



Scotts Valley
Water District

water news

Vital Information on Community Water Issues

REPORT ON WATER QUALITY FOR 2006

Scotts Valley Water Meets All Water Quality Standards

Once again the District is proud to present its annual report on water quality. The report covers testing during 2006, demonstrating that the quality of your drinking water meets or is better than state and federal regulations.

Besides providing detailed results of water-quality testing, this report contains a description of your water source, answers to common questions about water quality, and other useful water quality information.

Get Involved With Water

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

How to Contact Us

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



Professional Team Serves Your Water Needs

Every member of the District's field team is dual certified in water treatment and distribution. All continue to upgrade their skills and state certifications through additional education classes and training.

California's certification regulations have become increasingly stringent, requiring college-level courses, years of experience, skills testing and on-going updates to retain certification.

Our staff has met the challenge to ensure both the reliability and quality of your water system. Our goal: to better serve you in a way that is effective, economical, and environmentally friendly.



How We Provide Top-Quality Water

Water Quality Regulations

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 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 Highly Treated

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

We Test for Quality

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

Frequency of Tests: Some tests are done daily, others weekly, monthly or at other intervals, even continuously around the clock, using sophisticated equipment. We do more testing than is required by the regulators.

Certified Labs: Tests and results are produced by independent state-certified facilities.

Test Accuracy: The thousands of tests we conduct every year are done with extraordinary accuracy. We can detect two-tenths of a gram of some substances in a billion gallons 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, that may come from a variety of sources such as agricul-

ture, 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, that 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.

SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

RESULTS OF 2006 DRINKING WATER QUALITY TESTS

The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants and other constituents that we detected during the 2006 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The data presented in these tables are from testing between January 1 and December 31, 2006. Secondary Standards in the chart below refer to aesthetic aspects of water that do not impact health.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT TREATED WATER		
			RANGE	AVERAGE	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS					
Arsenic (PPB)	10	4	ND to 3.5	0.9	Naturally occurring minerals.
Barium (PPB)	1000	2	17.0 to 39.0	26.9	Naturally occurring minerals.
Chromium (PPB)	50	(100)	ND to 2.7	0.4	Naturally occurring minerals.
Copper ¹ (PPB)	AL=1300	170	26 to 820	265	Naturally occurring minerals.
Fluoride (PPB)	2000	1000	87 to 670	271	Naturally occurring minerals.
Lead ¹ (PPB)	AL=15	2	ND to 6.3	0.81	Naturally occurring minerals.
VOCs					
Methyl ethyl ketone (PPB)	NS	NA	ND to 5.3*	0.13	Solvent.
Methyl- <i>tert</i> -butyl ether/MTBE (PPB)	13	5	ND to 1.3**	0.1	Leaking underground storage tanks; discharge of petroleum.
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS					
Total Trihalomethanes (PPB)	80	NA	ND to 58	11.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic acids 5/HAA5 (PPB)	60	NA	ND to 6	3.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLS					
	SECONDARY MCL				
Chloride (PPM)	500		20-86	46	Naturally occurring minerals.
Color (ACU)	15		ND-5	1.1	Naturally occurring minerals.
Iron (PPB)	300		ND to 540	79	Naturally occurring minerals.
Manganese (PPB)	50		ND to 24	7	Naturally occurring minerals.
Odor threshold (TON)	3		1 to 8	3.6	Naturally occurring minerals.
Specific Conductance (micromhos per cm)	1,600		317 to 1,710	884	Naturally occurring minerals.
Sulfate (PPM)	500		68 to 540	208	Naturally occurring minerals.
Lab Turbidity (NTU)	5		0.10 to 0.95	0.34	Naturally occurring minerals.
Total Dissolved Solids (PPM)	1000		194 to 1,100	555	Naturally occurring minerals.
Zinc (PPB)	5000		ND to 30.0	9.9	Naturally occurring minerals.
NO STANDARDS					
PH			7.4 to 8.3	7.9	
Sodium (PPM)			29 to 350	80	
Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃) (PPM)			88 to 330	216	
Bicarbonate (HCO ₃) (PPM)			60.3-332.5	202.4	
Calcium (PPM)			27 to 74	53.6	
Carbonate (CO ₃) (PPM)			ND to 332.5	1.7	
Magnesium (PPM)			4.3 to 38	20.1	
Potassium (PPM)			1.6 to 6.1	2.6	
Total Alkalinity (PPM)			44 to 303	174.3	
ortho-Phosphates (PPM)			0.25 to 3.4	1.8	
Carbon Dioxide (PPM)			ND to 14	4.6	
Langelier Index			Minus 0.7 to 1.2	0.4	
Silver (PPB)			ND to 25	3.1	

*One detect from Orchard Run WTP following filter booster repair, follow-up sample non-detect.
 ** MTBE has only been detected in one well that provides 2.6% of the District's water supply.

FOOTNOTES

¹Copper and lead were sampled in the summer of 2005 directly from 21 consumer taps.

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. Most testing samples are taken from treated water. Our treatment plants remove arsenic, iron, and manganese. Coliform, color, odor, and turbidity are taken from sample stations located throughout the District. Some Volatile Organic Compounds are removed by treatment.

Definitions Used in This Chart:

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

(ACU) Apparent Color Units: A measurement of color.

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

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

(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. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

Micromhos per centimeter: An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

NS: No standard.

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit, indicating the clarity of the water.

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

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

(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 Environmental Protection Agency.

(TDS) Total Dissolved Solids: An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

(TON) Threshold Odor Number: The unit of odor.

We Will Give You \$100 (or More) to Help You Save Water!!

For rebate forms and ideas, visit our upgraded website at www.svwd.org.

By using water wisely and efficiently, you can maintain a beautiful landscape, save money, and help the environment.

There are many ways to use water wisely:

- Purchase and install a high-efficiency washing machine and toilet
- Landscape with low-water-use and native plants
- Adjust sprinklers and timers as the seasons change

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



Your water District provides water conservation information to schools, participates in water conservation events, and sponsors newspaper and radio water conservation messages.

For more conservation ideas, details about rebates and other water saving tips, contact our Customer Service representatives at 831/438-2363 or visit our website at www.svwd.org.

Water Recycling Growing To Meet Community Needs

The District's water recycling program continues to expand. The program now provides highly treated, recycled water from the City's wastewater plant to irrigate all the parks in Scotts Valley, the high school grounds, and all the elementary schools.

Recycled water used for landscape accounts for about 10 percent of the District's total water supply during summer.

Recycled water reduces the impact of District operations on our limited groundwater resources. This is especially critical during a dry year, such as the current one, when rainfall totaled only about half of the normal amount.

Continued expansion of the recycling program is expected and will be needed as future demand for water increases.

Scotts Valley Water District

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