



2019 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

VALLEY SPRINGS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

P.O. Box 284, Valley Springs, CA 95252 ♦ 209-772-2650 ♦ www.vspud.com

We're pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is groundwater provided by Well #4 and a new Well #6 which was put into use July 22nd, 2011. Several improvements were made in 2011 including:

- Completion of Well #6 and related facilities
- Completion of modifications to Well #4
- Addition of a 200,000 gal storage tank (Tank C)
- Modifications to Tanks A and B for automation of system
- SCADA system for remote control and monitoring of all District wells, tanks, and pumps

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our office at (209) 772-2650.

Espanol – (Spanish): Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of 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 provide the same protection for public health.

All 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 the 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 1-800-426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbiological 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 a result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

W A T E R Q U A L I T Y D A T A

Valley Springs Public Utility District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected above the DLR during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The table does not include contaminants that were not detected by laboratory testing. Unless otherwise indicated, the data contained in this report are for the monitoring period of January 1st to December 31st, 2019. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the results in this report, though representative, may be more than a year old.

A source water assessment was conducted for Well #4 of the Valley Springs Public Utilities District Water System in February 2002. No contaminants have been detected in the water supply above the MCL, however the source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities:

Grazing (>5 large animals or equivalent per acre)
Wells – Water Supply (other wells nearby)

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:

Department of Health Services,
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch
31 E. Channel Street, Room 270
Stockton, California 95206

You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:

Joseph O. Spano, P.E., District Engineer,
(209) 948-7696

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

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 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 (USEPA).

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.

DLR: Detection Limit for purposes of Reporting. The DLR is set by state regulation for each reportable analyte.

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In a mo.) None	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) None	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) None	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste
(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is <i>E. coli</i> -positive or system fails to take repeat samples following <i>E. coli</i> -positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for <i>E. coli</i> .					

Total Coliform: Water systems are required to meet a strict standard for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If the standard is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public. Valley Springs PUD is pleased to inform you, no coliform bacteria was detected in any of the monthly distribution system samples in 2019.

Table 2 – Sampling Results Showing The Detection Of Lead And Copper Sample Date 6/20/2017						
Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCL G	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	10	<0.080	None	15	2	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	10	0.76	None	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

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. Valley Springs PUD 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead and Copper are required to be monitored every three years. This data is from 2017. During 2018, one school requested us to provide lead sampling.

Table 3 – Sampling Results For Sodium and Hardness						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Dates	Ave Level Detected	Range of Detections	PHG	MCL	Typical Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	3/12/19	24	NA	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	3/12/19	160	NA	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

Table 4 - Detection Of Contaminants With A Primary Drinking Water Standard

Inorganic Contaminants							
Chemical or Constituent	units	Violation Y/N	Ave Level Detected	Range of Detections	PHG	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (Sampled 3/12/19)	ppb	N	130	NA	2000	1000	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (Sampled 3/12/19)	ppm	N	ND	NA	1	2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (Sampled 3/12/19)	ppm	N	2.7	2.9 – 2.5 (Well #4 & #6)	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants Well #4 Sampled 5/9/17 and Well #06 Sampled 3/12/19							
Radiological, Gross Alpha	pCi/l	N Well	1.21±1.01 1.74±1.52	NA	MCLG = 0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts, Treated Water Sampled: 7/11/19							
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)		N	2.5 – 4.6	NA	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Table 5 – Detection Of Contaminants With A Secondary Drinking Water Standard
Sample Date: 3/12/19

Chemical or Constituent	units	Violation Y/N	Ave Level Detected	Range of Detections	PHG	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride	ppm	N	12	NA	NA	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence
Conductivity	Micromhos per cm	N	410	NA	NA	1600	Substances that form ions when in water; sea water influence
Odor – Threshold	units	N	ND	NA	NA	3	Naturally-occurring organic compounds
Sulfate	ppm	N	23	NA	NA	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	N	280	NA	NA	1000	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity	units	N	0.36	NA	NA	5	Soil runoff

Note: There are no PHGs or MCLGs for constituents with secondary drinking water standards because these are not health-based levels, but set on the basis of aesthetics.

Table 6 - Detection Of Unregulated Contaminants

Chemical or Constituent	units	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Detections	PHG	Action Level	Health Effects
Boron (Sampled 5/14/19)	ppb	N	240	NA	NA	1000	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Valley Springs PUD is pleased to inform you, there were no violations to report in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6.

Asbestos was sampled in 1/27/2015 and was none detected. Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.

On 3/13/2018, 5/8/2018, 8/14/2018, & 11/13/2018, Synthetic Organic Contaminates was sampled to meet regulatory sampling requirements. The results were less than the reporting limits with none detection.

Chemical	Detected Level	Health Effects Language
1,2,3-Trichloropropane (ng/L or PPT)	ND	Some people who drink water containing 1,2,3-trichloropropane in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

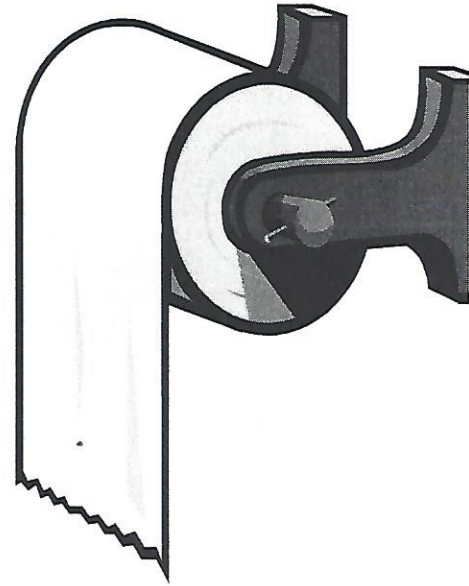
Report prepared 05/10/2020 by Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc., using *CCR Guidance for Water Suppliers* available at, http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/CCR.shtml, employing due diligence with instructions given. Data contained in this report are based on the analytical results generated by Alpha Analytical Laboratories and its subcontract laboratories.

What Not To Flush

Valley Springs sewer plant has seen recent blockages specifically caused by tampons and their applicators, condoms, and underwear and diapers.

Our sewers are not designed to cope with modern disposable products. The drains connecting your home to the main sewer are only big enough to carry water, toilet paper, and human waste.

Excessive blockages can result in future increases in sewer charges for residents. Help us keep your costs down by watching what you flush.



What to flush: Body waste and toilet paper - that's it.

Do Not Flush:

Ammonia
Baby Wipes
Bleach
Cat Litter
Cigarettes
Coffee grounds
Cooking Oil
Condoms
Cotton Swabs
Dental Floss

Detergents
Diapers / Underwear
Dirt
Drain Cleaners
Dryer Sheets
Epsom Salts
Fats, Oil, Grease
Food Scraps
Hair
Latex Gloves
Lint
Liquor

Motor oil
Panty Liners
Paper Towels
Pesticides
Photo Chemicals
Plastic Bags
Pool Chemicals
Prescriptions
Sanitary Napkins
Scraps
Swiffer Dusters
Tampons & applicators



Provided by:

VALLEY SPRINGS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

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