

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: Aspendell Mutual Water Company

Report Date: June 2, 2021

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater wells

Name and General Location of Source(s): Well 1N and Well 2 S both located adjacent to subdivision

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: The source water assessments were updated in May 2015.

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: Annually on the first Saturday in July. In Aspendell or on Zoom.

For More Information, Contact: AMWC Board 760 873-5456

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Aspendell Mutual Water Company a 760-873-5456 para asistirlo en español.

Terms Used in This Report

| Term | Definition |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Level 1 Assessment | A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system. |
| Level 2 Assessment | A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an <i>E. coli</i> MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions. |
| 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 |

| Term | Definition |
|--|--|
| | Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). |
| 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. |
| Regulatory Action Level (AL) | The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. |
| 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. |
| Treatment Technique (TT) | A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |
| Variances and Exemptions | Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions. |
| ND | Not detectable at testing limit. |
| ppm | parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) |
| ppb | parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) |
| ppt | parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L) |
| NTU | nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of cloudiness) |
| µs/cm | microSiemens per centimeter (a measure of electric conductivity) |
| pCi/L | picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation) |

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

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 byproducts 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.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected 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 State Board 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 data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

| Microbiological Contaminants | Highest No. of Detections | No. of Months in Violation | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source of Bacteria |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|------|--------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform Bacteria (State Total Coliform Rule) | (In a month) 5 | 1 | 1 positive monthly sample ^(a) | 0 | Naturally present in the environment |
| Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (State Total Coliform Rule) | (In the year) 0 | 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 | None | Human and animal fecal waste |

| Microbiological Contaminants | Highest No. of Detections | No. of Months in Violation | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source of Bacteria |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----|------|------------------------------|
| <i>E. coli</i> (Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule) | (In the year) 0 | 0 | (b) | 0 | Human and animal fecal waste |

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL

(b) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

| Lead and Copper | Sample Date | No. of Samples Collected | 90 th Percentile Level Detected | No. Sites Exceeding AL | AL | PHG | No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-----|-----|---|---|
| Lead (ppb) | 9/23/2020 | 5 | ND | 0 | 15 | 0.2 | 0 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 9/23/2020 | 5 | 0.15 | 0 | 1.3 | 0.3 | Not applicable | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |

Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------|------------|--|
| Sodium (ppm) | 9/4/2019 | 8.55 Avg | 5.1-12 | None | None | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring |
| Hardness (ppm) | 9/4/2019 | 46 Avg | 45-47 | None | None | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring |

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|---|
| Arsenic (ppb) | 9/23/2020 9/4/2019 | 5.65 avg. | 3.9-7.4 | 10 | 0.004 | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes |
| Fluoride | 9/4/2019 | 0.555 Avg | 0.15-0.96 | 2.0 | 1 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 8/8/2015 | 5.37 Avg | N/A | 15 | (0) | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium (pCi/L) | 8/8/2015 | 7.0 Avg | 5.8-8.2 | 20 | 0.43 | Erosion of natural deposits |

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | SMCL | PHG (MCLG) | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|------|------------|---|
| Color (Units) | 10/2/2019 | 2.5 Avg | ND-5 | 15 | N/A | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Chloride (ppm) | 9/4/2019 | 3.1 Avg | ND-6.2 | 500 | N/A | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Specific Conductance (µS/cm) | 9/4/2019 9/23/2020 | 140 Avg | 120-160 | 1600 | N/A | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence |
| Sulfate (mg/L) | 10/2/2019 | 22.5 Avg | 22-23 | 500 | N/A | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) | 9/4/2019 | 91 Avg | 72-110 | 1000 | N/A | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |
| Turbidity (NTU) | 9/4/2019 | 0.43 Avg | 0.23-0.62 | 5 | N/A | Soil runoff |

Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | Notification Level | Health Effects Language |
|---|-------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| None | | | | | |

Additional General Information on Drinking 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA'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. U.S. EPA/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).

Lead-Specific Language: 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. Aspendell Mutual Water Company 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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/lead>.

Additional Special Language for Nitrate, Arsenic, Lead, Radon, and *Cryptosporidium*:

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.

Our water contains an average fluoride level of 0.55 mg/L. You may want to contact your child's pediatrician and/or dentist with this information to help them determine if fluoride supplements or treatments are needed.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Effective April 1, 2016, all water systems are also required to comply with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. The new federal rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli

bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system.

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

Table 7. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement

| Violation | Explanation | Duration | Actions Taken to Correct Violation | Health Effects Language |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Exceeded MCL for Coliform | Unknown source of Coliform was in the water system | 1 month in November 2020 | Chlorinated reservoir | People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. |

For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water

Table 8. Sampling Results Showing Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples

| Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected) | Total No. of Detections | Sample Dates | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|-------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>E. coli</i> | 0 | N/A | 0 | (0) | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Enterococci | 0 | N/A | TT | N/A | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Coliphage | 0 | N/A | TT | N/A | Human and animal fecal waste |

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Violation of a Groundwater TT

Special Notice of Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Sample: N/A

Special Notice for Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies: N/A

Table 9. Violation of Groundwater TT

| Violation | Explanation | Duration | Actions Taken to Correct Violation | Health Effects Language |
|-----------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption

This system did not operate under a variance or exemption during 2020.

Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct 1 Level 1 assessment. 1 Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take 1 corrective action and we completed 1 of these action.

During the past year 0 Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. 0 Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take 0 corrective actions and we completed 0 of these actions.

Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. We did not find *E. coli* bacteria in our water and therefore did not complete a Level 2 assessment.