

2019 Consumer Confidence Report

Water is Precious



MEINERS OAKS WATER DISTRICT CONSUMERS CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2019

Last year, as in years past, your tap water meets all EPA and State drinking water health standards. Meiners Oaks Water District has delivered safe drinking water that did not violate any maximum contaminant levels. This report details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the 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. 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).

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. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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- 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, 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Disposing of unused, unwanted, and expired medications once it was common practice to flush these medications (also known as pharmaceuticals) down the toilet. Your doctor or pharmacist may have directed you to do this. We now know that these substances are bad for our environment - the ground, water, and the air around us. Please return all unused medications to your pharmacist.
- Department of Health and EPA regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

For more information, please look to (www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org)

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Sources of your Water

Your water comes from four District wells drilled 100 to 300 feet into underground aquifers. Two groundwater wells are located at Lomita and Rice, and two wells three miles north of Meiners Oaks. We also have two 4" connections to receive surface water from Lake Casitas, when needed. Customers may receive Lake Casitas surface water if our wells need repair or cannot keep up with system demand. A blend of surface and groundwater is delivered on those occasions.

Water purchased from Casitas is treated by using chloramines; this type of treatment utilizes chlorine mixed with a small amount of ammonia. People on dialysis should ensure that they are using the proper filtration. If you have a fish pond or aquarium, the added ammonia will kill your fish if not properly treated by removing the ammonia content.

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Water Conservation

Meiners Oaks Water District would like to remind its customers that a **Stage 3 water shortage** continues, and encourages every customer to stay diligent with their conservation practices. Lake Casitas currently measures at 44.4% of its capacity. Conserving water will help reduce the strain on our wells and lower the amount of water that would need to be purchased from Lake Casitas. It is a precious natural resource that we cannot afford to waste. So please keep in mind to use positive shut-off valves when washing your car or watering your plants or garden. Use low-flow shower heads and faucets. Low flow toilets are also a big water saver. If you cannot afford low flow fixtures or any of the many other water-saving devices available to you, as a customer of Meiners Oaks Water District, you are eligible for rebates from Casitas Municipal Water District as a Meiners Oaks Water District customer.

Another way to save water is to use smart controllers for your irrigation valves. They are available through Casitas Municipal Water rebate program and most irrigation supply houses. Let Casitas Water know that you are one of our customers and present them a water bill from our District and they will take it from there. Casitas now offers rebates for getting rid of your lawns. Please contact Casitas MWD at 649-2251 for more information.

Once Lake Casitas level reaches 30% of capacity, the threshold for Stage 4 will be reached; this stage will require a mandatory 40% reduction in use.

Meiners Oaks Water District continues to work on the following projects to expand/support our water portfolio and lessen the amount of water we would have to supplement from Lake Casitas:

- Drilling a new well off of Rice Rd (Completed)
- Exploring options of an optional 2000 foot deep well, that would be used in critical times to supplement our existing sources in place of purchasing Lake Casitas water
- Nitrate removal and blending at our well W-8
- Lining wells 1 and 2 with stainless steel liners and equipping them with variable frequency drives for longer life and durability (Completed)

Also, the Meiners Oaks Water Board of Directors has passed Resolution 20180417-1 supporting Casitas MWD in their pursuit of bringing State water into the Ojai Valley.

Fun Facts about Water



780 million people lack access to an approved water source.



1/3 of what the world spends on bottled water in one year could pay for projects providing water to everyone in need.



In the United States, the West has experienced less rain over the past 50 years, as well as increases in the severity and length of droughts; this has been especially of concern in the Southwest.



Water can dissolve more substances than any other liquid including sulfuric acid.



In one year, the average American residence uses over 100,000 gallons (indoors and outside).



Only .003% of water on Earth is freshwater available for human consumption. Save water by challenging friends to only use 13 gallons of water in a day. (It is harder than it sounds!)



The United States draws more than 40 billion gallons (151 million liters) of water from the Great Lakes every day—half of which is used for electrical power production.



Water acts as a natural insulator to regulate the earth's temperature.



1.7% of the world's water is frozen and therefore unusable.

For more information about saving water and doing your part go to
www.bewaterwise.com or www.meinersoakswater.org or www.casitaswater.org

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Water System Name: MEINERS OAKS CWD

Report Date: April 2020

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2019.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Type of water source(s) in use: According to SWRCB records, the Sources Well 01 and Well 02 are Groundwater under the influence of Surface Water. This Assessment was done using the Default Groundwater System Method. According to SWRCB records, the Sources Well 04, and Well 07 are Groundwater. This Assessment was done using the Default Groundwater System Method.

Your water comes from 4 source(s): Well 01, Well 02, Well 04 and Well 07

Opportunities for public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality: Regularly-scheduled water board or city/county council meetings are held at 202 W. El Roblar every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm.

For more information about this report, or any questions relating to your drinking water, please call (805) 646-2114 and ask for Mike Hollebrands or visit our website at www.meinersoakswater.org.

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically 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 (USEPA).

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 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 the contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for the 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.

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

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 coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

mg/L: milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm)

ug/L: micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

umhos/cm: micro mhos per centimeter

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.

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 by-products 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resource Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Water Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 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 Water 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 MCL, AL or MRDL is highlighted. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Table 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in last sample set)	Sample Date	90th percentile level detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Lead (ug/L)	20 (2017)	5.3	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (mg/L)	20 (2017)	0.37	0	1.3	.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Sodium (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	59	51 - 62	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	474	447 - 497	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Table 3 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Aluminum (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	ND	ND - 0.08	1	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes

Fluoride (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	(2019)	5.5	1.0 - 7.1	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	2.4	ND - 5.2	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ug/L)	(2017 - 2018)	ND	ND - 6	50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots(feed additive)
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	(2017 - 2018)	3.41	2.04 - 4.11	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium (pCi/L)	(2017)	ND	ND - 1.51	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	52	35 - 76	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	(2017 - 2018)	1140	1090 - 1190	1600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	304	240 - 384	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	770	750 - 820	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	(2017 - 2018)	0.4	0.2 - 0.6	5	n/a	Soil runoff

Table 5 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Boron (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	0.7	0.5 - 0.9	1	Boron exposures resulted in decreased fetal weight (developmental effects) in newborn rats.

Table 6 - ADDITIONAL DETECTIONS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Calcium (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	131	123 - 138	n/a	n/a
Magnesium (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	36	34 - 37	n/a	n/a
pH (units)	(2017 - 2018)	7.3	6.8 - 7.8	n/a	n/a
Alkalinity (mg/L)	(2017 - 2018)	230	200 - 250	n/a	n/a
Aggressiveness Index	(2017 - 2018)	12.1	11.7 - 12.7	n/a	n/a
Langelier Index	(2017 - 2018)	0.24	-0.2 - 0.8	n/a	n/a

Table 7 - DETECTION OF DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCT RULE

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ug/L)	(2019)	79	1 - 84	80	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Chlorine (mg/L)	(2019)	1.10	0.43 - 1.60	4.0	4.0	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Haloacetic Acids (five) (ug/L)	(2019)	49	ND - 49	60	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Additional General Information on Drinking Water

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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).

Lead Specific Language for Community Water Systems: 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 the service lines and home plumbing. *Meiners Oaks 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

VIOLATION OF A MCL,MRDL,AL,TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken To Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)				Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

About your Nitrate as N: Nitrate above 5 mg/L as nitrogen (50 percent of the MCL), but below 10 mg/L as nitrogen (the MCL); Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a 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 certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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Drinking Water Assessment Information

Assessment Information

A source water assessment was conducted for the WELL 01, WELL 02, WELL 04, and WELL 07 of the MEINERS OAKS CWD water system in March, 2001.

Well 01 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Agricultural Drainage

Septic systems - low density [$<1/\text{acre}$]

Well 02 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Agricultural Drainage

Well 04 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Agricultural Drainage

Well 07 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Agricultural Drainage

Sewer collection systems

Wells - Agricultural/ Irrigation

Acquiring Information

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:

SWRCB Division of Drinking Water

1180 Eugenia Place

Suite 200

Carpinteria, CA 93013

You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:

Jeff Densmore

District Engineer

805 566 1326