



INFORMATION
ABOUT YOUR WATER

Green Certification Expected for New Lab Control Building

Goleta Water District expects to receive a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the United States Green Building Council. The application is for the new laboratory and control building at the upgraded Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant.

This certification will recognize the energy and water efficiency of the new structure and the environmentally friendly building materials used in its construction.

Green buildings provide environmental benefits, have lower long-term costs, enhance productivity and worker health, and minimize impacts on local electrical power and other essential resources.

How You Can Get Involved

Our water board normally meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the District Board Room at 4699 Hollister Avenue in Goleta. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Visit www.goletawater.com for more information.

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

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

2007 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT This Year's Water Quality Report Card Is In We PASSED Again

Goleta Water District is once again proud to report that our system was in full compliance with water quality regulations that have become more stringent with each passing year. In 2006, as in years past, your tap water met all federal and state drinking water health standards. This annual report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory standards.

Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Complete

Completion of a two-phase project to upgrade the District's Corona del Mar Treatment process has ushered in a new era of improved water quality. The improvements will serve customers for decades to come and will allow the District to continue to meet strict state and federal regulations.

As a result of the improvements, the treatment plant is now more reliable and able to meet difficult situations, such as high water flows, emergencies and the challenges of maintenance.

It is the District's largest-ever construction project. Phase II cost \$22 million, which followed \$5 million spent on Phase I. The project was completed as planned and budgeted.

The upgraded plant also features improved energy efficiency and other environmentally friendly features. Among the energy and cost-saving features of the upgraded plant:

- Some major systems now operate by gravity rather than by pump.
- Sludge removal is accomplished in less time to reduce energy.
- New plant equipment was installed that requires less electricity.



Completion of the upgrading of the Corona del Mar Treatment Plant allows the District to meet ever-increasing state and federal water quality regulations.

More About Drinking Water Quality

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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount 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.

What Are Water Quality Standards?

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Any Special Precautions?

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Where Can I Get More Information?

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

DEFINITIONS USED IN THE CHART:

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.

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 level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

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 which a water system must follow.

N/A: Not applicable.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

pCi/l: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity units. A measure of clarity.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

µmhos/cm: micromhos per centimeter (an indicator of dissolved minerals in the water).

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

FOOTNOTES TO THE CHART:

¹ In March 2002 a sample taken at University Well had a detection of 0.9 ppb dichloromethane. University Well was not in use at this time. Subsequent samples taken at this well have been non-detect for dichloromethane.

² Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

³ Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1) Be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month; 2) Not exceed 1.0 NTU.

⁴ Conventional surface water treatment plants must remove a certain percentage of the TOC in their raw intake water using a specialized treatment technique. The percentage removal required depends on raw water quality characteristics. For Goleta Water District's raw water source, the required percentage is 15%. Due to the nature of Goleta Water District's raw water source TOC, this is not technically feasible. Goleta Water District has received verbal approval of a waiver from this treatment requirement from the USEPA and the California Department of Health Services, and we are awaiting formal written approval.

⁵ Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA and the California Department of Health Services to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. Goleta Water District completed its required Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) testing in 2001. The data in this section of the report are from 2001.

⁶ Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

Note: The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. All of the surface water and distribution system data presented in the tables are from samples taken in 2006, except for the following. The surface water uranium data was obtained in 1999. The surface water silica data was obtained in 2004. All of the groundwater data presented in the tables are from samples taken in 2006, except for the following. The dichloromethane data is from 2002. The phosphate data is from 2001. The silica and boron data are from 2001, 2003 and 2004. The odor data is from 2001, 2004 and 2006. The hardness, bicarbonate, aluminum and fluoride data are from 2001, 2003 and 2006. The alkalinity, sodium, potassium, sulfate, chloride, pH, specific conductance, total dissolved solids, color and turbidity data are from 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2006. The magnesium and calcium data are from 2003, 2004 and 2006. The trihalomethane data is from 2002, 2003 and 2006. The groundwater gross alpha data is from 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2006. The uranium data was obtained in 1999, 2000 and 2004. The haloacetic acid data is from 1999 and 2000. The radon data is from 2003 and 2006.

Results of 2006 Drinking Water Quality Tests

Test results on your drinking water show that the District met or was better than all state and federal water quality standards. The tables below list drinking water contaminants and other constituents that we detected during the 2006 calendar year. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data is for testing done January 1 to December 31, 2006. The District also tested for many additional substances that were not detected, and therefore are not listed in this report.



REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS							
INORGANIC	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	0.080	ND-0.110	0.017	ND-0.054	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.38	N/A	0.38	0.21-0.41	Erosion of natural deposits
ORGANIC							
Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	4	ND	N/A	ND	ND-0.9 ¹	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide
RADIOLOGICAL							
Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/l)	15	0	ND	N/A	4.8	ND-17.5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.5	2.5	N/A	2.7	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
LEAD AND COPPER RULE							
	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	90th Percentile Value	# of Sample Sites	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level		Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	0.17	0.79	30	0		Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	2	ND (<5)	30	0		Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
MICROBIOLOGICAL							
	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Single Measurement		Lowest Percentage of Samples Meeting TT		Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity ² (NTU)	TT ³	N/A	0.269		100%		Soil runoff
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS							
	MCL or MRDL	PHG (MCLG) or MRDLG	System Average		System Range		Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	N/A	66.4		37.0-84.0		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	24.5		8.0-36.0		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)	MRDLG = 4.0 (as Cl ₂)	1.00		0.19-1.85		Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors (TOC in ppm)	TT ⁴	N/A	2.5		1.9-3.0		Various natural and manmade sources
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH REQUIRED MONITORING ⁵							
CONSTITUENT		Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range		
Boron (ppb)		295	260-330	153	ND-320		N/A
Vanadium (ppb)		ND	N/A	2.35	ND-4.8		N/A
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLS							
CONSTITUENT	Secondary MCL	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range		Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	500	13.0	N/A	98	19-350		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	15	ND	ND-5	3	ND-5		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor---Threshold (units)	3	1	1-2	4	1-8		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	1600	847	790-1307	1069	751-1670		Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate (ppm)	500	240	N/A	233	130-265		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	574	N/A	788	590-1150		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	0.16	0.05-3.29	0.75	0.23-1.31		Soil runoff
OTHER CONSTITUENTS							
CONSTITUENT		Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range		<p>Variance: Goleta Water District (GWD) serves unfiltered Lake Cachuma water to about 33 connections on the Goleta West Conduit. The water receives chlorination treatment but does not comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR). The State Department of Health Services allows GWD to provide bottled water to these customers for drinking and cooking as a temporary and interim solution. GWD notifies these consumers quarterly that the water delivered is not in compliance with the SWTR and should not be used for domestic purposes.</p> <p>Hardness: Goleta's water supply has natural minerals that cause hardness. While this does not affect health, it does leave spots on dishes and decreases the effectiveness of soap. The hardness of local water generally ranges from 20-23 grains per gallon, which is about 340-400 parts per million as calcium carbonate.</p>
Alkalinity (ppm as CaCO ₃)		167	137-183	209	141-286		
Bicarbonate (ppm)		170	N/A	221	170-323		
Calcium (ppm)		79	N/A	118	74-190		
Hardness (ppm as CaCO ₃)		347	286-400	419	358-630		
Magnesium (ppm)		37	N/A	47	34-74		
pH (units)		7.31	6.91-8.16	7.0	6.4-7.9		
Potassium (ppm)		2.3	N/A	2.7	1.6-4.7		
Radon ⁶ (pCi/l)		ND	N/A	414	130-853		
Silica (ppm)		14.3	14.1-14.4	26	16-52		
Sodium (ppm)		44	N/A	67	47-99		

Source Water Assessment Available for Public Inspection

A source water assessment of Lake Cachuma was completed in February 2006, as an attachment to the District's Watershed Sanitary Survey Update. This water source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: gas stations and recreational surface water activities. In addition, this water source is most vulnerable to this activity, for which no associated contaminant has been detected: historic mining operations. An assessment of University Well was completed in January 2002. University Well and San Antonio well are considered most vulnerable to injection wells. The District operates these injection wells as part of an aquifer storage and recovery project and closely monitors the quality of the treated surface water that is injected. An assessment of Sierra Madre Well was completed in April 2003. Sierra Madre Well is considered most vulnerable to sewer collection systems. The District closely monitors the quality of the water in Sierra Madre Well for the presence of contaminants that come from sewer collection systems as well as other contaminates.

A copy of the completed assessments is available at the District's main office. You may request a summary of the assessments by contacting Operations Manager Michael Kanno at 879-4630.

Where Does Your Water Come From?

The main source of your water comes from Lake Cachuma and is treated at the Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant. In addition, the district maintains a number of wells as a backup supply. In 2006, the following wells were put in service: Airport Well was used in February, March and December; University Well in February; San Antonio Well in February and March; San Marcos Well in February and March; Anita Well in November; and Sierra Madre Well from January through April.

How We Provide Top-Quality Water

Round the Clock Monitoring

Our certified water quality professionals monitor your water 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you don't have to worry about it.

Testing Accuracy

We conduct thousands of tests each year. The tests are done with such extraordinary accuracy that we can detect one hundredth of a part of some substances in a billion parts of water. This is equivalent to finding one drop of a substance in 1,300,000 gallons of water.

Frequency of Tests

Some of our tests are conducted daily, some weekly, some monthly, and at other intervals. With today's sophisticated equipment, we are even able to conduct some tests continuously around the clock.

Certified Labs

And the results of these tests come from our own state-certified lab and other independent state-certified labs.



Is Bottled Water Safer Than Tap Water?

Water agencies have long held that tap water is as safe as bottled water, and that there is no reason to use bottled water other than for a taste preference. A four-year study by the Natural Resources Defense Council shows that regulations actually are more stringent on tap water than on bottled water.

For example, tap water regulations are stricter on filtration and disinfection, testing, skill and certification levels of personnel and public reporting requirements. Water agencies are required to issue Consumer Confidence Reports, such as the one you are reading now, but bottled water companies have no such requirement.

Printed on recycled paper. Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.

Got Questions?

For more information about your water quality, contact Dale Armstrong at 879-4678.

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