GILL CREEK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Annual Water Quality Report

January - December 2023

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, 2023** 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).

Water System Information

Water System Name: Gill Creek Mutual Water Company

Report Date: 5/19/2024

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Two wells

Name and General Location of Source(s): Well 02 (South Well) and Well 03 located about ½ mile from our pump house.

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; it was held on May 4, 2024 at 9:00 AM. Our next annual meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2025 at 8:30 AM. All members are encouraged to attend.

Location: The Vineyard Club, 355 Rockmound Rd. Geyserville, CA.

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

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 your 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.

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.

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.

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total

Term	Definition
	coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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 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 the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water 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.

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the **2023** or most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Testing Results for Calendar Year 2023

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 *(We test each month)*	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli* (state Total Coliform Rule)	0 *(We test each month)*	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* 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	90th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2021	5	ND	0	15	0.2	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2021	5	0.250	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)	2021	7.8000000	N/A	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2021	225.00	N/A	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTED CONSTITUENT WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD (PDWS)						
Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL [MRDL]**	**PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Arsenic	2022	ND		10	.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
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
HAA5 (Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids) (UG/L)	2020	2.70	N/A	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	1.45	1.3-1.6	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactivity Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2015	0.8020	N/A	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Simazine	2022	ND		4	4	Herbicide runoff
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2020	6.62	N/A	80	n/a	By product of drinking water disinfection
1,2,3-Trichloropropane [TCP] (µg/L)	2022	ND		.005	.0007	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 Detections**	**MCL [MRDL]**	**PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]**	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (Units)	2021	14	N/A	15	N/S	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes
Odor---Threshold	2021	ND	N/A	3 Units	N/S	Naturally-occurring organic materials

Chloride (ppm)	2021	7.4	N/A	500	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	2021	750	N/A	300	N/S	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	2021	5.2	N/A	5	N/S	Soil runoff
TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) (ppm)	2021	220	N/A	1000	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	2021	410	N/A	1,600 µS/cm	N/S	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2021	15.0	N/A	500	N/S	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

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)	2021	38.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2021	254.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnesium (ppb)	2021	31.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
PH (Units)	2021	7.37	N/A	none	none

Iron MCL Violation: "Iron was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 300 µg/L. The iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing.

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.

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).*

For more information, contact:

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