



SONORA WATER CO. INC.

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February 21, 2020

State Water Resources Control Board
Drinking Water Field Operations
265 W. Bullard Ave., Ste. 101
Fresno, CA 93704

Re: 2019 Customer Consumer Report

Enclosed please find the annual report needed to be sent to all customer's of Sonora Water Company annually. Please acknowledge receipt of said report. Said report will be provided to all customer's of Sonora Water Co. with their March 1, 2020 billing(s).

Thank you

Sonora Water Co.

SONORA WATER COMPANY**WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2020
TESTING YEAR 2019**

Each year, Sonora Water Co. is required to provide to its customer's information concerning the testing and treatment of water provided. As Sonora Water Co. purchases all water from Tuolumne Utilities District and does not "treat" said water, it is still required to have certain testings of that water and provide all information. Below we have provided information from TUD for the "Sonora Area", from which Sonora Water Co. receives its water.

Should you desire to examine the entire report, you may go to the website of TUD and do so.

Regulated Substances:

	REPORTING	ANALYSES	MCL
CHEMICAL	UNITS	RESULTS	
1 Hardness (Total) as CaCO ₃	mg/L	18.0	
2 Calcium (CA)	mg/L	5.2	
3 Magnesium (Mg)	mg/L	1.1	
4 Sodium (Na)	mg/L	5.4	
6 Potassium (K)	mg/L	<2.0	
Total Cations		0.59	
7 Alkalinity (Total) (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	23.0	
8 Hydroxide (OH)	mg/L	<1.0	
9 Carbonate (CO ₃)	mg/L	<1.8	
10 Bicarbonate (HCO ₃)	mg/L	28.0	
11 Sulfate (SO ₄)	mg/L	ND	500
12 Chloride (Cl)	mg/L	3.8	500
13 Nitrate as Nitrogen (N)	mg/L	ND	10
14 Fluoride (F) Natural Source	mg/L	ND	2
Total Anions		0.57	
15 Color, Apparent (Unfiltered)	Units	5.0	15
Foaming Agents (MBAWS)	mg/L	<0.050	0.5
17 Turbidity, Laboratory	NTU	0.4	5
18 Aluminum (Al)	ug/L	ND	1000
19 Antimony	ug/L	ND	6
20 Arsenic (As)	ug/L	ND	10
21 Barium (Ba)	ug/L	ND	1000
22 Beryllium	ug/L	ND	4
23 Cadmium (Cd)	ug/L	ND	5
24 Chromium (Total Cr)	ug/L	ND	50
25 Copper (Cu)	ug/L	ND	1000
26 Iron (Fe)	ug/L	ND	300
27 Lead (Pb)	ug/L	ND	
28 Manganese (Mn)	ug/L	20	50
29 Mercury (Hg)	ug/L	ND	2
30 Nickel	ug/L	ND	100
31 Selenium (se)	ug/L	ND	50
32 Silver (Ag)	ug/L	ND	100
33 Thallium	ug/L	ND	2
34 Zinc (Zn)	ug/L	ND	5000

Continue on Reverse Side

SONORA WATER COMPANY**WATER QUALITY REPORT YEAR 2020**
TESTING YEAR 2019

By order from the State Water Resources Control Board, Sonora Water Co. must perform monthly and quarterly tests on the water provided to its customers.

Below are results for those testings performed in 2019.

Test	Total	Positive Tubes	Average Levels	Testing Frequency
1 Bacteriological				
Coliform	4.22	ND	1.30-1.44	Monthly
Chlorine (mg/L)	4.22	ND	1.30-1.44	Monthly
2 TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ug/L)	37.91			Quarterly
3 HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ug/L)	35.43			Quarterly
Testing Meets All Quality Standards				
	Levels		Date of Testing	
4 Copper (ug/L)	56-190		7/2018	Every 3 years
5 Lead (ug/L)	ND		7/2018	Every 3 years

Defination of Coding:

NA	Not Applicable
ND	None (Not) Detected

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2019



Presented By
Tuolumne Utilities District

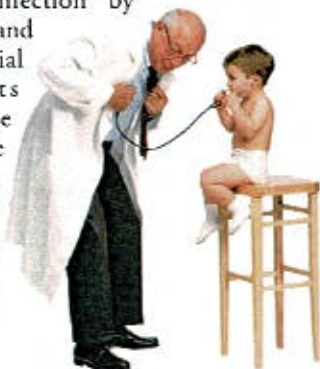
Our Mission Continues

Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) is pleased to present the Annual Water Quality Report covering all TUD-treated water testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2019. TUD's dedicated staff is working hard under enhanced safety precautions to supply safe, reliable, and plentiful water to homes and businesses. Over the years, district staff have maintained a strong commitment to producing drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards. The district strives to adopt new and efficient methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to its customers. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, TUD remains vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all water users.

Please contact district staff with any questions or concerns about your water at (209) 532-5536.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



Substances That Could Be in Water

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.

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

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or can result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or can 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Angel Tarango, Regulatory Compliance Specialist, at (209) 532-5536, extension 537.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The most important factor in water quality is the water source. TUD receives its water from two sources: surface water that originates from rainfall and runoff from snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and groundwater wells throughout our water systems. The district is comprised of 11 water service areas, which include 11 surface water treatment plants and 12 active wells. These produce and supply quality drinking water to the service areas.

Our surface water is delivered to TUD treatment plants starting at the South Fork of the Stanislaus River at Lyons Reservoir via the Tuolumne Main Canal by agreement with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). PG&E owns and operates Pinecrest Lake, Lyons Reservoir, and the Tuolumne Main Canal. Approximately 96 percent of TUD's annual water needs is supplied from surface water from Lyons Reservoir and Pinecrest Lake; the other 4 percent is supplied from groundwater wells either as a primary source or a backup source.

To learn more about our watershed, visit the U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed at www.epa.gov/surf.

Table Talk

Get the most out of the Testing Results data table with this simple suggestion. In less than a minute, you will know all there is to know about your water:

For each substance listed, compare the value in the Amount Detected column against the value in the MCL (or AL, SMCL) column. If the Amount Detected value is smaller, your water meets the health and safety standards set for the substance.

Other Table Information Worth Noting

Verify that there were no violations of the state and/or federal standards in the Violation column. If there was a violation, you will see a detailed description of the event in this report.

If there is an ND or a less-than symbol (<), that means that the substance was not detected (i.e., below the detectable limits of the testing equipment).

The Range column displays the lowest and highest sample readings. If there is an NA showing, that means only a single sample was taken to test for the substance (assuming there is a reported value in the Amount Detected column).

If there is sufficient evidence to indicate from where the substance originates, it will be listed under Typical Source.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA (<https://goo.gl/TFAMKc>) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) websites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management has a website (<https://goo.gl/kGepu4>) that provides complete and current information on water issues in California, including valuable information about our watershed.

How Is My Water Treated and Purified?

The typical water treatment process requires several steps. These steps are required to ensure that your water is safe, wholesome, and free of contaminants.

Intake from source water: This is where the water entering the treatment process is screened to remove large debris.

Coagulation: Small particles are brought together to form flocculent, or floc, which allows the majority of the sediment to settle out of the water.

Filtration: The remaining finer particles are filtered from the water using specially designed media.

Disinfection: A disinfectant is applied to the water to kill any bacteria that may be present.

Storage: The finished water product is stored in sealed tanks, where it is then delivered to the consumer.

Quality Monitoring: Water quality is monitored at the treatment process and throughout the distribution system to ensure that the water is in compliance with federal and state standards at all times.

Community Participation

The public is encouraged to attend the district's regularly scheduled board meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 18885 Nugget Boulevard in Sonoma. If the Board Room is not open to the public due to safety concerns, board meetings will be held via electronic audio conferencing. All members of the public may observe and participate in the board meetings by following login instructions posted on the board meeting agendas. The public may also listen to and view the board meetings on the district's website, <https://tudwater.com/board-of-directors/meeting-agenda-minutes-video/>.

Benefits of Chlorination

Disinfection, a chemical process used to control disease-causing microorganisms by killing or inactivating them, is unquestionably the most important step in drinking water treatment. By far, the most common method of disinfection in North America is chlorination.

Before communities began routinely treating drinking water with chlorine (starting with Chicago and Jersey City in 1908), cholera, typhoid fever, dysentery, and hepatitis A killed thousands of U.S. residents annually. Drinking water chlorination and filtration have helped to virtually eliminate these diseases in the U.S. Significant strides in public health are directly linked to the adoption of drinking water chlorination. In fact, the filtration of drinking water plus the use of chlorine is probably the most significant public health advancement in human history.

How chlorination works:

Potent Germicide Reduction in the level of many disease-causing microorganisms in drinking water to almost immeasurable levels.

Taste and Odor Reduction of many disagreeable tastes and odors like foul-smelling algae secretions, sulfides, and decaying vegetation.

Biological Growth Elimination of slime bacteria, molds, and algae that commonly grow in water supply reservoirs, on the walls of water mains, and in storage tanks.

Chemical Removal of hydrogen sulfide (which has a rotten egg odor), ammonia, and other nitrogenous compounds that have unpleasant tastes and hinder disinfection. It also helps to remove iron and manganese from raw water.



Tip Top Tap

The most common signs that your faucet or sink is affecting the quality of your drinking water are discolored water, sink or faucet stains, a buildup of particles, unusual odors or tastes, and a reduced flow of water. The solutions to these problems may be in your hands.

Kitchen Sink and Drain

Hand washing, soap scum buildup, and the handling of raw meats and vegetables can contaminate your sink. Clogged drains can lead to unclean sinks and backed-up water in which bacteria (i.e., pink and black slime growth) can grow and contaminate the sink area and faucet, causing a rotten egg odor. Disinfect and clean the sink and drain area regularly. Also, flush regularly with hot water.

Faucets, Screens, and Aerators

Chemicals and bacteria can splash and accumulate on the faucet screen and aerator, which are located on the tip of faucets and can collect particles like sediment and minerals, resulting in a decreased flow from the faucet. Clean and disinfect the aerators or screens on a regular basis.

Check with your plumber if you find particles in the faucet screen, as they could be pieces of plastic from the hot water heater dip tube. Faucet gaskets can break down and cause black, oily slime. If you find this slime, replace the faucet gasket with a higher-quality product. White scaling or hard deposits on faucets and showerheads may be caused by hard water, or water with high levels of calcium carbonate. Clean these fixtures with vinegar or use water softening to reduce the calcium carbonate levels for the hot water system.

Water Filtration/Treatment Devices

A smell of rotten eggs can be a sign of bacteria on the filters or in the treatment system. The system can also become clogged over time, so regular filter replacement is important. (Remember to replace your refrigerator filter!)

To the Last Drop

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) defines drought as a deficiency in precipitation over an extended period of time, usually a season or more, resulting in a water shortage causing adverse impacts on vegetation, animals, or people. Drought strikes in virtually all climate zones, from very wet to very dry.

There are primarily three types of drought: Meteorological Drought refers to the lack of precipitation, or the degree of dryness, and the duration of the dry period; Agricultural Drought refers to the agricultural impact of drought, focusing on precipitation shortages, soil water deficits, and reduced groundwater or reservoir levels needed for irrigation; and Hydrological Drought pertains to drought that usually occurs following periods of extended precipitation shortfalls that can impact water supply (i.e., stream flow, reservoir and lake levels, groundwater).

Drought is a temporary aberration from normal climate conditions; thus, it can vary significantly from one region to another. Although normally occurring, human factors such as water demand can exacerbate the duration and impact of drought on a region. By following simple water conservation measures, you can help significantly reduce the lasting effects of extended drought.

FOG (fats, oils, and grease)

You may not be aware of it, but every time you pour fat, oil, or grease (FOG) down your sink (e.g., bacon grease), you are contributing to a costly problem in the sewer collection system. FOG coats the inner walls of the plumbing in your house as well as the walls of underground piping throughout the community. Over time these greasy materials build up and form blockages in pipes, which can lead to wastewater backing up into parks, yards, streets, and storm drains. These backups allow FOG to contaminate local waters, including drinking water. Exposure to untreated wastewater is a public health hazard. FOG discharged into septic systems and drain fields can also cause malfunctions, resulting in more frequent tank pump-outs and other expenses.

Communities spend billions of dollars every year to unplug or replace grease-blocked pipes, repair pump stations, and clean up costly and illegal wastewater spills. Here are some tips that you and your family can follow to help maintain a well-run system now and in the future:

NEVER:

- Pour FOG down the house or storm drains.
- Dispose of food scraps by flushing them.
- Use the toilet as a wastebasket.

ALWAYS:

- Scrape and collect FOG into a waste container, such as an empty coffee can, and dispose of it with your garbage.
- Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes.
- Place a wastebasket in each bathroom for solid wastes like disposable diapers, creams and lotions, and personal hygiene products, including nonbiodegradable wipes.



Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the drinking water sources for all TUD water systems was completed in 2013. The vulnerability summary for each system is included. A copy of the complete assessment of each system may be viewed at the Department of Health Services, Water Field Operations Branch, Merced District Office, 265 West Bullard Avenue, Suite 101, Fresno, California.

VULNERABILITY	APPLE VALLEY	PEACEFUL PINES	PHOENIX LAKE	SONORA	PONDEROSA	TUOLUMNE	UPPER BASIN	COLUMBIA	CEDAR RIDGE	SCENIC VIEW	WARDS FERRY
Sewer Collection	X			X		X	X	X			
Septic System Low Density				X		X		X			X
Septic System High Density		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Grazing	X						X				X
Other Animal Operations	X						X				
Lumber Processing/Manufacturing	X			X							
Wood/Pulp/Mills								X			
Recreational/Surface water source				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Historic waste dumps/landfills				X			X				
Auto/Machine Shop				X							
Car Washing				X							
Dry Cleaners				X							
Highways/Transportation Corridor				X							



Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through the mains.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. (If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.) 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Tap vs. Bottled

Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced us all that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 25 percent of bottled water is actually just bottled tap water (40 percent, according to government estimates).

The Food and Drug Administration is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that's packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommended eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to \$1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you installed a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you'd pay for bottled water.

For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, check out its website at <https://goo.gl/Jxb6xG>.

Fixtures with Green Stains

A green or blue-green stain on kitchen or bathroom fixtures is caused by tiny amounts of copper that dissolve in your home's copper plumbing system when the water sits unused overnight. Copper staining may be the result of a leaky faucet or a faulty toilet flush valve, so be sure your plumbing is in good working order.

Copper stains may also be caused by overly hot tap water. Generally speaking, you should maintain your water temperature at a maximum of 120 degrees Fahrenheit. You should consult the owner's manual for your heater or check with your plumber to determine your current heat setting. Lowering your water temperature will reduce the staining problem and save you money on your energy bill.

Also keep in mind that a tap that is used often throughout the day usually will not produce copper stains, so if you flush the tap for a minute or so before using the water for cooking or drinking, copper levels will be reduced.

Safeguard Your Drinking Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources, or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use U.S. EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.

Organize a storm drain stenciling project with others in your neighborhood. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste – Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Count on Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water;
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions;
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results;
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry;
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels;
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies; and
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.



BY THE NUMBERS

The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

34
BILLION

1
MILLION The number of miles of drinking water distribution mains in the U.S.

The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

135
BILLION

300
MILLION The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

The age in years of the world's oldest water found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

2
BILLION

151
THOUSAND The number of active public water systems in the U.S.

The number of highly trained and licensed water professionals serving in the U.S.

199
THOUSAND

93 The number of federally regulated contaminants tested for in drinking water.

Arsenic Regulation

Arsenic contamination of drinking water sources may result from either natural or human activities. Volcanic activity, erosion of rocks and minerals, and forest fires are natural sources that can release arsenic into the environment. Although about 90 percent of the arsenic used by industry is for wood preservative purposes, it is also used in paints, drugs, dyes, soaps, metals, and semiconductors. Agricultural applications, mining, and smelting also contribute to arsenic releases. Arsenic is usually found in the environment combined with other elements such as oxygen, chlorine, and sulfur (inorganic arsenic) or carbon and hydrogen (organic arsenic). Organic forms are usually less harmful than inorganic forms.

Low levels of arsenic are naturally present in water - about 2 parts per billion (ppb). Thus, you normally take in small amounts of arsenic in the water you drink. Some areas of the country have unusually high natural levels of arsenic in rock, which can lead to unusually high levels of arsenic in water.

In January 2001, the U.S. EPA lowered the arsenic maximum contaminant level (MCL) from 50 to 10 ppb in response to new and compelling research linking high arsenic levels in drinking water with certain forms of cancer. All water utilities were required to implement this new MCL in January 2006.

Removing arsenic from drinking water is a costly procedure but well worth the expenditure, considering the health benefits. For a more complete discussion, visit the U.S. EPA's arsenic website at <https://goo.gl/3ctbFL>.

Protecting Your Water

Bacteria are a natural and important part of our world. There are around 40 trillion bacteria living in each of us; without them, we would not be able to live healthy lives. Coliform bacteria are common in the environment and generally not harmful themselves. The presence of this bacterial form in drinking water is a concern, however, because it indicates that the water may be contaminated with other organisms that can cause disease.

In 2016 the U.S. EPA passed a regulation called the Revised Total Coliform Rule, which requires additional steps that water systems must take in order to ensure the integrity of the drinking water distribution system by monitoring for the presence of bacteria like total coliform and *E. coli*. The rule requires more stringent standards than the previous regulation, and it requires water systems that may be vulnerable to contamination to have in place procedures that will minimize the incidence of contamination. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment of their system and correct any problems quickly. The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under this regulation due to its more preventive approach to identifying and fixing problems that may affect public health.

Though we have been fortunate to have the highest-quality drinking water, our goal is to eliminate all potential pathways of contamination into our distribution system, and this requirement helps us to accomplish that goal.

Test Results

Our raw source water and treated drinking water is monitored and tested for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule set forth by state regulators. The drinking water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here we only show those substances that were detected in our treated drinking water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Please remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fourth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water in order to determine if U.S. EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data are available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES													
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	Apple Valley		Cedar Ridge		Columbia/Sig Hill		Peaceful Pines		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Arsenic (ppb)	2018	10	0.004	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	1.02	0.62-1.22	1.6	1.3-1.62	1.63	1.55-1.85	0.93	0.71-1.34	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors [TOC] (Units)	2019	"1"	NA	NA	NA	1.1	0.7-1.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	2.0	1	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	0.22 ¹	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2015	15	(0)	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2017	60	NA	<2.0	NA	25.0 ¹	14.0-40.0 ¹	43.9 ¹	36.0-54.0 ¹	<2.0	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm)	2019	45	45	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2017	80	NA	4.2	NA	24.8 ¹	15.0-38.0 ¹	42.3 ¹	33.0-59.0 ¹	5.2	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL (MROL)	PHG (MCLG) (MROLO)	Phoenix Lake		Ponderosa		Scenic View		Sonora		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Arsenic (ppb)	2018	10	0.004	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	1.0	0.67-1.26	1.7	1.5-2.0	1.77	1.4-1.9	2.02	1.75-2.1	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors [TOC] (Units)	2019	TT	NA	NA	NA	1.2	0.7-1.9	1.1	0.7-1.4	1.3	0.9-2.3	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	2.0	1	0.14 ²	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2015	15	(0)	3.58	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ²	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2017	60	NA	12 ¹	NA	38 ¹	30-47 ¹	24.8 ¹	17-26 ¹	44.3 ¹	25-64 ¹	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as nitrate) (ppm)	2019	45	45	ND	NA	ND	NA	1.8	ND-3.6	ND	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2017	80	NA	35 ¹	NA	39.3 ¹	35-47 ¹	41.3 ¹	35-49 ¹	45.5 ¹	24-60 ¹	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL (MROL)	PHG (MCLG) (MROLO)	Tulelake		Upper Basin		Wards Ferry		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Arsenic (ppb)	2018	10	0.004	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	1.57	1.4-1.6	1.71	1.63-1.77	0.76	0.23-0.83	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors [TOC] (Units)	2019	TT	NA	1.3	1.0-1.9	0.75	0.4-1.6	NA	NA	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	2.0	1	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND ²	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2015	15	(0)	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	1.22 ¹	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2017	60	NA	43.5 ¹	27.0-48.0 ¹	28.05 ¹	15.0-40.0 ¹	2.0	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as nitrate) (ppm)	2019	45	45	ND	NA	ND	NA	3.1	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2017	80	NA	43.5 ¹	33.0-55.0 ¹	26.8 ¹	13.0-39.0 ¹	1.6	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	Apple Valley		Cedar Ridge		Columbia/Big Hill		Peaceful Pines		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES		
Copper (ppm)	2017	1.3	0.3	0.19	0/5	0.096	0/10	0.081	0/20	ND	0/5	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2017	15	0.2	2.9	0/5	ND	1/10	ND	2/20	ND	0/5	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	Phoenix Lake		Pindroca		Scenic View		Sonora		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES		
Copper (ppm)	2017	1.3	0.3	0.34	0/5	0.086 ²	0/10 ²	0.15 ²	0/10 ²	0.091 ¹	0/30 ¹	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2017	15	0.2	ND	0/5	9.6 ¹	0/10 ¹	ND ¹	0/10 ¹	ND ¹	0/30 ¹	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	Tadumne		Upper Basin		Wards Ferry		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES		
Copper (ppm)	2017	1.3	0.3	0.14 ²	0/10 ²	0.12	0/20	0.76 ²	0/5 ²	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2017	15	0.2	ND ¹	0/10 ²	ND	0/20	ND ²	0/5 ²	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Apple Valley		Cedar Ridge		Columbia/Big Hill		Peaceful Pines		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Iron (ppb)	2018	300	NS	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2018	50	NS	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2018	500	NS	9.9	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	3.5	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	2018	5	NS	0.19	NA	0.24 ¹	0.02-0.24 ¹	0.19 ¹	0.02-0.19 ¹	0.16	NA	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2018	5.0	NS	0.077	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	0.079	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Phoenix Lake		Panderosa		Scenic View		Sonora		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Iron (ppb)	2018	300	NS	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2018	50	NS	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	20 ¹	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2018	500	NS	2.7	NA	<1.0 ¹	NA	0.6 ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	2018	5	NS	0.14	NA	0.15 ¹	0.04-0.15 ¹	0.18 ¹	0.03-0.18 ¹	0.28 ¹	0.05-0.28 ¹	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2018	5.0	NS	ND	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Tudman		Upper Basin		Wards Ferry		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Iron (ppb)	2018	300	NS	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2018	50	NS	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2018	500	NS	<1.0 ¹	NA	<1.0 ¹	NA	4.0	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (Units)	2018	5	NS	0.18 ¹	0.03-0.18 ¹	0.3 ¹	0.02-0.3 ¹	0.1	NA	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2018	5.0	NS	ND ¹	NA	ND ¹	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES¹

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Apple Valley		Cedar Ridge		Columbia/Big Hill		Peaceful Pines		Phoenix Lake		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Hardness, Total [as CaCO ₃] (ppm)	2018	200	NA	6.9 ¹	NA	9.0 ¹	7.7-9.0 ¹	81	NA	280	NA	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2018	14	NA	3.7 ¹	NA	7.2 ¹	5.8-7.2 ¹	17	NA	21	NA	NA

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES¹

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Ponderosa		Scenic View		Sonora		Tumacac		Upper Basin		Wards Ferry		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Hardness, Total [as CaCO ₃] (ppm)	2018	7.9 ¹	NA	15 ¹	NA	18 ¹	NA	9.4 ¹	NA	6.9 ¹	6.7-9.0 ²	160	NA	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2018	4.5 ¹	NA	10 ¹	NA	5.4 ¹	NA	5.2 ¹	NA	4.6 ¹	3.3-5.7 ¹	12.0	NA	NA

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE - PART 4 (UCMR4)¹

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Apple Valley		Cedar Ridge		Columbia/Sig Hill		Peacocks Pines		Phoenix Lake		Ponderosa		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Bromide (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA5 (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA6Br (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA9 (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Manganese (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Monochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (ppm)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE - PART 4 (UCMR4)¹

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Scenic View		Sonora		Tumacac		Upper Basin		Wards Ferry		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Bromide (ppb)	2019	6.5	ND-26	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	0.798	0.47-1.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	1.075	0.64-1.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	16.5	10.0-21.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA5 (ppb)	2019	19.6	17.2-21.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA6Br (ppb)	2019	2.58	0.8-6.34	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
HAA9 (ppb)	2019	22.18	18-28.14	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Manganese (ppb)	2019	19.25	11-30	14.33	10-19	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Monochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	1.85	ND-3.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (ppm)	2019	1.775	1.1-2.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019	NA	NA	22.25	15.0-31.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

¹ Sampled in 2019.

² Sampled in 2018.

³ Sampled in 2014.

⁴ Sampled in 2016.

⁵ Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90 percent of our lead and copper detections.

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

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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

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.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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