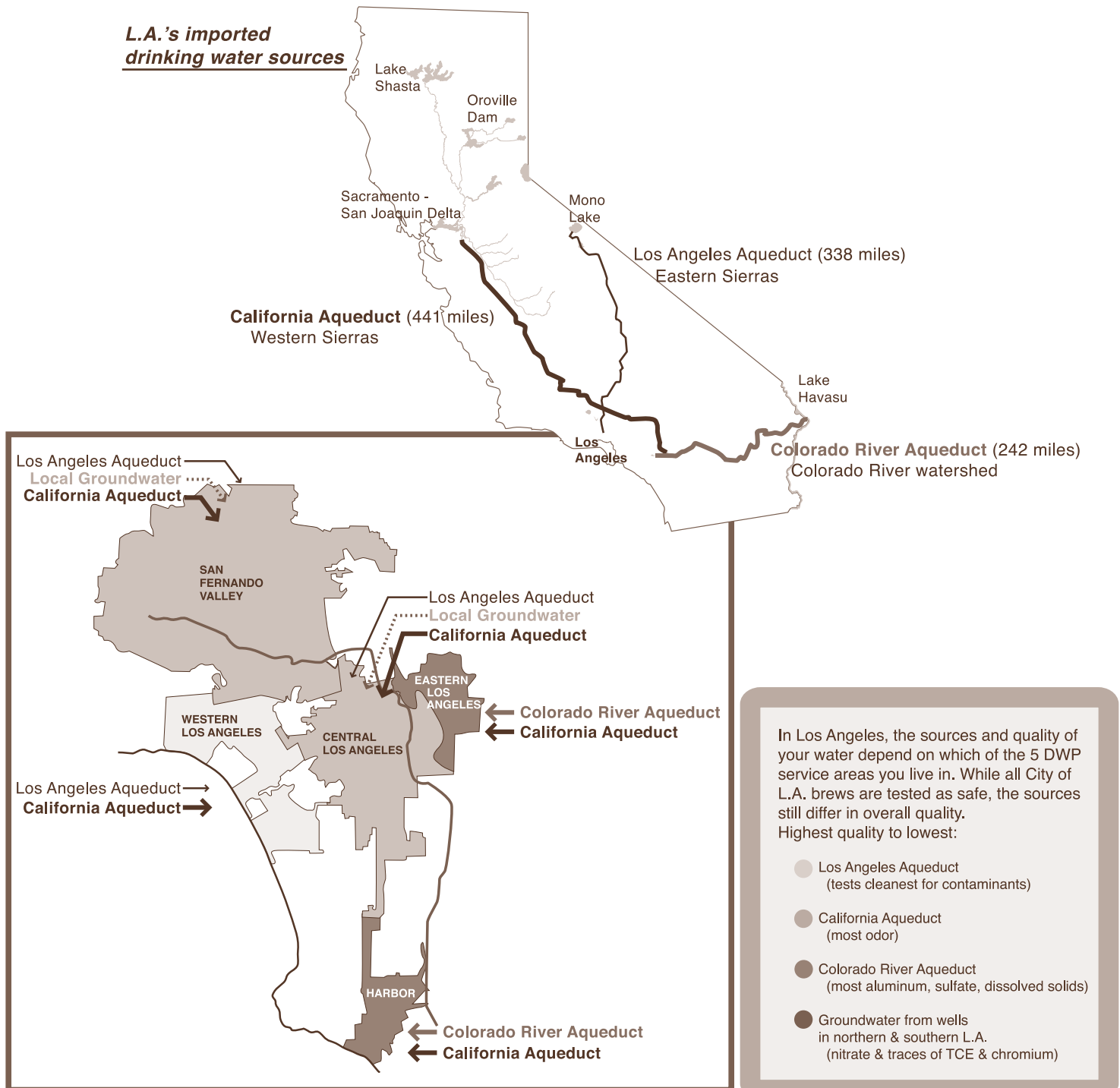
## If you live in the City of Los Angeles. . .

Your drinking water comes from the Western Sierras

\*AND either the Eastern Sierras or the Colorado River watershed

\*AND, if you are in northern or southern areas of the city,  
maybe a little also from groundwater wells

It is supplied by the L.A. Department of Water & Power, a public agency.



Service Areas, L.A. Department of Water & Power (DWP)

For further information, please consult the LADWP Drinking Water Quality Report and MWD Annual Drinking Water Quality Report