



Central Water District

2022 Newsletter 2021 Water Quality Report

The Central Water District is excited about all of the prospects that 2022 holds. The District office is open and in-person Board meetings are now in session! At the same time, District staff are happy to announce that the Board has renewed the Central Water District Manager's contract. The leadership and knowledge that District Manager Bracamonte provides is invaluable, and is sure to continue to bring the District success in the coming years.

There is never a dull moment, as the District is continuously looking for opportunities to apply for grants in order to offset ever-climbing maintenance and improvement costs. In February, the California Conservation Corps completed clearing vegetation overgrowth at two of the District's sites, and the \$90,000 in labor costs was 100% covered by grant funding. District staff are also in the process of applying for a million-dollar grant for the construction of a new well, that will replace two of the District's oldest operating wells. Preliminary water testing shows that District customers will continue to receive quality drinking water from this new water source.

During the current drought, the Central Water District community is encouraged to do their part to conserve water, which is a valuable, community-shared resource. Whether it be monitoring your daily water usage or inspecting your property for water leaks, you can make a difference! Visit our website at www.centralwaterdistrict.us.com and click on the Water Conservation/Leak Detection tab for tips on how to conserve water and eliminate unnecessary water waste. The Central Water District is also working with the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency and the Water Conservation Coalition of Santa Cruz County in order to promote water sustainability and conservation.

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board President: Frances Basich Whitney Board Vice President: Robert Marani

Secretary of the Board: Robert Postle Board Director: John Benich Board Director: Marco Romanini

Regular board meetings are scheduled on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and are held at the District office located at 400 Cox Road in Aptos. However, if the third Monday of the month is a holiday, the meeting will be held on the Tuesday following the third Monday of the month. For more information call (831)688-2767.

Are you prepared for power outages? The Central Water District is prepared. This past year, a number of the District's well sites were updated with transfer switches so that the District's 200 kW portable generator (also purchased with grant funds) can be easily used to provide power during planned or unplanned power outages. In all, these updates help to ensure that the Central Water District community has continuous access to quality drinking water, even during power outage events.

In order to ensure that the District is available to serve you and maintain your water system, a new utility truck was purchased through the state's discounted vehicle purchasing program. The District also replaced its 1985 dump truck with a newer and larger dump truck that is capable of towing the portable generator. In addition, the District purchased a used 2004 vacuum excavator/valve exerciser machine to assist with water line maintenance and repairs.

The District is still committed to providing you with the highest quality drinking water, the lowest water rates in the County, and the best customer service. At the same time, the annual water rate review is currently underway. Due to inflation and increased material and services costs, it is likely that water rates and fees will need to be adjusted in the coming year. The last rate increase was in 2017. District customers are invited to attend the District's monthly Board meetings, where District staff are presenting rate review information to the Board of Directors, or view the Board meeting packet information online at www.centralwaterdistrict.us.com/board-meetings. Customers will be notified as to any proposed changes and will have ample opportunity to provide comments. In all, the District is looking forward to continuing to serve you!

Thank you from the Central Water District Board of Directors & Staff



Central Water District 2021 Water Quality Report

ATENCIÓN RESIDENTES! Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Central Water District a (831)688-2767 para asistirlo en español.

DRINKING WATER STANDARDS are established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to ensure that your tap water is safe to drink. These standards limit the amount of certain contaminants in water that is provided by public water systems. The 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. The Central Water District's drinking water is regularly tested, and results consistently show that regulated constituents are either not detected, or are present in amounts far below the limits permitted by state and federal requirements. These tests monitor your tap water for contaminants including microbial organisms, minerals, metals, organic substances, radioactivity, and pesticides that could cause disease or adverse health effects. This Water Quality Report communicates whether there is a detectable presence of certain constituents in your drinking water, and provides the levels detected. In the tables on the following pages, you will find the most recent testing information for the water that comes from your tap. Generally, only substances that are detected in the water are listed in the tables. However, some "not detectable" results were added to the tables for your information. At the same time, the presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021, and may include earlier monitoring data.

In all, the Central Water District is proud to report that in 2021 the District's water met all established drinking water standards.

Terms Used in this Report

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. Environmental Protection Agency (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 Agency.

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

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.

ACRONYMS

AL - Regulatory Action Level
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
mg/L - Milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm). *Equivalent to 1 drop in 14 gallons or 1 second in 11.5 days.*
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. *Equivalent to 1 drop in 14,000,000 gallons or 1 second in nearly 32,000 years.*
pCi/L - Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
PHG - Public Health Goal
ppb - Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppm - Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
RAA - Running Annual Average
µg/L - Micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb). *Equivalent to 1 drop in 14,000 gallons or 1 second in nearly 32 years.*

Questions about the CCR?

Contact District Manager
Ralph Bracamonte.

Phone: (831)688-2767

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

Location: 400 Cox Road

Aptos, CA 95003

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1869, Aptos, CA 95001

E-mail address:
admin@centralwaterdistrict.us.com

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.

Central Water District's water is sourced from three groundwater wells—Well 4, Well 10, and Well 12. These wells are located in the Rob Roy Well Field, near the Freedom Boulevard Exit off of Highway 1, and are sourced by the Aromas Red Sands and Purisima aquifers.

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment of the Central Water District's drinking water sources was completed in 2009. Our water sources are considered most vulnerable to the following facilities/activities, associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: septic systems (low and high density) and fertilizer applications. Our water sources are also considered most vulnerable to the following facilities/activities, not associated with any detected contaminants: office building complexes, sewer collection systems, housing (high density), well water supply, transportation corridors (freeway and roads/streets), RV ministorage facilities, and veterinary offices/clinics. A copy of the full report is available at the District office.

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Detection of Microbiological Contaminants						
Microbiological Contaminants (State Total Coliform Rule)	Number Collected in 2021	Highest Number of Detections	Number of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	36	0 (in a month)	0	Footnote 1	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E.coli</i>	36	0 (in the year)	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Residential Tap Monitoring for Lead and Copper (Samples Taken in July & August 2019)						
Lead and Copper (reporting units)	Number of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (µg/L)	10	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (mg/L)	10	0.48	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Sodium and Hardness						
Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	6/16/20	23	21-25	None	None	Salt present in the water; generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	6/16/20	237	230-240	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium; usually naturally occurring
Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard						
Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG, (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Disinfection Byproducts						
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (µg/L)	8/17/21	5.2 (Highest)	0.96-5.2	80	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (µg/L)	8/17/21	ND	ND	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Disinfection Residual						
Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	2021	0.18 (RAA)	0.05 –1.38	[4.0] as Cl ₂	[4] as Cl ₂	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Organics & Inorganics						
Total Chromium (µg/L)	6/16/20	8.9 (Average)	4.7 -11	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate—as Nitrogen [N] (mg/L)	2021	4.0 (Average)	1.0 - 6.8	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
1,2,3 - Trichloropropane [TCP] (µg/L)	6/08/21	ND	ND	0.005	0.0007	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.
Fluoride (mg/L)	6/16/20	0.08 (Average)	ND- 0.12	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Radioactive Constituents						
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2/20/19	0.007 (Average)	0 - 0.021	NA	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2/20/19	0.000 (Average)	0.000	NA	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 & 228 (pCi/L)	2/20/19	0.007 (Average)	0 - 0.021	5	NA ²	Erosion of natural deposits

¹ One positive monthly sample

² See individual Radium 226 & Radium 228 constituent PHGs

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Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	6/16/20	28	23-32	500	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	2021	ND	ND	15	Naturally-occurring organic materials; oxidized iron and manganese
Iron (µg/L)	6/16/20	ND	ND	300	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (µg/L)	6/16/20	ND	ND	50	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor-Threshold (Units)	2021	ND	ND	3	Naturally-occurring organic materials
pH (pH Units)	2021	7.5	7.2-7.9	6.5-8.5 (U.S. EPA)	Measure of the acidity or basicity
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	6/16/20	507	480-530	1,600	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	6/16/20	40	36-44	500	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	2021	0.29	0.10– 0.45	5	Soil runoff; flushing of water mains
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (mg/L)	6/16/20	330	300-350	1,000	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits

Detection of Unregulated Constituents Monitoring

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Typical Source of Contaminant
Hexavalent Chromium [Chromium-6] (µg/L)	5/11/21	8.9	4.7-11	NA	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits

Additional General Information on 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 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).

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 Central Water District 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

The District has detected **NITRATE**, as Nitrogen (N), at a maximum level of **6.8 mg/L**, which is less than the MCL of 10 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants less than six (6) months of age. Such Nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of an infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should seek advice from your health care provider. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity.

CHROMIUM is a naturally occurring metallic element found in rocks, soils, plants, and animals. The most common forms are Chromium-3 and Chromium-6. Chromium-3 is found in foods and is an essential dietary nutrient. Chromium-6 can be toxic if consumed in large amounts. The Chromium-6 detected in our water supply is naturally occurring. There was no industrial spill or discharge. Scientists have estimated that up to 80% of the drinking water sources in the U.S. could contain Chromium-6.

