

WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT



INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER

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

Where Our Water Originates

Most of Goleta's water is from Lake Cachuma. Cachuma water is fully treated in the District's newly updated Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant, with the exception of water delivered by the Goleta West Conduit to a small number of customers.

The District also has a number of wells in the Goleta Valley that are available as a back-up water supply. Two of these wells, Anita and University, were used sporadically last year to provide water when the treatment plant was removed from service for construction and maintenance work. In addition, Sierra Madre well was used for two months between July and September. The contribution from this well was less than 1% of the water produced by Goleta Water District during this period.

www.goletawater.com

2001 Consumer Confidence Report

Goleta Water District is pleased to present this detailed report on our 2000 water quality. You will find in this report that we routinely conduct hundreds of water quality tests. You will also discover by the test results that our treated water not only meets minimum standards, but in most cases exceeds those standards as a result of our effort to provide water which is safe, of high quality and reliable.

Your Water is Monitored . . .



Goleta Water District's certified, water quality professionals operate and monitor the recently upgraded Corona del Mar Water Treatment Plant. In addition, a computer control system continuously monitors water quality and plant operations.

Certified . . .

Our water is tested by our own state-certified laboratory as well as by contract laboratories. Test samples are taken before the water reaches the treatment plant, during and after treatment, and in the distribution system.

Tested . . .

Goleta Water District conducts hundreds of tests each year for over one hundred substances. The chart on the following page provides detailed results for detected substances. Automated analyzing equipment provides around-the-clock monitoring of selected water quality parameters.

Better . . .

Your water meets or exceeds the strict drinking water requirements set by both the state and federal governments.



Results of 2000 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants and other constituents that we detected during the 2000 calendar year. The District also tested for many additional substances that were not detected, and therefore are not listed in the report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1-December 31, 2000.

Regulated Contaminants With Primary MCLs								
Inorganic	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Groundwater Sample Dates	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	1	NA	0.155	0.051-0.199	0.084	ND-0.171	7/98 & 3/99	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.562	NA	0.268	0.236-0.289	3/99 & 12/99	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	45	45	ND	NA	5.7	ND-17.1	2000	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Organic								
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	100	NA	55.3	31.8-137.8	39.3	0.6-62.1	3/99 & 8/00	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Radiological								
Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/l)	15	(0)	2.2	ND-5.2	2.4	ND-4.7	1996 & 1999	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	(0)	2.5	NA	2.4	2.1-2.7	1999	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper Rule	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	90th Percentile Value	# of Sample Sites	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Groundwater Sample Dates	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	0.17	0.33	30	0	NA	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems	
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	2	ND (< 5)	30	0	NA	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems	
Microbiological	MCL	PHG (MCLG)		Highest Single Measurement		Lowest Percentage of Samples Meeting TT		Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform ¹ Bacteria (% of positive samples/month)	5	0		1 ¹		NA		Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity ² (NTU)	TT ³	NA		0.175		100%		Soil runoff
Unregulated Contaminants with Required Monitoring ⁴								
Constituent	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Groundwater Sample Dates	Typical Source of Contaminant		
Chloroform (ppb)	28.9	20.1-46.6	35.2	ND-58.7	3/99 & 8/00	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
Regulated Contaminants With Secondary MCLs								
Constituent	Secondary MCL	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Groundwater Sample Dates	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Chloride (ppm)	500	23.7	NA	82.7	16.4-214	3/99 & 12/99	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence	
Color (units)	15	ND	ND-10	ND	ND-3	3/99 & 12/99	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Manganese (ppb)	50	ND	NA	ND	ND-81	7/98 & 3/99	Leaching from natural deposits	
Odor—Threshold (units)	3	1.4	ND-4	2	1-2	7/98 & 3/99	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)	1600	925	887-1037	1117	980-1360	7/98 & 3/99	Substances that form ions when in water	
Sulfate (ppm)	500	311	NA	259	147-328	7/98 & 3/99	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	621	NA	702	617-828	3/99 & 12/99	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Turbidity (NTU)	5	0.165	0.055-0.760	0.8	0.2-1.6	3/99 & 12/99	Soil runoff	
Other Constituents								
Constituent	Surface Water Average	Surface Water Range	Groundwater Average	Groundwater Range	Groundwater Sample Dates	Typical Source of Contaminant		
Alkalinity (ppm as CaCO ₃)	165	120-215	189	184-194	3/99 & 12/99			
Bicarbonate (ppm)	217	NA	239	229-253	7/98 & 3/99			
Boron (ppb)	316	NA	339	333-344	3/99			
Calcium (ppm)	54.5	NA	110.7	74.2-169.0	7/98 & 3/99			
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	1.11	0.40-1.92	NA	NA	NA			
Chromium VI ⁵ (ppb)	ND	NA	ND	ND-1.4 ⁶	2000			
HAA5 ⁷ [sum of five haloacetic acids] (ppb)	16.0	5.6-47.5	12.9	ND-23.0	3/99 & 8/00			
Hardness (ppm as CaCO ₃)	386	276-450	464	435-490	3/99 & 12/99			
Magnesium (ppm)	59.5	NA	46.6	19.6-60.8	7/98 & 3/99			
pH (units)	7.77	7.18-8.10	7.39	7.16-7.55	3/99 & 12/99			
Phosphate (ppm)	ND	NA	0.22	0.21-0.23	3/99			
Potassium (ppm)	2.4	NA	1.4	1.2-1.7	7/98 & 3/99			
Radon ⁸ (pCi/l)	ND	NA	478	267-750	2000			
Silica (ppm)	19.9	NA	21.5	21.2-21.8	3/99			
Sodium (ppm)	62.0	NA	59.4	48.9-80.1	7/98 & 3/99			

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standard or PDWS: MCLs 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.

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

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

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

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

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of clarity).

Sources of Potential Contaminants

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).

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, 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, that 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.



Water Quality Regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California 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.

FOOTNOTES:

1 Coliform bacteria are an indicator organism that are found everywhere in nature and are not generally considered harmful. They are used because of their ease in monitoring and analysis. If a positive sample is found, it indicates a potential problem that needs to be investigated and follow up sampling done.

In the month of March, 2000, we collected 100 samples from our distribution system for coliform analysis. Of these samples, one was positive for coliform bacteria. Follow-up check samples taken were all found to be negative for coliform bacteria.

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 0.5 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month; 2) Not exceed 1.0 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours; 3) Not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time.

4 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.

5 Chromium VI is not currently regulated by the EPA or California, but we are required to monitor for it starting in 2001. We sampled our water for it in the year 2000 voluntarily. Chromium VI plus chromium III makes up total chromium, which is currently regulated in California with an MCL 50 ppb and public health goal of 2.5 ppb. Chromium VI is known to be a car-

cinogen when inhaled; however, there is currently an ongoing scientific debate regarding the toxicity of chromium VI when ingested. For more information on chromium VI, visit the California State Department of Health web site at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/chemicals/Chromium6/Cr+6index.htm>.

6 A sample from Sierra Madre well taken in November 2000 tested at 1.4 ppb chromium VI. The well was not in use at this time, and subsequent samples have tested below the state reporting level of 1 ppb.

7 HAA5 will be regulated starting in 2002 under the Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule. The MCL will be 60 ppb.

8 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. The groundwater nitrate and radon data were obtained in 2000. The rest of the groundwater results were obtained in 1998 and 1999, with the exception of the Sierra Madre gross alpha results (factored into the table), which were obtained in 1996. Sample dates for these results are included in the data tables.

Variance for Some Goleta West Customers

Goleta Water District (GWD) serves unfiltered Cachuma Reservoir water to approximately 33 service 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 has allowed Goleta Water District to provide bottled water to these customers for drinking and cooking purposes, as a permanent solution. The GWD notifies Goleta West consumers quarterly that the water delivered is not in compliance with the SWTR and should not be used for domestic purposes.



To Learn More About The Quality of Your Water

If you have any questions concerning your water quality or this report, please contact our Laboratory Director Dije Ndreu at 879-4678.

If you want to learn more about water and the District please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings, normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room at 4699 Hollister Avenue in Goleta.

You may also wish to contact the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791, or visit their web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>

Lake Cachuma: Quality Source of Supply



Goleta is fortunate to receive most of its water from Lake Cachuma. Surrounded by the Los Padres National Forest, Lake Cachuma's watershed usage is restricted by the Forest Service to maintain water quality. Activities on and at the lake are also limited by the County to preserve water quality.

When to Seek Health Care Advice

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).

Goleta Water District's Commitment to You

"To Provide an Adequate Supply of Quality Water at the Most Reasonable Cost to the Present and Future Customers Within the Goleta Water District."

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

**ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER**



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