



Central Water District

2023 Newsletter 2022 Water Quality Report

For more than seventy-two years, the Central Water District has been dedicated to providing high-quality drinking water to its customers, ensuring water is readily available for all its customers' needs. The District is also committed to openly communicating with its customers about the services it provides and the costs associated with these services.

Proposed water rate increases are coming soon! The District is continuously initiating and completing Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) that will ensure your water system will be fully operational for years to come. In order for the District to continue to replace and maintain its aging infrastructure (e.g., water pipelines, wells, water storage tanks, water meters, etc.) and maintain a strong workforce in being able to comply with current and new regulatory requirements, all while remaining fiscally responsible, the District must increase its water rates. It has been six years since the last water rate increase, inflation has been higher than it has been in years, and the cost of materials and contract work have drastically increased.

This past year, the Central Water District Board of Directors and District staff have been working with a water rate consultant to develop new water rates which will be presented in the coming months, for your review. Please stay connected, as the District moves forward with informational mailings and public meetings about proposed water rate changes. The latest water rate news can be found online at www.centralwaterdistrict.us.com/water-rates.

In all, the mission of the Central Water District's Board of Directors and staff remains unchanged, as we continue to strive to provide District customers with the highest water quality, lowest water rates in the county, and the best customer service.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you,

Central Water District Board of Directors & Staff

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board President: Robert Marani Board Vice President: John Benich

Secretary of the Board: Frances Basich Whitney Board Director: Marco Romanini

Board Director: Robert Postle

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.

Highlights of 2022/2023

- ♦ The District said "goodbye" to two long-term employees and welcomed two new employees to its team.
- ♦ Repairs and upgrades were made to Well 4 and Well 10.
- ♦ Interior tank cleaning was performed at all major tank sites.
- ♦ The District received \$5,862 in grant funds to purchase a new pipe locating device.
- ♦ In response to this year's winter storms, emergency tree removal was performed at the Morrison Tank site and the District's portable generator was placed on standby.
- ♦ 25 meters were upgraded to radio or cellular endpoints.
- ♦ Between September 2022 and April 2023, the District received over 58 inches of rainfall!



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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, 2022, and may include earlier monitoring data.

In all, the Central Water District is proud to report that in 2022 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.*
NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
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.

Central Water District 2022 Water Quality Report

| Detection of Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Microbiological Contaminants | Number Collected in 2022 | Highest Number of Detections | Number of Months in Violation | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 36 | 0 (in a month) | 0 | NA | NA | Naturally present in the environment |
| <i>E. coli</i> (State Revised Total Coliform Rule) | 36 | 0 (in the year) | 0 | Footnote 1 | 0 | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Residential Tap Monitoring for Lead and Copper (Samples Taken in July 2022) | | | | | | |
| 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 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0.2 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (mg/L) | 10 | 0.413 | 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) | 8/10/22 | 7.7 (Highest) | 5.1-7.7 | 80 | NA | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (µg/L) | 8/10/22 | ND | ND | 60 | NA | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| Disinfection Residual | | | | | | |
| Chlorine Residual (mg/L) | 2022 | 0.17 (Highest RAA) | 0.06-0.45 | [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) | 2022 | 3.0 (Average) | 0.9-6.3 | 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 Routine & repeat samples are total coliform-positive & either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

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) | 2022 | 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) | 2022 | 0.4 | ND-1 | 3 | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| pH (pH Units) | 2022 | 7.4 | 6.9-7.8 | 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 (NTU) | 2022 | 0.46 | ND-1.2 | 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 / Health Effects |
|---|-------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|
| Hexavalent Chromium [Chromium-6] (µg/L) | 2022 | 6.9 | 2.4-11 | NA | Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits |
| Boron (µg/L) | 6/16/20 | 40 | 33-48 | 1,000 | Boron exposures resulted in decreased fetal weight (developmental effects) in newborn rats. |

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 **6.3 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.

