



Scotts Valley
Water District

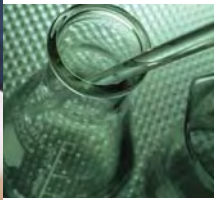

SUMMER 2006

water news

Vital Information on Community Water Issues

REPORT ON WATER QUALITY FOR 2005

Scotts Valley Water Passes the Test Again



As part of our commitment to provide you with the best possible water at the lowest cost, we are very pleased to provide you with this detailed report on Scotts Valley Water District's 2005 water quality.

Once again, the results of tests in this report show that your drinking water meets or is better than the increasingly stringent standards set by government regulators.

This demonstrates the District's continued success in providing our customers with safe, high-quality and reliable drinking water.

Contained in this report are the results of thousands of water quality tests conducted during 2005. Not listed in the report are the many substances that we test for but were below detection limits. The report also contains other useful and educational information about water quality that will answer many questions you may have about your drinking water.

*Delivering quality
water to you,
from wells
through pipelines
to your tap.*

Our Water Quality Professionals Can Help

For more information about your water quality, call Operations Manager/Assistant General Manager William O'Brien at 438-2363.

We urge you to attend meetings of our Board of Directors to learn more about water in your community. The Board meets every second Thursday at 7 p.m. at the District office at 2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley.



How We Provide Top-Quality Water

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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Quality Water Supply

Your drinking water comes from high-quality local groundwater supplies.

Your Water Is Treated

We treat your water in three advanced water treatment facilities before we deliver it to you.

We Test for Quality

Round The Clock Monitoring: Our state-certified water quality professionals monitor your water 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you don't have to worry about it. The thousands of tests that we conduct every year are done with such extraordinary accuracy that we can detect as low as one part of a substance in a billion parts of water.



When to Seek Health Care Advice

Our water supply is from underground aquifers that are less susceptible to surface water contaminants. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are 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. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1/800/426-4791.

Water in the Environment

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. The District's current source of supply is 100 percent groundwater. 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Where to Get More Information

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 at 1/800/426-4791.

RESULTS OF 2005 DRINKING WATER QUALITY TESTS

The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants and other constituents that we detected during the 2005 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables are from testing between January 1 and December 31, 2005. Secondary Standards in the chart below refer to aesthetic aspects of water and do not impact health.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	MCLG or PHG	SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT TREATED WATER		
			RANGE	AVERAGE	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION FOR ADDED SUBSTANCES
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS					
Arsenic (PPB)	50	NA	ND to 5	4.1	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.
Fluoride (PPM)	2	1	0.13 to 0.73	0.36	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Monochlorobenzene (PPB)	70	100	ND to 0.7	0.6	Discharge from industrial and agricultural chemical factories and dry cleaning facilities.
Total Trihalomethanes (PPB)	100	NA	ND to 29	8.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Xylenes (PPB)	170	1.8	ND	ND	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; fuel solvent.
Trichloroethylene (PPB)	5	0	ND	ND	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLS					
	SECONDARY MCL				
Chloride (PPM)	500		19-86	40	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits.
Color (Units)	15		ND-10	4	Naturally occurring organic minerals.
Iron (PPB)	300		ND to 870	247	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste.
Manganese (PPB)	50		ND to 52	15.1	Leaching from natural deposits.
Odor threshold (TON)	3		2 to 17	5	Naturally occurring organic minerals.
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	1,600		605-1,670	739	Substances that form ions in water.
Sulfate (PPM)	500		67-500	139	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste.
Lab Turbidity ¹ (NTU)	5.0	NA	0.15-3.2	0.74	Soil runoff.
NO STANDARDS					
PH (Units)			7.7 to 8.5	8.1	
Sodium (PPM)			28 to 340	81	
Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃) (PPM)			88 to 318	226	
Bicarbonate (HCO ₃) (PPM)			55-358	235.6	
Calcium (PPM)			28 to 81	58	
Carbonate (CO ₃) (PPM)			0.179 to 7.19	3.101	
Hydroxide (OH) (PPM)			0.009 to 2	0.023	
Magnesium (PPM)			4.3-36	19.9	
Potassium (PPM)			1.6 to 6.2	2.6	
Total Alkalinity (PPM)			45.2-295	194	
Phosphates (PPM)			0.215-1.65	0.464	
Hexavalent Chromium (PPB)			ND to 8	3.19	
Carbon Dioxide (PPM)			2-9.28	4.440	
Langelier Index			Minus 0.5 to 1.4	0.654	
Silver (PPM)			ND-0.019	0.00609	

Definitions Used in This Chart:

PPM: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter. 1 PPM is equal to about one drop in 17 gallons of water.

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.

PPB: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. 1 PPB is equal to about one drop in 17,000 gallons of water.

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

NA: Not applicable.

NS: No standard.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

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

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit.

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.

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.

Langelier Index: This index is used in stabilizing water to control both corrosion and the deposition of scale.

FOOTNOTES

¹Turbidity 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. 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. Most testing samples are taken from treated water. Our treatment plants remove arsenic, iron, and manganese. Copper and lead were sampled directly in the consumer tap. Coliform, color, odor, and turbidity are taken from sample stations located throughout the District.

Delivering quality water to you, from wells through pipelines to your tap.

New Manager Focuses on Quality

As Scotts Valley Water District's new General Manager, Charles McNiesh is focusing on the importance of maintaining and improving the quality of the water that the District delivers to its customers. He comes to Scotts Valley Water District from Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency in Watsonville, where he served for 14 years, including six years as General Manager.

En Español

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

How We Ensure Adequate Water Supplies

Scotts Valley Water District must rely entirely on its own, limited local water supplies. Here is how we provide our community with the water it needs.

Careful Groundwater Management

We conduct extensive groundwater studies and carefully manage pumping to protect our precious and limited underground water supply for now and for future generations


Advanced Water Recycling

The District's recycling program provides highly treated, recycled water from the City's wastewater plant for landscape uses, reducing the overall impact of District operations on groundwater resources.

Promote Water Conservation

Scotts Valley Water District offers a variety of conservation programs. Including offering rebates for customers who purchase and install low-flush toilets and water-efficient washing machines. Please do your part to use water wisely.



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

Scotts Valley Water District

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