

Tap Water Meets Quality Marks

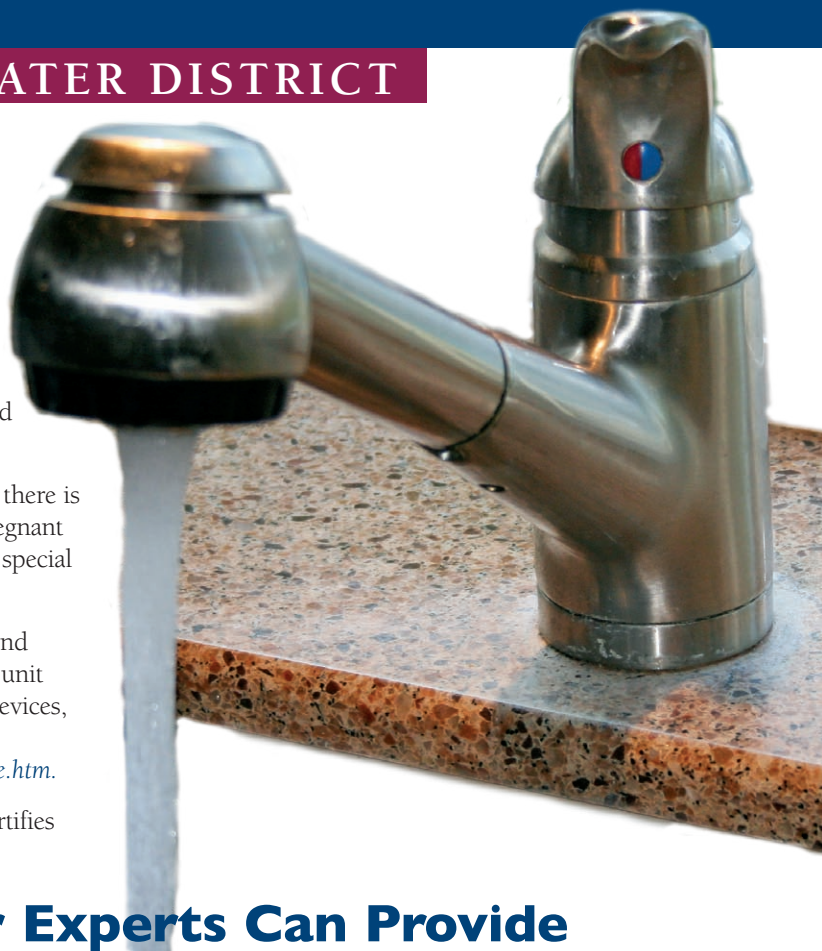
In Comparison to Bottled and Filtered Water

Tap water must meet intensive quality standards set by state and federal regulators—standards that are more strictly enforced on public water suppliers than on bottled water companies.

Numerous studies have shown that unless you prefer the taste, there is no health need to buy bottled water or install filter systems. Pregnant women, infants and immuno-compromised individuals may have special needs and should consult a doctor.

If you own a water treatment unit (such as filters) we recommend regular maintenance because contaminants can build up in the unit and impact health. For more information on home treatment devices, see the California State Department of Health web site at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/technical/certification/device/table.htm>.

You can also reach the National Sanitary Foundation, which certifies home treatment devices, at 1-800-NSF-MARK.




Our Experts Can Provide More Information About Your Water Quality

For more information about your water, contact Dale Armstrong at 879-4678. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA'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. USEPA/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).

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Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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INFORMATION
ABOUT YOUR WATER

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT



Goleta Water District is once again proud to report the results of its exhaustive, ongoing testing program in this annual Consumer Confidence Report. Last year, as in years past, Goleta's tap water was better than or equal to all federal and state drinking water health standards.

The District is committed to providing you, our customers, with high-quality supplies in adequate quantity and at the lowest reasonable cost.

How You Can Get Involved

Our Board of Directors normally meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the District Board Room at 4699 Hollister Avenue in Goleta. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Visit www.goletawater.com for more information.

2006 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

We PASSED the Test— Your Water Meets All Standards Again

Your Water Starts With a High-Quality Source

The main sources of your drinking water are Lake Cachuma and the State Water Project, which are both treated at the District's Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant. In addition, the District maintains a number of groundwater wells as a backup supply.

But that is just the start of the water quality story. Our water quality operators are all state-certified and on the job every day and around-the-clock to ensure your water always meets quality standards.

We conduct thousands of tests each year throughout the water system. Our testing schedule includes daily, weekly, monthly, semi-annual and annual tests.

We use our own laboratory and also independent state-certified laboratories. The accuracy of the testing is astonishing. We can detect some substances at the level of one hundredth of a part in a billion parts of water. This is equivalent to finding one drop of a substance in 1,300,000 gallons of water.



Providing Excellent Water Quality is Our Priority

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Water in the Environment

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, which 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

DEFINITIONS USED IN THE CHART:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that 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 a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standard or PDWS: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

N/A: Not applicable.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

pCi/l: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity units. A measure of clarity.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

µmhos/cm: micromhos per centimeter (an indicator of dissolved minerals in the water).

Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

FOOTNOTES TO THE CHART:

¹ In March 2002 a sample taken at University Well had a detection of 0.9 ppb dichloromethane. University Well was not in use at this time. Subsequent samples taken at this well have been non-detect for dichloromethane.

² Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

³ Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1) Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month; 2) Not exceed 1.0 NTU.

⁴ Conventional surface water treatment plants must remove a certain percentage of the TOC in their raw intake water using a specialized treatment technique. The percentage removal required depends on raw water quality characteristics. For Goleta Water District's raw water source, the required percentage is 15%. Due to the nature of Goleta Water District's raw water source TOC, this is not technically feasible. Goleta Water District has received verbal approval of a waiver from this treatment requirement from the USEPA and the California Department of Health Services, and we are awaiting formal written approval.

⁵ Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA and the California Department of Health Services to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. Goleta Water District completed its required Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) testing in 2001. The data in this section of the report are from 2001.

⁶ Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information call the California Radon Program at (916) 449-5674 or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

Note: The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. All of the surface water and distribution system data presented in the tables are from samples taken in 2005, except for the following. The surface water uranium data was obtained in 1999. The surface water silica data was obtained in 2004. All of the groundwater data presented in the tables are from samples taken in 2005, except for the following. The dichloromethane data is from 2002. The silica, odor, phosphate and boron data are from 2001. The sodium, potassium, hardness, alkalinity, bicarbonate, sulfate, chloride, pH, specific conductance, total dissolved solids, color, turbidity, aluminum, magnesium, calcium, fluoride and trihalomethane data are from 2001, 2003 and 2004. The groundwater gross alpha and uranium data were obtained in 1999, 2000 and 2004. The haloacetic acid data is from 1999 and 2000. The radon data is from 2000 and 2003.

Source Water Assessment Available for Review

A copy of the complete assessment summarized below is available at the District's main office. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting Operations Manager Michael Kanno at 879-4630

A source water assessment of Lake Cachuma was completed in December 2000, as an attachment to the District's Watershed Sanitary Survey Update. This water source is considered most vulnerable to the following activity associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: gas stations and recreational surface water activities. In addition, this water source is most vulnerable to this activity, for which no associated contaminant has been detected: historic mining operations. An assessment of University well and San Antonio well was completed in January 2002. University well and San Antonio well are considered most vulnerable to injection wells. The District operates these injection wells as part of an aquifer storage and recovery project and closely monitors the quality of the treated surface water that is injected. An assessment of Sierra Madre well was completed in April 2003. Sierra Madre well is considered most vulnerable to sewer collection systems. The District closely monitors the quality of the water in Sierra Madre well for the presence of contaminants that come from sewer collection systems as well as other contaminants.

Results of 2005 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables below list drinking water contaminants and other constituents that we detected during the 2005 calendar year. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The District also tested for many additional substances that were not detected, and therefore are not listed in the report. Unless otherwise noted, the data is for testing done January 1-December 31, 2005. The test results show that the District met or was better than all water quality standards.



REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS							
INORGANIC	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	0.099	0.062-0.140	0.018	ND-0.054	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.44	0.38-0.51	0.34	0.24-0.41	Erosion of natural deposits
ORGANIC							
Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	4	ND	N/A	ND	ND-0.9 ¹	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide
RADIOLOGICAL							
Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/l)	15	0	ND	ND-ND	ND	ND-5.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.5	2.5	N/A	2.7	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
LEAD AND COPPER RULE	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	90th Percentile Value	# of Sample Sites	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	0.17	0.27	30	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems	
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	2	ND (< 5)	30	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems	
MICROBIOLOGICAL	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Single Measurement		Lowest Percentage of Samples Meeting TT		Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity ² (NTU)	TT ³	N/A	0.514		99.5%		Soil runoff
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS	MCL or MRDL	PHG (MCLG) or MRDLG	System Average		System Range		Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	N/A	61.0		35.0-95.0		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	23.3		7.5-45.0		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)	MRDLG = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)	0.94		0.28-1.92		Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors (TOC in ppm)	TT ⁴	N/A	2.6		2.3-2.9		Various natural and manmade sources
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH REQUIRED MONITORING ⁵							
CONSTITUENT	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range			
Boron (ppb)	295	260-330	153	ND-320		N/A	
Vanadium (ppb)	ND	N/A	2.35	ND-4.8		N/A	
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLS							
CONSTITUENT	Secondary MCL	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range		Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	500	14.0	N/A	155	16-330		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	15	ND	ND-ND	3	ND-5		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor---Threshold (units)	3	1	1-3	3	ND-5.0		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	1600	842	662-1324	1141	751-1510		Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate (ppm)	500	240	N/A	218	130-265		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	560	N/A	843	620-1020		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	0.13	0.05-2.85	0.64	0.25-1.27		Soil runoff
OTHER CONSTITUENTS							
CONSTITUENT	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range		Variance: Goleta Water District (GWD) serves unfiltered Lake Cachuma water to about 33 connections on the Goleta West Conduit. The water receives chlorination treatment but does not comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR). The State Department of Health Services allows GWD to provide bottled water to these customers for drinking and cooking as a temporary and interim solution. GWD notifies these consumers quarterly that the water delivered is not in compliance with the SWTR and should not be used for domestic purposes. Hardness: Goleta's water supply has natural minerals that cause hardness. While this does not affect health, it does leave spots on dishes and decreases the effectiveness of soap. The hardness of local water generally ranges from 20-23 grains per gallon, which is about 340-400 parts per million as calcium carbonate.	
Alkalinity (ppm as CaCO ₃)	168	100-199	213	153-170			
Bicarbonate (ppm)	205	N/A	236	186-323			
Calcium (ppm)	83	N/A	123	86.4-170			
Hardness (ppm as CaCO ₃)	343	260-414	443	387-573			
Magnesium (ppm)	37	N/A	42	36-50			
pH (units)	7.53	6.93-7.88	7.3	7.1-7.6			
Potassium (ppm)	2.4	N/A	2.3	1.6-2.7			
Radon ⁶ (pCi/l)	ND	N/A	628	560-723			
Silica (ppm)	14.3	14.1-14.4	22	16-32			
Sodium (ppm)	42	N/A	67	47-90			