

GILL CREEK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Annual Water Quality Report

January - December 2020

Dear Gill Creek Mutual Water Customer,

Gill Creek Mutual Water Company provides high quality drinking water to our shareholders. Our water is monitored and tested to ensure that fresh and clean water is delivered to your tap.

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the detection results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1 to December 31, 2020** and may include earlier monitoring data.

GCMWC operates under a water supply permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water. This permit requires us to operate and maintain our water supply in compliance with state water law. California water suppliers, including GCMWC, must deliver to their customers an annual drinking water quality report or consumer confidence report (CCR).

Where Does Our Water Come From?

GCMWC's water is from groundwater sources in the Russian River Basin and is pumped from two wells about 100 feet below the riverbed. GCMWC does not provide surface water taken directly from a river or lake to its customers.

Is Our Water Fluoridated?

No. We do not add fluoride to the water. Because we do not fluoridate our water you may want to consult your dentist about ways to prevent tooth decay.

Annual Shareholder Meeting for Member Participation:

**Our annual shareholder meeting is normally held on the first Saturday in May.
Location: The Vineyard Club, 355 Rockmound Rd. Geyserville, CA.
All members are encouraged to attend.**

Additional director meetings are scheduled to conduct board business during the year. We will provide email notice of these water board meetings at least four days in advance to our members. Members may attend these working meetings if they choose to. This is in compliance with State regulations of the Open Meeting Act.

Climate Change

The State Water Board passed a resolution on March 3, 2017 requiring a proactive approach to climate change, adaptation and resiliency in all Board actions. Like much of California, our water district is vulnerable to climate threats such as drought, floods and fire.

Water Efficiency and Water Waste

GCMWC did not restrict water use during 2020 but continued to encourage water conservation for all.

Due to our ongoing drought condition, on May 1, 2021 GCMWC approved a 20% voluntary water use reduction as compared to 2019 for the remainder of 2021. Additional restrictions may be necessary later in 2021.

Our Beacon AMI smart meters enable everyone to monitor their individual water use. Everyone is urged to monitor their EyeOnWater account regularly to create greater water consumption awareness and help find ways to save water, to set their Leak Alert so you discover leaks on your property within 24 hours and eliminate wasted water quickly.

Tips For Good Water Stewards

- Use the “EyeOnWater” app to monitor your usage and set up leak alerts. Contact Alex if you need the instructions to activate your account.
- Design a water wise landscape.
- Use lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides sparingly – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach water sources.
- Take short showers and use a water-efficient showerhead.
- Consider a simple laundry-to landscape gray-water system.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Check out conservation tips at wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve.

Water Quality (State-wide)

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. Such substances are called contaminants. 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and SWRCB prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

CONTAMINANTS AND REGULATIONS

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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline at 800-426-4791.

Reducing Lead From Plumbing Fixtures

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. There are no known lead service lines in GCMWC's system. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at others because of plumbing materials used in your property.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. 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 levels in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline at 800-426-4791, or at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

What Does Our Water Contain?

Tables below list the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not

necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Division of Drinking Water requires water suppliers to monitor for certain contaminants less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. In addition to the constituents listed in the tables below, our water was analyzed for numerous other substances that were reported as not detectable (ND).

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. USEPA/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).

Drinking Water Source Assessment

A drinking water source assessment was completed in June 2017. The assessment identifies the vulnerability of the drinking water supply to contamination from typical human activities. The assessments are intended to facilitate and provide the basic information necessary for a local community to develop a program to protect the drinking water supply.

The source wells are considered most vulnerable to the following activities and not associated with any detected contaminants: our source(s) are located in and are surrounded by vineyards and are considered most vulnerable to activities associated with general vineyard management. In addition, the wells are located near the Russian River and if extreme flooding were to occur, the sources could become vulnerable to flood water contamination.

Key Water Quality Terms

The Water Quality Summary shows constituents measured in our water and reported to the State. Some of the key terms used referring to standards and goals of water quality noted on the data table is described below:

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.

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 USEPA.

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 and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

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 Standard (PDWS) MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

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

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

Turbidity A water clarity indicator that measures cloudiness of the water, and is also used to indicate the effectiveness of the filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Testing Results for Calendar Year 2020 (unless otherwise noted)

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	0 <i>We test each month</i>	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	0 <i>We test each month</i>	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive		Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2018	5	2.75	0	15	0.2	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2018	5	0.345	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2018	8.4000	N/A	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2018	229.00	N/A	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – REPORT ON DETECTED CONSTITUENT WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD (PDWS)

Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Asbestos	2018	.2	N/A	7	7	Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.
Barium (ppm)	2016	.190	N/A	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2016	0.12	N/A	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	0.225 (average)	ND - 0.45	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactivity Gross Alpha	2015	.8020	N/A	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2020	6.62	N/A	80	n/a	By product of drinking water disinfection
1,2,3- Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)	2019	0.005	N/A	5	.7	Discharge from industrial and agricultural chemical factories; leaching from hazardous waste sites; used as cleaning and maintenance solvent, paint and varnish remover, and cleaning and degreasing agent; byproduct during the production of other compounds and pesticides.

TABLE 5 – CONSTITUENTS WITH AESTHETIC CONCERNS AND/OR A CONTAMINANT WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (Units)	2018	ND	N/A	15	N/S	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes
Odor---Threshold	2018	ND	N/A	3 Units	N/S	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Chloride (ppm)	2018	7.6	N/A	500	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	2018	260	N/A	300	N/S	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Turbidity (Units)	2018	3.3	N/A	5	N/S	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2018	ND	N/A	5	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids TDS (ppm)	2018	230	N/A	1000	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	2018	440	N/A	1,600 μ S/cm	N/S	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2018	16.0	N/A	500	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
PH (Units)	2018	7.12	N/A	none	none	

TABLE 6 – ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS, UNREGULATED AND NO ESTABLISHED MAXIMUM

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Calcium (ppm)	2018	41.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2018	250.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnesium (ppb)	2018	31.0	N/A	N/A	N/A

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