

## For Expert Water Saving Advice Get a Free Home Water Audit

We will send a water-wise pro to your home to:

- Study both indoor and outdoor water use
- Show you how to read Your Meter
- Help You develop the right irrigation schedule for your landscaping
- Give you a free low-flow shower head and offer additional shower heads at cost.



*It only takes about an hour.  
So schedule your audit now.  
Just contact Misty at  
(805) 964-6761 x643*

### Tap Water Makes the Grade in Comparison to Bottled and Filtered Water

Drinking water is so carefully regulated by state and federal authorities that the health standards are the same for tap water as they are for bottled and filtered water.

Numerous studies have demonstrated that unless you prefer the taste, there is no health need to buy bottled water or install filter systems, unless you have special medical or health needs.

With filter systems, if you don't properly maintain them, there could be a buildup of contaminants.

Also, the cost of tap water is much cheaper than buying bottled water or a filter system.



### The Hardness in Your Water



#### How it Got There and What it Means to You

The measurement of total hardness in the Goleta Water District's water supply currently ranges from about 300 to 384 milligrams per liter, or 19 to 22 grains per gallon.

This is generally considered to be hard water. Hardness in water is mainly composed of natural and harmless calcium and magnesium ions.

Although not a health concern, excessive hardness can form scale and thus make cleaning tasks more difficult.

#### Source Water Assessment Available for Public Inspection

A source water assessment of Lake Cachuma was completed in December 2000, as an attachment to the District's Watershed Sanitary Survey Update. Lake Cachuma is considered most vulnerable to the following activity associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: gas stations and recreational surface water activities. In addition, this water source is most vulnerable to historic mining operations, although no contaminant has been found that is associated with this activity. An assessment of Anita and University wells was completed in January 2002. Anita well is most vulnerable to leaking and underground fuel tanks. University well is considered most vulnerable to the presence of injection wells. The District operates these injection wells as part of a water storage project and closely monitors the quality of the treated surface water that is injected.

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

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



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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
 Harry E. De Wit, President  
 Carey Rogers, Vice-President  
 Jack Cunningham, Chuck Evans, Larry Mills  
 Kevin D. Walsh, General Manager  
 and Chief Engineer  
 Russell R. Ruiz, General Counsel

ECRWSS  
 RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT  
 4699 Hollister Avenue  
 Goleta, CA 93110-1998  
 805-964-6761  
 www.goletawater.com



PRSRT STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 SANTA BARBARA, CA  
 PERMIT NO. 464



INFORMATION  
ABOUT YOUR WATER

# WATER NEWS

GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

## 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 a substance 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.

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

## 2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

# Once Again We Pass Our Annual Water Quality Tests

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards.

Goleta Water District is once again proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

This brochure 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 State standards.

We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, contact Dale Armstrong at 879-4678.



# Your Water Starts With a High Quality Source

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 2003, Anita and University Wells were used briefly in April.

## Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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.

### Where to Get More Information

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).

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).

### 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).

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

### FOOTNOTES TO THE CHART:

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Conventional surface water treatment plants must remove a certain percentage of the Total Organic Carbon (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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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 2003, except for the following. The surface water gross alpha and uranium data were obtained in 1999. All of the groundwater data in the tables are from samples taken in 2003, except for the following. The dichloromethane data is from 2002. The odor, turbidity and silica data are from 2001. The groundwater gross alpha and uranium data were obtained in 1999.

## Results of 2003 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables below list drinking water contaminants and other constituents detected during 2003. The District also tested for many additional substances that were not detected, and therefore are not listed in the report. The test results show that the District met all water quality standards. 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-December 31, 2003.



| 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                   | 0.130                      | 0.060-0.180         | 0.050                                   | N/A  | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes |
| Fluoride (ppm)   | 2                     | 1                     | 0.47                       | 0.42-0.53           | 0.410                                   | N/A  | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| ORGANIC  |                       |                       |                            |                     |   |  |  |
| Dichloromethane (ppb)  | 5                     | 4                     | ND                         | N/A                 | ND                                      | ND-0.9 <sup>1</sup>                                    | Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide                |
| RADIOLOGICAL   |                       |                       |                            |                     |   |  |  |
| Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/l)  | 15                    | N/A                   | 2.2                        | ND-5.2              | 3.1                                     | 2.8-3.6  | 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                  | 0.27                       | 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 <sup>2</sup> (NTU)   | TT <sup>3</sup>       | N/A                   | 0.107                      |                     | 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                   | 66.6                       |                     | 45.0-82.0                               |  | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination   |
| Haloacetic Acids (ppb)   | 60                    | N/A                   | 16.7                       |                     | 5.5-25.0                                |  | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination   |
| Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)   | MRDL = 4.0            | MRDLG = 4.0           | 1.01                       |                     | 0.25-1.83                               |  | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment                                  |
| Control of DBP precursors (TOC in ppm)   | TT <sup>4</sup>       | N/A                   | 2.7                        |                     | 2.4-3.1                                 |  | Various natural and manmade sources  |
| UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH REQUIRED MONITORING <sup>5</sup>                         |                       |                       |                            |                     |   |  |  |
| CONSTITUENT  | Surface Water Average | Surface Water Range   | Groundwater Average        | Groundwater Range   |   |  |  |
| Boron  | 295                   | 260-330               | 305                        | 290-320             |   | N/A  |  |
| Vanadium (ppb)   | ND                    | N/A                   | ND                         | 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                   | 21                    | N/A                        | 18                  |   |  | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence                        |
| Color (units)  | 15                    | ND                    | ND-5.0                     | 5                   |   |  | Naturally-occurring organic materials  |
| Odor---Threshold (units)   | 3                     | 1                     | 1-2                        | 3                   |   |  | Naturally-occurring organic materials  |
| Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm)  | 1600                  | 869                   | 829-922                    | 810                 |   |  | Substances that form ions when in water  |
| Sulfate (ppm)  | 500                   | 260                   |                            | 240                 |   |  | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)   | 1000                  | 572                   | 534-610                    | 500                 |   |  | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  |
| Turbidity (NTU)  | 5                     | 0.08                  | 0.05-0.33                  | 0.25                |   |  | Soil runoff  |
| OTHER CONSTITUENTS   |                       |                       |                            |                     |   |  |  |
| CONSTITUENT  | Surface Water Average | Surface Water Range   | Groundwater Average        | Groundwater Range   |   |  |  |
| Alkalinity (ppm as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )   | 161                   | 138-181               | 165                        | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| Bicarbonate (ppm)  | 196                   | N/A                   | 202                        | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| Calcium (ppm)  | 68                    | N/A                   | 82                         | 74-89               |   |  |  |
| Hardness (ppm as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )   | 343                   | 300-384               | 387                        | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| Magnesium (ppm)  | 41                    | N/A                   | 40                         | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| pH (units)   | 7.67                  | 7.15-8.00             | 8.10                       | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| Potassium (ppm)  | 2.5                   | N/A                   | 2.2                        | N/A                 |   |  |  |
| Radon <sup>6</sup> (pCi/l)   | ND                    | N/A                   | 370                        | 180-560             |   |  |  |
| Silica (ppm)   | 13.0                  | 12.9-13.2             | 18.2                       | 16-20.4             |   |  |  |
| Sodium (ppm)   | 45                    | N/A                   | 47                         | N/A                 |   |  |  |

**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 permanent 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.

**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.