



Nipomo Community Services District

2013 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Annual Tests Show Nipomo's Water Meets Quality Standards

This report provides information regarding the quality of water for the Nipomo Community Services District during 2013.

Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State and Federal standards. The District routinely checks water quality from its wells and distribution system that provide your drinking water--From the source right to your home. We are committed to providing you this information and keeping you informed about your water supply.



High Quality Water that Tastes Good Too

The water for the Nipomo Community Services District comes from the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin. Currently, this is the District's (and entire Nipomo Mesa area's) *ONLY* source of water.

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



NCS D Elected Board of Directors: Craig Armstrong, President | Jim Harrison, Vice President
Larry Vierheilig, Director | Dan Gaddis, Director | Bob Blair, Director

District General Manager: Michael S. LeBrun

Our Water Quality Professionals Provide Around-the-Clock Service

Our water quality professionals maintain, treat, and test the water system ensuring quality water is delivered to your home or business. On-call personnel are available after hours 7 days a week.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, spring, 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 *any* source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural or livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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: agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations which 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.

All 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 (800-426-4791).

ENSURING WATER SAFETY

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PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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 provider. EPA/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: (800-426-4791).

YOUR NCSD WATER

Area groundwater is the District's only source of water supply. Eight wells with a combined pumping capacity of about 3,300 gallons per minute pump water from the local groundwater basin. The water is disinfected and introduced to the District water distribution system. The District's water distribution system includes over ninety miles of piping and 5 storage tanks with 4 million gallons of combined capacity. The elevation controls the water pressure throughout the system.

WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT AND SECURITY

A source water assessment of the District wells was completed in 2001. Our water resources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: historic gas stations, low and high density septic systems and wastewater treatment plants. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at the District office.

The District has implemented security systems to protect the distribution and storage of the drinking water. These measures are part of our ongoing operation and ensure the safe treatment and delivery of your drinking water.

QUESTIONS

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call (805) 929-1133 and ask for General Manager, Michael LeBrun, or visit our website at www.ncsd.ca.gov.

Results of 2013 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The table on the next page lists all the results of analytical tests performed on your drinking water during the 2013 calendar year, unless otherwise noted. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. State and Federal regulations require us to monitor for certain contaminants less frequently than once per year because the concentrations of those contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

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 highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

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

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)

pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper	No. of Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level	No. Site Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Sources of Contaminant
*Lead (ppb)	30 (2012)	1.10	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	30 (2012)	0.296	0	1.3	.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

***Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. NCS D is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	(2011-2013)	59.6	50 - 69	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Hardness (ppm)	(2011-2013)	331	205 - 477	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present, generally magnesium and calcium. Usually naturally occurring.

TABLE 3 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
*Arsenic (ppb)	(2011-2013)	5.2	ND - 16	10	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (ppm)	(2011-2013)	9.4	4 - 20	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (ppm)	(2011-2013)	2.02	1.1 - 4.4	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	(2006-2012)	3.9	2 - 8	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium (pCi/L)	(2006-2008)	3.0	ND - 6	20	0.5	Erosion of natural deposits

***Arsenic:** Arsenic (10 ppb) is based on a running 1-year average. The District had a single measure above 10ppb, however the running average remains below 10ppb. While your drinking water meets the federal and state standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	(2011-2013)	56	45 - 81	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Unfiltered) (Units)	(2011-2013)	4	ND - 10	15	n/a	Naturally-occurring organic materials
*Corrosivity (Langlier Index)	(2011-2013)	-0.15	-0.9 - 0.3	> 0	n/a	Natural or industrial-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water, affected by temperature and other factors.
*Iron (ppb)	(2011-2013)	10	ND - 600	300	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	(2011-2013)	1	ND - 30	50	500	Leaching from natural deposits
*Odor Threshold at 60 °C (TON)	(2011-2013)	1	ND - 32	3	n/a	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	(2011-2013)	884	654 - 1040	1600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	(2011-2013)	237	83 - 380	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS (ppm)	(2011-2013)	598	420 - 720	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

***About our Corrosivity (Langlier Index):** Corrosivity less than 0 indicates your water may be corrosive to the plumbing and fixtures. The Corrosivity MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste or odor. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

***About our Iron:** Iron was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The Iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste, odor and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks), and clothing while washing. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

***About Our Odor Threshold at 60 °C:** Odor was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The Odor MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste, odor and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks), and clothing while washing. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCT RULE

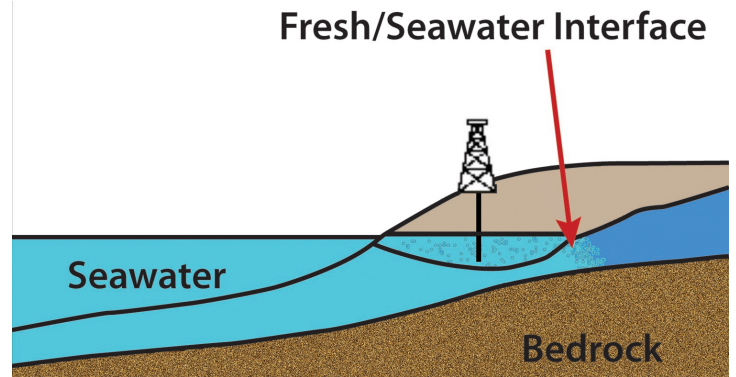
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MRDLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)(ppb)	(2013)	3.9	1.7 - 6.1	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (five) (ppb)	(2013)	3	ND - 6	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	(2013)	1.16	.89 - 1.25	4.0	4.0	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

Drought Worsens: We Need Everyone to Cut Water Use

Nipomo's sole source of water has declined below sustainable levels

Nipomo's sole source of water—the groundwater basin—has declined below sustainable levels. The current unprecedented drought is one important cause, but continued growth and increased water demand are additional long-term causes. Declining groundwater levels threaten to begin allowing ocean saltwater to infiltrate and contaminate our freshwater supply.

Continued increases in water use is unsustainable and a threat to our water supply. NCS D's Board of Directors is asking that all customers reduce water usage by 20%. See the District website for tips on how you can help us protect the basin and ensure long-term water supplies for our community.



As ground water levels fall, seawater begins to intrude and threatens to contaminate our fresh water supply.

Save Water and Money by Limiting Outdoor Watering



FINE TUNE THAT IRRIGATION!

Most water usage is outdoors—fine tune your irrigation to cut your landscape watering to a minimum and you may notice big differences on your bill!

CHECK FOR LEAKS

Leaks can be huge water and money wasters! Periodically checking your home and irrigation system for leaks is important. Visit the District's website (www.ncsd.ca.gov) for helpful tips.

STAY CONNECTED

NCS D Regular Board meetings are open to the public. Meetings take place every second and fourth Wednesday at 9:00 AM in the NCS D Board Room, 148 S Wilson St, Nipomo.

If you have questions regarding anything in this report or Nipomo's water shortage, please call the District at 929-1133 Monday - Friday 8AM - 4:30PM or email info@ncsd.ca.gov



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