Educational Information

The California Department of Public Health requires the following language about arsenic and lead to be used by water agencies that have traceable amounts of these substances in their water systems. **These do not apply to the Water Agency's water systems; where found, the amounts do not exceed acceptable federal and state standards.**

Additional information is provided about hardness to help answer customers' frequently asked questions.

It is important to realize that the majority of water quality issues apply to both tap and bottled water.

Arsenic: While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Lead: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems; especially among infants, young children and pregnant women who are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's service lines and plumbing. The Sacramento County Water Agency is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*

Want more information on contaminants and potential health effects?

- Call the USEPA's Safe Drinking and Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791
- Go online to www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html

Information for Sensitive Populations

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 at (800) 426-4791.

For More Information

If you have questions about this report, or would like to request a complete list of tested constituents, please contact us at:

Sacramento County Water Agency
(916) 875-RAIN (7246)

Dave Underwood
Senior Civil Engineer
underwoodd@saccounty.net

Sarah Grant
Supervising Engineering Technician
grantsa@saccounty.net

Aaron Wyley
Senior Engineering Technician
wyleya@saccounty.net

Visit our Web site at
www.waterresources.saccounty.net/scwa

Get Involved!

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors is the governing board of the Sacramento County Water Agency. The public is invited to attend the Board of Supervisors meetings at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday and the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Currently, night meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 6 p.m.

Meetings are held at:

Sacramento County Administration Center
700 H Street, Room 1450
Sacramento

Board meeting agendas are available at the County Administration Center or online at *www.bos.saccounty.net.*

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
WATER AGENCY
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Information You Should Know About Water

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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 by-products 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 be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California Department of Public Health (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.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
WATER AGENCY

Managing Tomorrow's Water Today

Hood, East Walnut Grove, and Delta Estates Water Systems

2012 Water Quality Report

Provided to
Sacramento County
Water Agency Customers

Summer 2013

Photo credit: Henningklevjer / CC-BY-SA-3.0 (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/)

Important Water Quality Information Inside

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Please have it translated or speak with someone who understands it.

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

Information included in this report is required by law to be provided to every water user. For a translation in Spanish, customers may call Juan Perez at (916) 875-6916. Para recibir esta información en español, llame a Juan Perez al (916) 875-6916.

Property owners, please share this information with your tenants.

A Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is a summary of the results of tests conducted to detect contaminants in your drinking water. This report educates customers about the Sacramento County Water Agency's water quality. The California Department of Public Health (DPH) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require all water agencies to provide this information each year.

Of the many tests conducted, only detected elements are listed in this report. The Consumer Confidence Report includes a comparison of the Water Agency's water to the standards set by the California DPH and the United States EPA.

Your water meets or exceeds all state and federal standards.

How to Read the Water Quality Chart

1. Locate your water system on the water quality table.
2. Identify constituents in the left-hand column.
3. Compare the detection range to the state Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or Public Health Goal (PHG), Action Level (AL), Notification Level (NL), and federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) standards.
4. Confirm your drinking water meets all federal and state drinking water health standards.
5. Contact Aaron Wyley, Senior Engineering Technician, at (916) 875-5815 or Sarah Grant, Supervising Engineering Technician, at (916) 875-6881, if you have any questions.

Making Your Water Supply Our Top Priority

The Water Agency provides water to over 50,000 households in 13 water systems throughout Sacramento County, including Laguna, Vineyard, Country Creek Estates, the Grantline area near Highway 99, Mather, Sunrise, Anatolia, Arden Park Vista, Northgate, Southwest Tract, Hood, East Walnut Grove and Delta Estates.

Approximately 85 percent of the Agency's water supply comes from groundwater (wells). Customers in certain parts of the Laguna and Sunrise water systems receive a portion of their drinking water from surface water (rivers, lakes and streams) from the Sacramento and American rivers.

The Water Agency owns and operates 90 wells and 17 water treatment plants. Wells range from 140 to nearly 1,500 feet deep. Our shallowest well (140 feet deep) is located in the Hood water system and the deepest (1,517 feet deep) is located in the Laguna water system.

Source Water Assessment

To help protect the quality of existing and future groundwater supplies, the Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) program calls for examining the vulnerability of drinking water sources to potential contamination. The Water Agency completed this comprehensive report in January 2008.

The Water Agency's report identified the following potential contamination results:

System	Well Vulnerability
Hood, East Walnut Grove and Delta Estates	Most vulnerable to irrigated crops and septic systems
Laguna, Vineyard, Country Creek Estates and Grantline	Most vulnerable to activities including automobile-gas stations; boat services/repair/refinishing; chemical/petroleum pipelines; dry cleaners; fleet/truck/bus terminal; grazing; historic waste dumps/landfills; leaking underground storage tanks; other animal operations; pesticides/fertilizer/petroleum storage transfer areas; plastics/synthetics producers; research laboratory; wells-agricultural/irrigation types; wells-oil, gas, and geothermal types; wood preserving/treating and sewer collection systems
Arden Park Vista and Northgate	Most vulnerable to commercial types of activities such as the dry cleaning business, gas stations, a sewer collection system and a leaking underground storage tank, electronic manufacturers and photo processors
Mather, Sunrise and Anatolia	Most vulnerable to commercial types of activities such as grazing, known contaminant plumes, low-density septic systems, sewer collection systems and wells-agricultural/irrigation types

Please note that the Water Agency completed Drinking Water Source Assessments on new sources in 2008. The data ranges from levels of low to moderate. The complete water source assessment reports are available for review at the Water Agency's Facilities Operation and Administration Office. Please call (916) 875-6919 for an appointment to review this data.

An Explanation of Testing and Reporting Data

A state-certified laboratory regularly tests your water for more than 100 contaminants! The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Public Health (DPH) set the testing schedule. Tests may be done on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. Test results are then compared to state and federal standards to confirm your water meets all drinking water health standards.

We are required to report all contaminants at levels above the detection limit. In the water quality chart, we have only included each contaminant exceeding the detection limit, and the MCL and PHG, AL, NL, or MCLG as set by the California EPA.

Water Quality Definitions

Average: The annual average of all tests for a particular substance.

Detection Limit for Reporting: The limit at or above which a contaminant is detected.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant 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 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.

Range (Lo - Hi): The range between the lowest and highest values of a specific substance measured throughout the course of the year.

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

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

Weighted Average: This is an average of water quality samples in which each sample is assigned a weight. Each sample's contribution (or weight) is based on the amount of water the corresponding water source produces for the whole system. Instead of each of the sample results contributing equally to the final average, some of the results contribute more than others.

2012 Water Quality Chart (See Note 1)

Hood & East Walnut Grove

DETECTED PRIMARY STANDARDS - Mandatory Health-Related Standards Established by California Department of Public Health Services					Hood		East Walnut Grove and Delta Estates	
CONSTITUENT	UNITS	PHG or (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	MCL or [MRDL]	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER	RANGE (LO-HI)	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	RANGE (LO-HI)	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
2 Arsenic	PPB	0.004	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes.	ND - 3	ND	ND - 9.2	3.4
3 Fluoride	PPM	1	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	ND	ND	0.14 - 0.17	0.16
Selenium	PPB	30	50	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)	ND - 9.7	ND	ND	ND
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM								
Chlorine Residuals	PPM	[4]	[4.0]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.	0.52 - 2.08	0.94	0.73 - 1.58	1.14
4 Total Trihalomethanes	PPB	n/a	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	n/a	42	52 - 71	58.3
5 Haloacetic Acids	PPB	n/a	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	n/a	10	17 - 19	17.8
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS					LEVEL FOUND		LEVEL FOUND	
6 Total Coliform Bacteria	# of Positive Samples	(0)	1	Naturally present in the envirionment.	0		2	

SECONDARY STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards Established by California Department of Public Health Services					RANGE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	RANGE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Aggressive Index	AI	n/a	non-corrosive		12	12	11.75 - 12	11.88
Corrosivity (Langelier Index at 60° C)	LI	n/a	non-corrosive	Natural or industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water, affected by temperature and other factors.	0.6	0.6	-0.1 - 0.3	0.16
Color	Units	n/a	15	Naturally-occurring organic materials.	ND - 3	1	5 - 5	5
Turbidity	Units	n/a	5	Soil runoff.	ND - 0.25	0.15	ND - 0.5	0.2
Odor-Threshold	Units	n/a	3	Naturally-occurring organic materials.	ND - 1	ND	ND - 3	1.3
Chloride	PPM	n/a	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.	230 - 230	230	120 - 140	130
Iron	PPB	n/a	300	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.	ND - 93	23	ND	ND
7 Manganese	PPB	n/a	50	Leaching from natural deposits.	**210 - 240**	**225**	ND - 40	26
Specific Conductance (E.C.)	umhos/cm	n/a	1600	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.	1100 - 1170	1114	763 - 802	786
Total Dissolved Solids	PPM	n/a	1000	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.	610 - 700	654	414 - 480	442
OTHER CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED								
pH	Units	n/a	MO		7.9 - 8.2	8.1	8.05 - 8.4	8.3
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	260 - 290	279	46 - 50	48
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	Grains	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	15 - 17	16	2.7 - 2.9	2.8
Total Alkalinity (as CaCO3)	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	190 - 200	195	165 - 201	188
Bicarbonate (as HCO3)	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	230 - 240	237	201 - 240	222
Carbonate (as CO3)	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	ND	ND	2 - 5.4	3.5
Sodium	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	100 - 110	105	150 - 150	150
Calcium	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	69 - 79	75	11 - 12	11
Magnesium	PPM	n/a	MO	Due to chemicals naturally occurring in the soil below the earth's surface.	23 - 23	23	4.45 - 4.9	4.7

LEAD AND COPPER	Units	PHG or (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	AL	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	Number of Sites Exceeding AL
LEAD AND COPPER - HOOD (See Note 8)								
Lead	PPB	(0.2)	15	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufactures; erosion of natural deposits.	2010	6	ND	0
Copper	PPM	(0.3)	1.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	2010	6	0.15	0
LEAD AND COPPER - East Walnut Grove (See Note 9)								
Lead	PPB	(0.2)	15	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufactures; erosion of natural deposits.	2010	20	14	**2**
Copper	PPM	(0.3)	1.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	2010	20	0.95	**1**

EXCEEDENCE — Last year, we conducted more than 40 test to analyze over 40 contaminants per test. The following contaminants exceeded the secondary standards maximum contaminant level.

Contaminant	MCL	Result	SAMPLING DATE	Location	Quality Effects/Source of Contaminant
Manganese	50 PPB	210 PPB	2/15/2012	Third Street Well (W-19)	Leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese	50 PPB	220 PPB	5/16/2012	Third Street Well (W-19)	Leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese	50 PPB	230 PPB	8/15/2012	Third Street Well (W-19)	Leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese	50 PPB	230 PPB	11/28/2012	Third Street Well (W-19)	Leaching from natural deposits.

For more detailed water quality information, call (916) 875-5815.

LEGEND	
AI	Aggressive Index
AL	Regulatory Action Level
LI	Langelier Index
MFL	Million Fibers Per Liter
MO	Monitored Only
MPN	Most Probable Number
NA	Not Analyzed
n/a	Not Applicable
ND	Non Detectable
NL	Notification Level
NR	Not Required
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	Pico Curies per liter
PPB	Parts Per Billion (ug/L)
PPM	Parts Per Million (mg/L)
PPT	Parts Per Trillion, or Nanograms Per Liter
TOC	Total Organic Carbon
TT	Treatment Technique
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

NOTES

1. The state allows SCWA to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. The 2012 Water Quality Data is based on data years 2004 thru 2012.
2. SCWA closely monitors the East Walnut Grove water system and collects monthly samples to test for Arsenic at the Grove Street Well (W-108), the well filters and a point in the distribution system.
3. Standard depends on temperature.
4. Total Trihalomethanes = sum of results for Chloroform, Bromoform, Dibromochloromethane, & Bromodichloromethane.
5. Haloacetic Acids = sum of results for Bromochloroacetic acid, Dibromoacetic acid, Dichloroacetic acid, Monochloroacetic acid, & Trichloroacetic acid
6. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a less than 40 samples per month, the Total Coliform Bacteria MCL is no more than one (1) monthly sample return total coliform positive. According to the federal Ground Water Rule (GWR), the positive sample triggered collection of samples for E. coli at the source well. All source well samples and subsequent distribution samples tested returned negative for total coliform bacteria.
7. Manganese exceeded the MCL of 50 PPB in the Hood small water system. Water natually contains small amounts of manganese. Manganese in food or drinking water presents few adverse health effects; however, elevated concentrations of manganese in water may stain laundry, produce an undesirable odor and taste, contribute to microbial growth and turbidity, or form a coating inside pipes which can peel off as solid precipitates.
8. Hood's Lead and Copper concentrations were obtained from the 90th percentile of six (6) tap water samples taken throughout the distribution system. The MCLs for lead and copper are set at "Action Levels."
9. East Walnut Grove's Lead and Copper concentrations were obtained from the 90th percentile of twenty (20) tap water samples taken throughout the distribution system. The MCLs for lead and copper are set at "Action Levels." Customers who exceeded the Action Levels for Lead and Copper were given the information on testing their water, as well as the names of laboratories. Customers can call for re-sampling their homes or businesses.