

How Good Is Our Water?

This brochure is a summary of the quality of water provided to the customers of the Big Bear City Community Services District (District or BBCCSD). Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. *Este folleto es un resumen de la calidad del agua suministrada a los clientes de la comunidad de ciudad Big Bear distrito de servicio. Se incluyen los detalles acerca de dónde viene el agua, lo que contiene, y cómo compara con las normas estatales. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

Where Does Our Water Come From?

The BBCCSD water department serves 6,205 customers from a system comprised of 81.7 miles of water mains, 11 vertical wells, 2 sealed springs, 2 horizontal wells, and 4 storage reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 6.25 million gallons.

Why Is There Anything In My 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.

What Else Should I Know?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board or SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. More information may be obtained by calling The USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791. This is in concordance with CCR, Title 22, §64481 (i)(3).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as: persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

How Can I Get Involved?

Our Board of Directors meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. We encourage participation from the public. Meeting agendas, including information on how to join, are posted at the District office and on the website at www.bbccsd.org.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The District office is located at 139 E. Big Bear Blvd. and is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Our phone number is (909) 585-2565. For questions regarding your water quality, ask for Gavin Heilman. The EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline is (800) 426-4791.

What Contaminants May Be Present In Source Water Before We Treat It?

- **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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A source water assessment was conducted for the Big Bear City Community Services District Water System in October of 2018. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at the District office, 139 East Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear City, CA 92314 or at The State Water Resources Control Board San Bernardino District office, 464 West 4th Street, Suite 437, San Bernardino, CA 92401.

Water Data for 2023

Our water is tested by independent laboratories to assure that it meets all drinking water standards. 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 the test data, though representative, is more than one year old. Test results are presented in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

The following terms and abbreviations are used in Tables 1, 2, and 3:

- **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.
- **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.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** This is a measure of the suspended material in water.
- **Regulatory Action Level (A/L):** The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable
- **ppm:** parts per million
- **ppb:** parts per billion
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
- **micromhos:** a measure of electrical conductance



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Table 1: Unregulated Contaminants							
<i>Unregulated Contaminant</i>	<i>Last Sampled</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Goal (PHG or MCLG)</i>	<i>Maximum Allowed (MCL)</i>	<i>Detected Level (Average)</i>	<i>Range of Values Detected</i>	<i>Major Sources</i>
Hexavalent Chromium	2020	ppb	.2	n/a	.78	0-3.1	Erosion from natural deposits
Dichlorodi-fluoromethane	2007	ppb	n/a	1000	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Well 9 received detections for perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) on November 8, 2023. We are required by the SWRCB Order to report the results in the CCR. We are taking quarterly confirmation samples for year 2024.							

Table 2: Regulated Contaminants							
<i>Regulated Contaminant</i>	<i>Last Sampled</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Goal (PHG or MCLG)</i>	<i>Maximum Allowed (MCL)</i>	<i>Detected Level (Average)</i>	<i>Range of Values Detected</i>	<i>Major Sources</i>
Clarity							
Turbidity	2023	NTU	n/a	5	.23	0 – 3.1	Soil runoff
Microbiological							
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	# positive	0	2/month	0	0	Naturally in the environment
Inorganic Chemicals							
Aluminum	2023	ppb	600	200	8.6	0-120	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	2023	ppb	.004	10	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2023	ppm	2	1	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2023	ppm	1	2	.91	0 – 1.8	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as N)	2023	ppm	10	10	.93	0 – 3.7	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper Rule							
Lead ¹ (34 Sites)	2022	ppb	.2	AL=15	0.374	all sites <AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (34 Sites)	2022	ppm	.3	AL=1.3	0.108	all sites <AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
*The following schools were sampled for Lead and Copper – Big Bear High School & Chautauqua High School.							
Radioactivity							
Gross Alpha Activity	2023	pCi/l	0	15	1.82	0-7.6	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	2023	pCi/l	.43	20	4.3	0-6.3	Erosion of natural deposits
228 Radium	2016	pCi/l	.019	5	0.06	0-0.185	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards							
Color	2023	units	n/a	15	1.6	0-10	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor-Threshold	2023	units	n/a	3	1	1	Naturally occurring organic materials
Chloride	2023	ppm	n/a	500	9.7	1.1-13	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Iron	2023	ppb	n/a	300	15	0-210	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	2023	ppb	n/a	50	0	0	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	2023	ppm	n/a	500	28	1.4-130	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Vanadium	2023	ppb	n/a	50	4.1	0-13	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	2023	ppm	n/a	1000	256	160-360	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	2023	micromhos	n/a	1600	453	320-630	Substances that form ions when in water
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	2023	ppb	n/a	500	.01	0-.1	Municipal & industrial waste discharges
Corrosivity	2023	n/a	n/a	noncorrosive	noncorrosive	noncorrosive	Balance of hydrogen, carbon, & oxygen in water
Additional							
pH	2023	units	n/a	n/a	7.8	7.3-8.1	n/a
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	2023	ppm	n/a	n/a	202	80-320	n/a
Sodium	2023	ppm	n/a	n/a	23.8	3-65	n/a
Calcium	2023	ppm	n/a	n/a	41	0-60	n/a
Potassium	2023	ppm	n/a	n/a	1.8	0-3.4	n/a
Magnesium	2023	ppm	n/a	n/a	21	6-35	n/a

¹ Infants and young children 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 plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Table 3: Volatile Organic Contaminants							
<i>Volatile Organic Contaminant*</i>	<i>Last Sampled</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Goal (MCL)</i>	<i>Maximum Allowed (MCL)</i>	<i>Detected Level (Average)</i>	<i>Range of Values Detected</i>	<i>Major Sources</i>
Carbon Tetrachloride	2023	ppb	100	500	0	0	Discharge from chemical plants & other industrial activities
1, 1 Dichloroethane (1, 1 – DCA)	2023	ppb	3	5	0	0	Extraction & degreasing solvents
1, 1, 1, Trichloroethane (1, 1, 1 – TCA)	2023	ppb	1000	200	0	0	Discharge from metal degreasing sites & factories; manufacture of food wrappers
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	2023	ppb	0.8	5	0	0	Discharge from metal degreasing sites & other factories
* Contaminants listed in Table 3 are blended in a 2.5-million-gallon reservoir.							