San Lorenzo Valley WATER DISTRICT

Consumer Confidence Report 2024

www.slvwd.com

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse San Lorenzo Valley Water District a 13060 Hwy 9, Boulder Creek CA 95006, (831) 338-2153 para asistirlo en español.

What is this report?

This annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) includes information on sources of water distributed by the San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD) and includes a summary of the water quality tested in 2024. This report is intended to inform customers of the SLVWD about their drinking water quality. In an effort to provide this report to everyone, the District encourages landlords to provide a copy of this report to their tenants.

The SLVWD safeguards its water supplies and provides surface water treatment to ensure that customers receive the highest quality drinking water possible. In 2024, as in the years past, the SLVWD is pleased to report that our water provided to our customers met or surpassed all State of California and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency drinking water health standards.

The SLVWD's mission is to provide our customers and all future generations with reliable, safe and high quality water at an equitable price; to create and maintain outstanding customer service; to manage and protect the environmental health of the aquifers and watersheds; and to ensure the fiscal vitality of the SLVWD.

San Lorenzo Valley Water District System

Where does our water come from?

The SLVWD provides water to two separate drinking water systems: the SLVWD and the San Lorenzo Valley Water District-Felton. Each of these two drinking water systems have their own separate sources of drinking water supply.

The SLVWD system service area includes the communities of: Boulder Creek, north of Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Quail Hollow, Glen Arbor, Zayante, Lompico and the Scotts Valley areas of Hidden Glenn, Lockewood Lane, Pasatiempo Pines, Whispering Pines, Manana Woods and both Spring Lakes and Vista Del Lago Mobile Home Parks.

Water Supply for the San Lorenzo Valley system primarily utilizes surface water during the months of November to May. During periods of high stream flow, surface water can provide up to 100% of the drinking water in the San Lorenzo Valley system. These surface

sources are diverted from streams that are located in remote areas high within the District's protected watershed, away from human contamination. These streams come from granite formations with very low mineral content. This results in very soft, pleasant tasting water. These streams undergo filtration at one of the District's surface water treatment plants.

To supplement supply during periods of low stream flow, the San Lorenzo Valley blends surface water with groundwater from three separate wellfields: The Quail Hollow wellfield, the Olympia wellfield and the Pasatiempo wellfield.

The Quail Hollow wellfield is located in the Ben Lomond area. The two Quail Hollow wells produce water that is soft and is similar in quality to the surface water sources. The Olympia wellfield is located in the Zayante area. The two Olympia production wells produce water that has a higher mineral content, primarily iron, manganese and carbonate hardness. These minerals do not pose a health hazard when consumed, but affect the aesthetic qualities of water, such as taste, odor and color. Dissolved gases present in the Olympia wells may also affect the taste and odor of the water. Customers in the Hihn Road and Zayante area may experience periods of discolored water caused by precipitation of dissolved iron and manganese. The SLVWD adds polyphosphate to the Olympia well water to slow down the precipitation process; however, this is not completely effective and some deposition of iron and manganese can occur on the water mains. During periods of higher flow, these deposits of iron and manganese can become dislodged, which will result in discolored water. If discolored water is observed at your faucet's cold water tap, the water is safe to use; however you may want to avoid washing laundry as staining may occur. If you experience prolonged periods of discolored water in all of your indoor cold water taps, please contact customer service at (831) 338-2153.

The Pasatiempo wellfield is located off of Graham Hill Road in Scotts Valley and primarily serves the Scotts Valley and Manana Woods neighborhoods. The three Pasatiempo wells produce water that is soft and similar in quality to the surface water sources.

San Lorenzo Valley Water District-Felton System

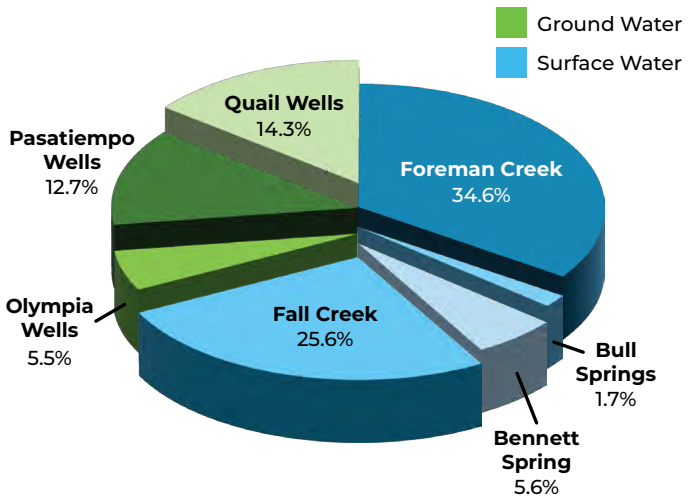
The San Lorenzo Valley Water-Felton system service area includes the town of Felton, Highway 9 south to Big Trees, San Lorenzo Avenue, Felton Empire Grade, Felton Grove and El Solyo Heights. Customers in the SLVWD-Felton system are supplied water from Bennett Springs, Bull Springs and Fall Creek. Drinking water treatment for these sources is provided at a surface water treatment plant. These surface water sources have a moderate amount of dissolved minerals, primarily carbonate hardness. Customers off of Felton Empire Road, Featherston Way and Jenny Way receive chlorinated water direct from Bennett Springs.

Conjunctive Use and Source Usage

The San Lorenzo Valley and San Lorenzo Valley-Felton systems have an interconnection, which allows the transfer of water between the two systems. In 2024, the San Lorenzo Valley system received approximately 87 million gallons of water from the Felton system, or approximately 17% of its total supply; while the Felton system received approximately 14.1 million gallons of water from the San Lorenzo Valley system, or approximately 6% of its total supply.

In 2024 the San Lorenzo Valley Water system and the San Lorenzo Valley Water-Felton system approximately produced a combined 621 million gallons of drinking water. Out of the 621 million gallons produced approximately 419 million gallons came from surface water sources and springs, with the other 202 million gallons coming from our groundwater production wells.

Source Water Percentage of Supply



Source Water Assessments and Protections

A Source Water Assessment lists possible contaminating activities and the susceptibility of identified contamination threats that might affect the quality of our drinking water supplies. Copies of Source Water Assessments for each water source are available at the District Office.

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the surface water sources of the SLVWD include: managed forests, septic systems, recreational activities and government or institutional facilities. Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the groundwater sources of the SLVWD include: the high percolation capacity of the Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer, residential septic tank systems, unused production wells and equestrian activities.

Many common household products are hazardous if carelessly handled or stored. Chemicals poured on the ground, down the drain or the toilet can pollute our drinking water. Of particular concern are volatile organic chemicals (or, VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (or, SOCs). VOCs are chemicals commonly found in paints, solvents, degreasers and automotive products. SOCs are found in herbicides and pesticides. These products should be disposed of in a proper and responsible manner. The County of Santa Cruz receives household hazardous waste at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station. The SLVWD strongly encourages consumers to make use of this convenient program. For more information on disposal and receiving times, you may call the County at (831)454-2022, **or go online**.

Why are there contaminants in 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 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 (800) 426-4791.

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 storm water 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 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, agricultural application and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- PFAS "Forever chemicals" are widely used in consumer products such as waterproof clothing and food packaging. They are also used in firefighting foams and in industrial processes. PFAS breaks down very slowly and can accumulate in the environment including drinking water sources.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) 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. 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 (800) 426-4791.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. The SLVWD's 2017-2018 monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our surface water for the SLVWD system. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis and abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life threatening illness. Immuno-compromised individuals should consult with their doctor

regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Lead in Drinking Water

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. The SLVWD 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 **on the EPA website**.

The SLVWD monitors for lead and copper at the water services of multiple customers throughout the service area on a regular basis in accordance with the U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule regulations. The rule requires public water systems to sample at customers' homes that meet specific criteria where elevated levels of lead and copper are more likely to be found. Since 1993 samples have shown levels of lead and copper in service areas of the SLVWD to be well below the action levels set by the U.S. EPA. SLVWD is currently in the process of completing a District side and Customer side Lead Service line inventory. The results of the inventory will be posted on the District's website once available. See the enclosed water quality table for test results from the latest round of sampling.

PFAS in Drinking Water

PFAS exposure can cause adverse health effects in humans. These health effects include reproductive and developmental effects, increased risk of cancer, increased cholesterol, reduced immunity, interference with natural hormones and liver damage.

Since 2019, the San Lorenzo Valley has monitored PFAS under direction of the SWRCB and U.S. EPA. On April 10, 2024 the U.S. EPA announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS compounds. These Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are based on a running annual average or Hazard Index and will be enforceable in 2029 [5]. Since monitoring in 2019, sample results have shown low levels of PFAS from our Quail 5A Well. PFAS levels from the Quail Well 5A have remained below the historic AL and current MCLs. In 2024 the Quail 5A Well provided approximately 5.2% of the total water produced.

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District continues to track the rapidly evolving science and regulatory developments related to PFAS and continues to evaluate potential impacts on our local water supply.

Water Quality Data Tables

Each water quality data table lists drinking water contaminants that were detected in 2024 for each respective water system. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

To better interpret the water quality data tables, please see the following definitions and notes:

DEFINITIONS:

U.S. EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agencies

Per-and-Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS): A collective name for a broad class of man-made chemicals of emerging concern due to potential human and environmental risks.

SWRCB: California's State Water Resources Control Board

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs, MRDLs and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that may adversely affect the taste, odor or appearance of drinking water. These are aesthetic considerations that are not considered as health concerns.

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is now convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

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

HI (Hazard Index): The Hazard Index is calculated by adding the ratio of the water sample concentration to a Health-Based Water Concentrations.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Notification Level (NL): Notification levels are non-regulatory, health-based advisory levels established for contaminants in drinking water for which maximum contaminant levels have not been established. Notification levels are established as precautionary measures for contaminants that may be considered candidates for establishment of maximum contaminant levels, but have not yet undergone or completed the regulatory standard setting process prescribed for the development of maximum contaminant levels and are not drinking water standards.

N/A: Not Applicable

UNITS:

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter. The time equivalent to 1 ppm is one second in 11.5 days.

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter. The time equivalent to 1 ppb is one second in nearly 32 years.

ppt: Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter. The time equivalent to 1 ppt is one second in nearly 32,000 years.

NTU: Nephlometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the treatment filtration system.

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measurement of radioactivity).

SLVWD System Water Quality Testing Results

Service area includes: Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Lompico, Zayante and the Scotts Valley areas of Lockewood Lane, Whispering Pines, Hidden Glenn and Manana Woods.

Contaminants Regulated by a Primary Drinking Water Standard:

	PHG or MCLG	MCL	Average	Range of Detection/ Highest Measurement	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)[2]	0.004	10	<1.0	<1.0-4.6	2024	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate as Nitrogen (ppm)	10	10	0.56	<0.05-3.4	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	0.02	10	<0.02	<0.02-0.37	2024	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT=95% of samples ≤ 0.2 NTU	≤0.2 in 99% of samples	0.24	2024	Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Contaminants Regulated by a Secondary Drinking Water Standard:

	PHG or MCLG	Secondary MCL	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	500	4.7	4.2-10	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	500	45	3-280	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	N/A	500	137	86-690	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Iron (ppb) [1]	N/A	300	<100	<100-500	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese (ppb) [1]	N/A	50	<20	<20-190	2024	Leaching from natural deposits.

Disinfection Residual and Disinfection By-Products:

	PHG or [MRDLG]	MCL or [MRDL]	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Free Chlorine (ppm)	[4]	[4]	0.97	0.07-1.86	2024	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	32	5-66	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids as HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60	24	<2.0-51	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper Monitoring:

	PHG	AL	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	90th Percentile Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	0.2	15	0 of 44 Samples Collected	<5.0	2023	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	0.3	1.3	0 of 44 Samples Collected	0.08	2023	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 Monitoring Results:

	NL	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date
Lithium (ppb)[3]	NA	<9.0	<9.0-32	2024

	PHG or MCLG [5]	MCL [5]	Average	Range of Detection/ Highest Measurement	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA] (ppt)	0	4	<2.0	<2.0-2.8	2024	Widely used chemical in consumer products that slowly breaks down and can accumulate in the environment.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid [PFOS] (ppt)	0	4	<2.0	<2.0-3.3	2024	Widely used chemical in consumer products that slowly breaks down and can accumulate in the environment.
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	10	10	<2.0	<2.0-2.9	2024	Widely used chemical in consumer products that slowly breaks down and can accumulate in the environment.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid [PFBS] (ppt)[4]	1 Unitless (HI)[4]	1 Unitless (HI)[4]	<2.0 (ppt)/<1(HI)	<2.0-4.9 (ppt)	2024	Widely used chemical in consumer products that slowly breaks down and can accumulate in the environment

Other Monitoring Results:

	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Hardness (ppm)	71	44-480	2024	Hardness is the sum of the major cations or positively charged ions, primarily calcium and magnesium. The cations are usually naturally occurring.
Sodium (ppm)	10	7-18	2024	Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.

SLVWD-Felton System Water Quality Testing Results

Service area includes the town of Felton, Felton Empire Grade, Felton Grove, San Lorenzo Avenue and El Solyo Heights.

Contaminants Regulated by a Primary Drinking Water Standard:

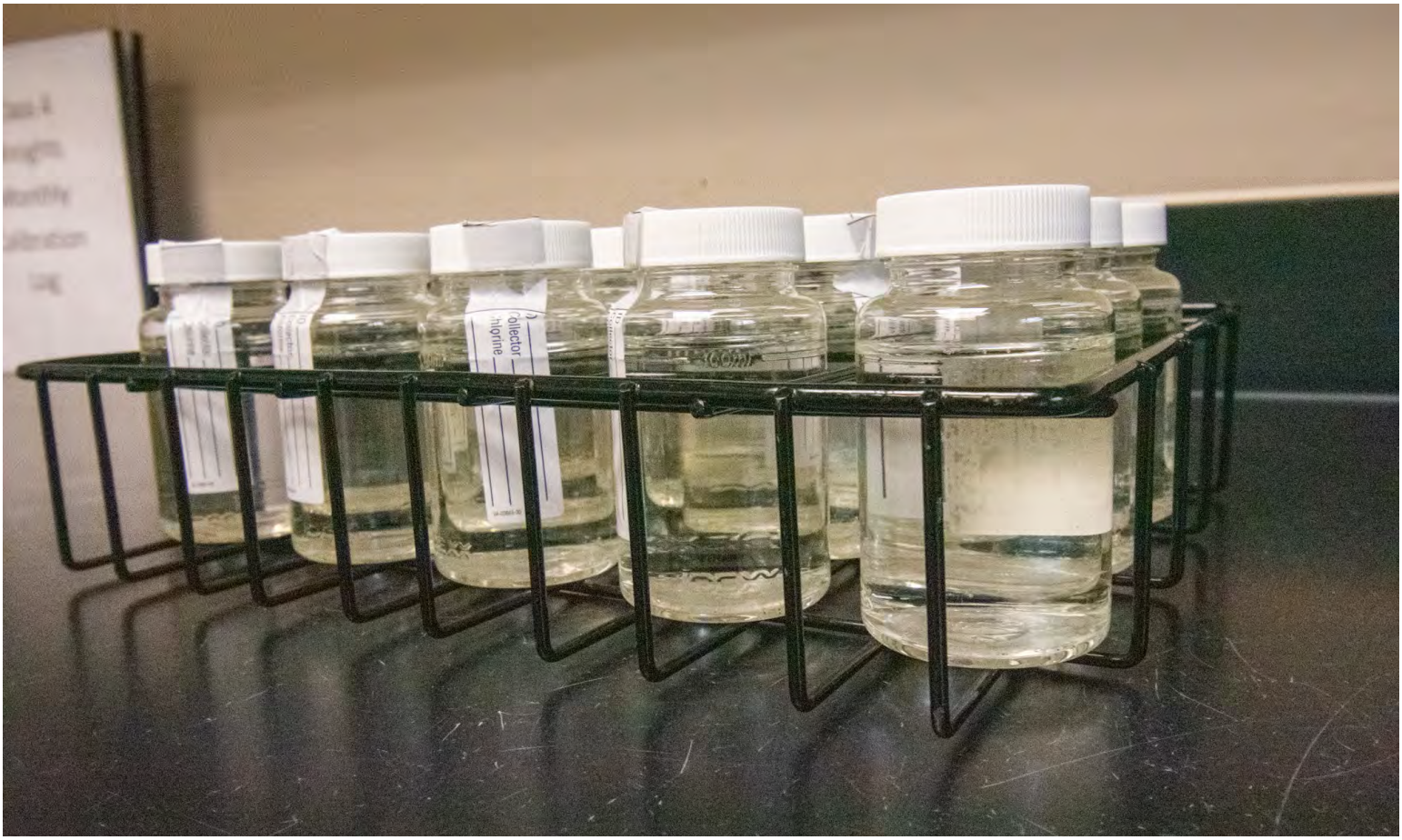
	PHG or [MCLG]	MCL	Range of Detection	Highest Measurement	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	0.02	10	0.22	0.11-0.66	2024	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT=95% of samples ≤ 0.2 NTU	≤0.2 in 99% of samples	0.22	2024	Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Contaminants Regulated by a Secondary Drinking Water Standard:

	PHG or [MCLG]	Secondary MCL	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	500	7.3	7.2-8.9	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	500	7.6	7.3-8.7	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Iron (ppb)	N/A	300	125	<10-160	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese (ppb)	N/A	50	3.7	<2.0-4.8	2024	Leaching from natural deposits.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	N/A	1000	163	140-270	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.

Disinfection Residual and Disinfection By-Products:

	PHG or [MRDLG]	MCL or [MRDL]	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Free Chlorine (ppm)	[4]	[4]	0.93	0.25-1.40	2024	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	22	11-36	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids as HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60	15	6-38	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.



Lead and Copper Monitoring:

	PHG	AL	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	90th Percentile Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Sources of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	0.2	15	0/21	<5.0	2023	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	0.3	1.3	0/21	<0.50	2023	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Other Monitoring Results:

	Average	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Hardness (ppm)	118	96-230	2024	Hardness is the sum of the major cations or positively charged ions, primarily calcium and magnesium.
Sodium (ppm)	8.1	5.8-8.6	2024	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.

NOTES

1. Pasatiempo Wells and Olympia Wells have exceed the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) for iron and manganese. The SLVWD adds polyphosphate to the Olympia Wells, which acts to keep iron and manganese in solution and help prevent problems associated with these minerals, such as colored water episodes and staining of laundry. Water produced from the Olympia Wells accounted for approximately 5.5% of water production in 2024. The Pasatiempo Wells accounted for approximately 12.7% of water production in 2024.

2. The Pasatiempo Wells contain low levels of arsenic. 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 cost 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.

3. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the US EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether these contaminants need to be regulated. This section includes a summary of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 monitoring results in 2024.

4. The Hazard Index is a long-established approach that EPA regularly uses to understand health risk from a chemical mixture (i.e., exposure to multiple chemicals). The HI is made up of a sum of fractions. Each fraction compares the level of each PFAS measured in the water to the health-based water concentration.

$$\text{HI MCL} = \left(\frac{[\text{HFPO - DA}_{water}]}{[10\ ppt]}\right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFBS}_{water}]}{[2000\ ppt]}\right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFNA}_{water}]}{[10\ ppt]}\right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFHxS}_{water}]}{[10\ ppt]}\right) = 1$$

5. Under U.S. EPA regulations all public water systems must be monitored for PFAS, and the levels of PFAS in drinking water must be shared with the public by 2027. If monitoring data exceeds MCLs, PFAS levels must then be reduced by 2029.

The SLVWD hopes this Consumer Confidence Report is of value to you. If you have any questions about your water quality or on interpreting the data of this report, please contact:

Jesse Guiver, Water Quality and Treatment Manager
13060 Hwy 9
Boulder Creek, CA 95006
Phone: (831)216-9019
Email: jguiver@slvwd.com

The Board of Directors of the SLVWD invite you to attend its meeting to express your views and opinions. Please visit the SLVWD's calendar for meeting information:
www.slvwd.com/calendar.