





Finally, Californians can breathe a sigh of relief! Governor Brown has declared the Drought State of Emergency over for most counties in California, including ours! **BUT...** he has directed the State Water Resources Control Board ("Board") and water suppliers to continue water use restrictions and prohibitions for the goal of "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life". The purpose of this is to require all Californians to achieve a 20% water usage reduction (based on a comparison with a 10-year water usage average for each Customer Category), as established by the State Law Senate Bill X7-7 ("SB X7-7"), also known as the "20x2020 Plan" or the "Water Conservation Act of 2009". In response to the requirements of the Board and the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC"), Alco will maintain the necessary rate structures and other pricing mechanisms (including but not limited to surcharges, fees, and penalties) to maximize water conservation consistent with the requirements of the Governor, SB X7-7, the Board and the CPUC.

Due to the success of Alco and its customers in meeting the prior mandatory water conservation goals in the more stringent Stage 3 of its Rule and Schedule 14.1 (Water Conservation and Mandatory Staged Water Use Prohibitions and Reduction Plan ("Plan")), Alco was able to move to Stage 1 of its Plan, which is designed to achieve the goals of SB X7-7. Stage 1 brings with it new Water Budgets, a lower Water Conservation Surcharge for all water usage in excess of your Water Budget (now at \$2.7875/ccf rather than the Stage 3 amount of \$5.575/ccf), permanent water use restrictions, and reduced penalties for violations of water use restrictions and prohibitions.



### STAGE 1 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

1) Using a hose without a shut-off nozzle or other device that will immediately stop the flow of water when not in use is prohibited.

2) Customers are allowed to irrigate turf, lawn or ornamental landscapes on any day, however irrigation must be done prior to 6AM or after 9:30PM to avoid water loss due to evaporation or windy conditions.

3) Customers are not allowed to irrigate turf, lawn or ornamental landscapes during, and 48 hours following, measurable precipitation.

4) Watering outdoor landscapes in a way that causes water to flood, pool or "runoff" onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, stairways, roadways, gutters, waterways, patios, driveways, parking lots, or structures is prohibited.

5) Customers are not allowed to irrigate turf, lawn or ornamental landscapes on public street medians with potable water.

6) Customers are not allowed to irrigate outside of newly constructed homes and buildings with potable water without a drip or microspray system.

7) Washing a vehicle, with a hose without a shut-off nozzle or other device that will immediately stop the flow of water when not in use is prohibited.

8) Using drinking water to wash buildings, structures, roadways, driveways, private and public walkways, stairways, patios, parking areas, tennis courts, or other hard surfaced areas is prohibited.

9) Using drinking water for construction purposes, including dust control or earth compaction, unless pre-authorized by the utility, is prohibited; such authorized use may never be unreasonable or excessive.

10) Using drinking water in a fountain or other decorative water feature, except where the water is recirculated.

11) Filling or re-filling ornamental lakes or ponds with potable water is prohibited.

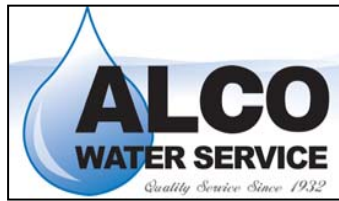
12) Refilling and initial filling of residential swimming pools or outdoor spas with potable water is prohibited.

13) Restaurants and other food service establishments can only serve water to customers on request.

14) Operators of hotels and motels must provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily and prominently display notice of this option.

15) Use of fire hydrant water for any reason other than fire suppression or Utility system maintenance and operation purposes is prohibited.

16) Customers will be informed by their water utility when the utility is aware of leaks that are within the customer's control. When such leaks are identified by Utility personnel, the customer will have five (5) business days to make the necessary repairs satisfactory to the Utility.



## ALCO WATER SERVICE Consumer Confidence Report 2016

It's that time of year again, when Alco shares important information about your water quality with you, our customers! Alco is a family-owned business and has served the community of East Salinas for 85 years, since 1932! Alco continues to be a family and community oriented company, serving its customers with pride and professionalism. Alco monitors the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is a summary of the quality of the water provided to you by Alco Water Service and shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2016. There is a list of important definitions and abbreviations of reporting units included in the CCR for your convenience. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Thomas R. Adcock, Monday to Friday, 8AM to 5PM at (831) 424-0441. Any water related public meetings will be announced in water bill inserts or by direct mailing.

### What's new with your water service?

In response to California's severe drought, Alco and its customers teamed together to reduce water usage in an effort to achieve the 24% system-wide water usage reduction requirement that the State set for Alco. Alco and its customers successfully achieved nearly **24%** total water system water production (as compared to the 2013 historical usage), which was due to the efforts of customers to consciously reduce usage. Although Governor Brown has declared the Drought State of Emergency over, he has declared the need to continue "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life". This will require all Californians to meet the water conservation goals in State Law SB X7-7; therefore, it will still be necessary to be vigilant and continue to reduce water usage by all customer categories. We ask you to be keep achieving important water conservation goals and keep monitoring your water usage habits to conserve water whenever possible. We also ask that you report any water waste or water theft, as this not only wastes our valuable resource of water, but it results in additional costs to all ratepayers.

The new direction of water conservation for the State is outlined on the final page of this CCR. However, please be aware that if water use reduction does not meet the SB X7-7 goals for water conservation, additional requirements and/or regulations may be instituted in the future. Alco will keep you updated as to your water conservation requirements and how they will affect you. Please look for updates in the mail or as bill inserts and do your best to conserve as much water as possible.

If you have any problems, questions, suggestions, or concerns, please call us during regular business hours, or leave a message after hours with our live answering service at (831) 424-0441. Also, you can visit us at our office or send us a note in the mail to Alco Water Service, 249 Williams Road, Salinas, CA 93905 or e-mail us at [mail@alcowater.com](mailto:mail@alcowater.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

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

**2016 Consumer Confidence Report**  
**Alco Water Service**  
249 Williams Road  
Salinas, CA 93905  
(831) 424-0441 Phone

### Where does your water come from?



In 2016, Alco Water Service had 6 active water sources and 3 standby water sources, all of which are groundwater wells. The wells draw from two aquifers in the two sub-areas of the Salinas Groundwater Basin; the Pressure Area & the East Side Area. Source Water Assessments were

performed in 2002 and are available for review at the utility's office. The water sources are most vulnerable to sewer collection systems, agricultural drainage, gas stations, parking lots / malls / high density housing, parks, irrigated crops, fertilizer / pesticide / herbicide applications, agricultural / irrigation / water supply wells, and photo processing / printing. Due to a change in the Federal Arsenic Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) to 10 parts per billion (ppb) in 2006, Alco has 2 well sources designated as "standby" by the State Water Resources Board ("Board"), formerly known as California Department of Public Health ("CDPH"). In November 2008, California also adopted the Federal MCL of 10 ppb. The 2 wells will remain out of service in standby status while Alco develops a method to reduce the Arsenic levels from these wells to comply with the new Federal MCL. All of Alco's active well sources comply with the Federal and State of California MCL of 10 ppb for Arsenic. Additionally, Alco has 1 well source designated as "standby" by the Board in order for Alco to evaluate the Nitrate concentrations in the well's water. All of Alco's active and standby well sources comply with the Federal and State of California MCL of 45 ppm for Nitrate.

### Laboratory testing:



Alco Water Service contracts with independent, state-certified laboratories to monitor the quality of the water it provides to you. This helps us to provide you with the best quality water possible and to conform to Board regulations. Alco Water Service also contracts with an independent sampler who collects all samples for monitoring purposes and delivers them to the independent laboratories directly. The laboratory water quality results contained in the table sections of this report are of detectable constituents only. This means that there was a detection of the constituent found in the water by the laboratory. The tables also include a list of the State and Federal standards so that you may compare the results of our water analyses to them. The water system tests for hundreds of regulated and unregulated constituents and submits the results to the Board. The constituents that do not appear on the table are non-detectable. This means that there was no detection of the constituent found in the water by the laboratory.

### What can be found in water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water & bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs & 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, & wildlife.
- ✓ *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts & metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil & gas production, mining, or farming.
- ✓ *Pesticides & herbicides*, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, & residential uses.
- ✓ *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic & volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes & petroleum production, & can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, & 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

### Additional Drinking Water Information

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).

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. Alco Water Service 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/lead>.

