

Definitions:

ACU – Apparent Color Units.

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

CFU/ml – Colony Forming Units per milliliter.

MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

MRDL – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

NA – Not applicable.

ND – Not detectable at testing limit.

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

PHG – Public Health Goal: 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 (CalEPA).

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

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

SDWS – Secondary Drinking Water Standards: 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.

TON – Threshold Odor Number

TT – Treatment Technique

Us/cm – umhos/cm – unit of specific conductance of water.

Substances that Could Be in 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the CDPH prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *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.
- *Microbial contaminants** such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *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, and septic systems.
- *Pesticides and herbicides** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants** which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Important Health Information 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

Buellton Water Sources and Treatment The City of Buellton’s source of supply is from four groundwater wells (Buellton Uplands and Santa Ynez River Underflow) and is supplemented by the State Water Project (from Northern California via aqueduct). Groundwater is treated using media filtration as well as disinfection. The annual groundwater production of clean drinking water in 2020 for the City was 1214 acre feet, or 1.1 million gallons per day.

Source Water Assessments In accordance with the State’s Drinking Water Source Assessment Program, a Source Water Assessment for all four of the City’s wells was completed in March 2001 and updated in May 2011. These assessments include a delineation of the areas around a drinking water source through which contaminants might move and reach that drinking water supply; an inventory of possible contaminating activities (PCAs) that might lead the release of microbiological or chemical contaminants within the delineated area; and a determination of the PCAs to which the drinking water source is most vulnerable. Copies of these assessments may be viewed at: California Department of Public Health (CDPH) District 6 Field Operations: 1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013 or online at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/pages/dwsap.aspx>

CCR Going Paperless Historically, the City of Buellton has mailed its customers a printed copy of the CCR to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). On February 21, 2013, the California Department of Public Health expanded its interpretation of the SDWA to allow for electronic delivery of the CCR. The electronic delivery will allow us to reduce consumption of paper and minimize potential printing costs. In 2015 the City’s CCR has not been mailed, and has been available on our City webpage www.cityofbuellton.com/public-works.asp Hard copies will be located at City Hall and the Public Library. Hard copies will only be mailed upon request.

Community Participation:

The City Council holds regularly scheduled Council meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at 6:00 pm at the Council Chambers located at: 140 W. Highway 246.

Questions If you have any questions about this report or your water, please contact the City of Buellton Public Works Department, Rose Hess at: 805-686-0137

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

