



TGW 2023 Newsletter & 2022 Consumer Confidence Report

Trout Gulch Mutual Water Co. 90 Victoria Lane Aptos, CA 95003. Ph:831-662-3204 www.troutgulchwater.org

It's been quite a contrast this fiscal year from drought to lots of rain. TGW wells static levels an indicator of how the aquifer is handling our water use, have been consistent which is good. For more on the specifics of our tap water, see the water source information starting on page 3.

The State of California passed a Drought Water Law SB552 which requires TGW to report monthly on water production and demand. We also report our well conditions and water levels regardless of recent rainfall amounts. The State Law SB552 also assesses small water systems level of risk. If a water company becomes at risk, the state may require consolidation with a larger water system. The state assessment of TGW is currently "Not at Risk" category as we are diligent at making sure we are meeting state regulatory requirements.



With the consolidation of Aptos and Central Fire; TGW held a meeting to have the new agency get acquainted with the TGW water system for fire protection measures.



The storm season came in this year with quite a punch. TGW has applied for FEMA funding to replace a hydrant that was damaged during the storms. As well we all experience power outages over the past winter. TGW has a generator system in place to ensure that adequate water supply is available during the power outages.



Welcome our new Operator Assistant Scott DeLapp!!

For FY2022/23 TGW Operations and Maintenance highlights:

- ◆ Well 2 put back in service fall 2022
- ◆ Meadow Ranch Tank Cleaned
- ◆ Meadow Ranch Tank Roof over Electrical panel installed and Yard Cleaned
- ◆ Skyward pump station timer optimized during PGE peak hours to reduce our energy costs.
- ◆ Skyward Vault cleaned, labeled, manual & bypass valves tested.
- ◆ 13 Manual Meter replaced with Radio Read Meters
- ◆ 21 Hydrants & Blowoffs flushed.
- ◆ Meadow Ranch Yard Gutters installed & concrete repaired.
- ◆ Norman Tank Check Valve replaced.

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Board Director Election Results

- ✓ 45 Frank Busalacchi
- ✓ 45 Gordon Cumming
- ✓ 44 Mike Van Lienden

Note: 20% (38) Votes Required; 24% Actual Votes



Trout Gulch Mutual Water Company (TGW) is a non-profit, member-owned and operated mutual benefit corporation in business solely to provide its members with water-related services including safe drinking water, irrigation, fire protection and more. The Board of Directors meets on the third Thursday of each month. See the TGW website for location or Zoom information at: www.troutgulchwater.org All members are welcome (and encouraged) to come. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm. A Typical meeting will last 2 hours. Members are welcome to join.

Water Rate Increases

The board of directors have reviewed the Water Rates. In accordance with the fiduciary responsibility stated in the bylaws (section 11.03). The Service Charge, Water Usage Tiers, and Skyward pumping fees will see a modest increase. This allows us to operate without outside funding or loans.

FY23-24 WATER RATES *effective July 1, 2023*



RESIDENTIAL WATER RATES

METER SIZE	SERVICE CHARGE	2022-2023	2023-2024
5/8-1"		\$196.00	\$200.00
2"		\$207.00	\$210.00

Effective July 1, 2023. In July Billing. (Prorated July-Aug 2023)

TIER WATER USAGE RATES

TIER	UNITS	UNITS PER TIER	2022-2023	2023-2024
1	0-10	10 UNITS	\$6.50	\$7.00
2	10.1 - 22	12 UNITS	\$8.00	\$8.50
3	22.1 - 34	12 UNITS	\$11.00	\$12.00
4	34+		\$15.00	\$16.00

Effective July 1, 2023; July-Aug Usage, reflected in Sept. 2023 billing.



LANDSCAPING WATER RATES

METER SIZE	SERVICE CHARGE	2022-2023	2023-2024
5/8-1"		\$15.00	\$15.00
2"		\$207.00	\$210.00

Effective July 1, 2023. In July Billing. (Prorated July-Aug 2023)

TIER WATER USAGE RATES

TIER	UNITS	TOTAL UNITS	2022-2023	2023-2024
1	0 - 100	100	\$6.50	\$7.00
2	100.1 – 210	110	\$8.00	\$8.50
3	210.1 – 320	110	\$11.00	\$12.00
4	320.1+		\$15.00	\$16.00

Effective July 1, 2023; July-Aug Usage, reflected in Sept. 2023 billing.



SKYWARD PUMPING FEES

CHARGES PER 1 UNIT	2022-2023	2023-2024
Pumping fee is increased to \$1.00 per unit	\$0.45	\$1.00

Effective July 1, 2023; July-Aug Usage, reflected in Sept. 2023 billing.

TROUT GULCH MUTUAL WATER CO. 2022 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

TGW Water Source information

TGW service area largely sits above the Purisima Aquifer where TGW pulls water from 3 active groundwater wells and 1 standby well. The 3 active groundwater wells are located in the Meadow Ranch area. All 3 Meadow Ranch wells feed through a single pipe called the EPTDS "Entry Point Distribution System" where a water sample port has been installed. TGW is regulated by the County of Santa Cruz Environmental Health and Safety (SCEHS) under the Drinking Water Regulatory Program. TGW test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring period of January 1 to December 31, 2022 and may include earlier data.

A Consumer Confidence Reports is an annual water quality report or a drinking water quality report, provides information on your local drinking water quality.

Terms Used in this Report

In the following tables, you will find detailed information about the water that comes from your tap. Your water is regularly tested for many chemicals and other substances, as well as radioactivity. Generally, only substances that are detected in the water are listed in the tables. The below information is being provided to help you understand the terms used in this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR).

DEFINITIONS

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 or 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. 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.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS) MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect health at MCL levels. **Regulatory Action Level (AL)** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

ACRONYMS

AL - Regulatory Action Level
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
mg/L - Milligrams per Liter or Parts per Million (ppm)
MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
NA - Not Applicable
ND - Not Detectable at testing limit
ng/L - Nanograms per Liter or Parts per Trillion

NL - Notification Level
pCi/L - Picocuries per Liter
PHG - Public Health Goal
Ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
Ppt - parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Ppq - parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
RAA - Running Annual Average
ug/L - Micrograms per Liter or Parts per Billion (ppb)

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

The general 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. It can also 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.

2022 Microbiological Contaminants

TGW samples for Fecal coliform/*E.coli* & Coliform monthly at 2 distribution sample sites

Microbiological Contaminants (State Total Coliform Rule)	Number Samples Collected in 2022	Highest Number of Detection in a month	Number of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	24	0	0	Footnote 1	0	Naturally present in the environment

1 One positive monthly sample

Fecal Coliform or <i>E.coli</i>	24	0	0	Footnote 2	0	Human and animal fecal waste
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2 A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or *E. coli*. positive.

Residential Tap Monitoring for Lead and Copper (Sample Period 2019-2022)

10 Samples are now required, 5 samples taken in 2022 for above sample period.

Contaminants	No. Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	10	0.24	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	10	2	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Additional information for 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. Trout Gulch Mutual Water 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>.

Sodium and Hardness Sampling Results

Well Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

Contaminants (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	3/27/20	26	NA	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	3/27/20	210	NA	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Radioactive Contaminants

Wells Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

Contaminants (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG, (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	3/27 & 8/17/20	0.333	0.333±0.844	15	(0)	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Radium 228 (pCi/L)	4/20/22	0	NA	5	PHG 0.019	Erosion of natural deposits Public Health Goal, No MCL.
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REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Disinfection Byproducts (Tested at lowest point of system)

Contaminants (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL or (MRDL)	PHG, (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (µg/L)	8/11/22	12 (Highest)	7.4-12	80	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (µg/L)	8/11/22	0 (Highest)	0	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfection Residual (Tested Monthly)

Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	2022	0.23 (Highest RAA)	0.16-0.27	(4.0) as Cl ₂	[4] as Cl ₂	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
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Disinfection Information

TGW primary water source is from ground water wells. The water from the wells is disinfected as it enters the distribution system. TGW uses an NSF approved chlorine, Multi-Chlor, a 12.5% solution of Sodium Hypochlorite disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Chlorine levels are monitored closely to ensure they are within safe limits provided by the Safe Drinking Water Standards. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

2020 Inorganic Contaminants Wells Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

Fluoride (mg/L)	3/27/20	0.12	NA	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate+Nitrite as N (mg/L)	11/21/22	0	NA	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

All other Inorganic Contaminants tested on 3/27/2020 at the EPTDS port were reported as ND for Non-Detect

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Wells Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

including Pesticides and Herbicides

All Synthetic Organic Contaminants tested on 4/21/2020 at the EPTDS port were reported as ND for Non-Detect. A susceptibility waiver based on California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 64445(d)(2): has been granted by County of Santa Cruz EHS for no monitoring required from 2020-2022.

1,2,3 - Trichloropropane [TCP] (ng/L)	Wells 1,2,3: 3/6/18 Well 4: 6/18/18	ND	NA	5	0.7	Discharge from industrial and agricultural chemical factories; leaching from hazardous waste sites; used as a cleaning and maintenance solvent, paint and varnish remover, and cleaning and degreasing agent; byproduct during the production of other compounds and pesticides.
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A 1,2,3 Trichloropropane susceptibility waiver for no monitoring for the above listed contaminant is required from 2020-2022 based on California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 64445(d)(2).

Volatile Organic Contaminants Wells-Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

All Volatile Organic Contaminants tested on 4/21/2020 at the EPTDS port were reported as ND for Non-Detect

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS DRINKING WATER STANDARDS**Wells-Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)**

Contaminants (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Iron (µg/L)	3/27/20	92	NA	300	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (µg/L) EPTDS	11/21/22	88	NA	*50	Leaching from natural deposits. See Variance & Exceptions below.
Manganese (µg/L) Wells & MR Tank	2022 Qtrly	108 (LRAA Avg)	0-306	*50	Leaching from natural deposits. See Variance & Exceptions below.

***Manganese Variance and Exemptions**

TGW is operating under a waiver issued on March 28, 2013, by the Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Service. The Manganese (Mn) Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) is set at 50 parts per billion (ppb or ug/L). With the approval of the TGW membership water distributed may be as high as 150 ppb or ug/L. TGW samples all source wells and the primary supply tank quarterly. For the latest Manganese levels, go to www.troutgulchwater.org

Turbidity (units)	3/27/20	0.95	NA	5	Soil runoff; flushing of water mains
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (mg/L)	3/27/20	310	NA	1,000	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
pH (pH Units)	3/27/20	7.6	NA	6.5-8.5 (U.S. EPA)	Measure of the acidity or alkalinity
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	3/27/20	520	NA	1,600	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (mg/L)	3/27/20	42	NA	500	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	3/27/20	43	NA	500	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS Wells-Entry Point Distribution System (EPTDS)

Bicarbonate as HCO ₃ (mg/L)	3/27/20	220	NA	--	
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (mg/L)	3/27/20	180	NA	--	
Magnesium (mg/L)	3/27/20	36	NA	--	
Potassium (mg/L)	3/27/20	2.1	NA	--	

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).

**For more information about the CCR Report, please contact:**

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