



Nipomo Community Services District

2016 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Annual Tests Show Nipomo's Water Meets Quality Standards

This report contains important information regarding your drinking water provided by the Nipomo Community Services District during 2016. If needed, you may choose to translate it or speak with someone who understands the report.

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

High Quality Water Delivered to Your Tap

Last year, Nipomo Community Services District (District) tap water met all USEPA and State drinking water health standards. The District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are 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.



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, Mario Iglesias, or visit our website at www.ncsd.ca.gov.



NCSD Elected Board of Directors: Dan Allen Gaddis, President | Ed Eby, Vice President
Bob Blair, Director | Craig Armstrong, Director | Dan Woodson, Director

District General Manager: Mario Iglesias

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 source water include:

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

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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

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 stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.

ENSURING WATER SAFETY

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. 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: (800-426-4791).

YOUR NCSD WATER

The Nipomo Community Services District is committed to producing the highest quality drinking water from two sources of supply: District water wells located in the Nipomo Mesa, and City of Santa Maria water delivered to the District via the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project interconnect. City of Santa Maria Water is a blend of groundwater and surface water. In 2016, the District received about 41 percent of its water from the City of Santa Maria.

All 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. Ground elevation relative to the tanks controls the water pressure throughout the system.

WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT AND SECURITY

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the Nipomo Community Services District was completed in 2001. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: historic gas stations, low and high density septic systems and wastewater treatment plants. A copy of the complete assessment is available 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.

Results of 2016 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables on the next page list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate 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, ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES FOR 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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs 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 health at the MCL levels.

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

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detected

NL: Notification Level

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

µS/cm: microsiemens per centimeter (unit of specific conductance of water)

(a) **Aluminum** also has a Secondary MCL of 200 ppb.
(b) **Arsenic** (10 ppb) is based on a running 1-year average. While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard 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.
(c) **City of Santa Maria - Total coliform MCL:** No more than 5% of monthly samples may be Total Coliform positive.
NCSD - Total coliform MCL: No more than 1 monthly sample may be Total Coliform positive.
(d) **Fluoride** is added to the City of Santa Maria water to help prevent cavities. Target fluoride levels are set by State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water.

(e) Compliance based on the locational running annual average (LRAA) of distribution system samples.

(f) All samples were below action levels.

(g) Water quality information from individual wells includes samples collected from 2016 and previous years as noted.

* **About Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

* **About Turbidity:** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator

of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

* **About 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 the service lines and home plumbing. *Nipomo Community Services District* 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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>.

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - MANDATORY HEALTH-RELATED STANDARDS

Parameter	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	PURCHASED CITY OF SANTA MARIA WATER			LOCAL GROUNDWATER (g)			MAJOR SOURCES
				RANGE	AVERAGE	YEAR	RANGE	AVERAGE	YEAR	
Aluminum (a)	ppb	1000	600	ND-82	60	2016	NA	NA	2016	Residue from water treatment; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic (b)	ppb	10	0.004	NA	NA	2016	2 - 4	2.6	2014-2016	Residue from water treatment; erosion of natural deposits.
Hexavalent Chromium	ppb	10	0.02	NA	NA	2016	1.0 - 2.1	1.5	2014	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Fluoride (d)	ppm	2	1	.60 - 2.9	.74	2016	ND - 0.1	0.0	2016	Erosion of natural deposits; additive to promote strong teeth.
*Nitrate as N	ppm	10	10	0.40 - 6.8	1	2016	1.7 - 8.1	4.7	2016	Leaching from fertilizers; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	ppb	50	30	NA	NA	2016	ND - 5	1	2014-2016	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Thallium	ppb	2	1	NA	NA	2016	ND - 1	ND	2014	Industrial wastes.
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	(0)	NA	NA	2016	ND - 5.3	1.8	2014	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	NA	NA	2016	2.52 - 4.54	3	2008-2014	Erosion of natural deposits.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MONITORING

Total Chlorine Residual	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	.2 - 3.5	2.4	2016	.91 - 3.18	1.8	2016	Measure of the disinfection of the water.
Total Coliform Bacteria (c)	NA	See note(c)	(0)	0 - 2.2%	.27%	2016	0	0	2016	Naturally present in the environment.
Fluoride (treated water) (d)	ppm	2	1	.60 - 2.9	0.74	2016	NA	NA	2016	Erosion of natural deposits; additive to promote strong teeth.
Total Trihalomethanes (e)	ppb	80	NA	17.9 - 50.8	37.8	2016	ND - 41.5	14.4	2016	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (e)	ppb	60	NA	4.3 -19.2	13.1	2016	ND - 16	5.5	2016	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - AESTHETIC STANDARDS

Chloride	ppm	500	NA	54 - 130	95	2016	43 - 55	49	2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Iron	ppb	300	NA	NA	NA	2016	ND -110	52	2014-2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Odor Threshold	Units	3	NA	1 - 2	1.6	2016	ND	ND	2014	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	NA	460 - 740	645	2016	649 - 997	842	2014	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	53 - 180	95	2016	137 - 315	229	2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NA	270 - 430	370	2016	470 - 740	614	2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
*Turbidity	NTU	5	NA	<1 - 0.64	.12	2016	ND - 2.0	0.6	2014	Soil runoff.

ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (UNREGULATED)

Alkalinity (Total) as CaCO3	ppm	NA	NA	61 - 120	81	2016	NA	NA	2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Boron	ppb	NL = 1000	NA	120 - 250	154	2016	ND - 100	40	2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	16 - 56	29	2016	NA	NA	2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Hardness (Total) as CaCO3	ppm	NA	NA	98 - 210	137	2016	223 - 417	331	2014	Leaching from natural deposits.
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	12 - 23	17	2016	NA	NA	2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
pH	pH units	NA	NA	5.6 - 8.7	7.6	2016	NA	NA	2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	2.6 - 4.4	3.4	2016	NA	NA	2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	55 - 100	77	2016	45 - 59	53	2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Vanadium	ppb	NL = 50	NA	3.3 - 5.4	4.0	2016	8 - 11	10	2014-2016	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; combustion of fossil fuels

LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING PROGRAM - SAMPLING OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER 2015

Parameter	Units	Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	MAJOR SOURCES
Copper (f)	ppm	30	.37	0	1.3	0.3	Plumbing system corrosion; erosion of natural deposits.
*Lead (f)	ppb	30	2.4	0	15	0.2	Plumbing system corrosion; erosion of natural deposits.

Water Shortage on the Nipomo Mesa Continues

Water conservation still encouraged

In late June the Nipomo Mesa Management Area Technical Group (NMMA-TG) released an update that the Nipomo area remains in a severe water shortage condition, as indicated by groundwater data analyzed at key wells in the region. The District is encouraging customers to continue water conservation efforts.

Data from the representative groundwater wells on the Nipomo Mesa was collected in April then reviewed and verified by the NMMA-TG in May and June, revealing that the Nipomo area's groundwater supplies remain critically low.

The central coast, like much of California, had an above-average amount of rain over the recent winter. While rivers and reservoirs have filled across the state, groundwater

aquifers recover much slower than surface water - often years or decades. The Nipomo area's groundwater supply did not improve to a level sufficient to lift it out of Stage IV of the Water Shortage Response and Management Plan.

From 2012 to 2015, California saw some of the driest years in history. State officials are warning residents that another drought could be around the corner. Water imported through the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project continues to offset groundwater pumping on the Mesa and ensures the community has a reliable water supply even in these dry periods.

The District thanks customers for their conservation efforts and encourages them to continue helping protect Nipomo's water supply.

More information regarding any Board action will be shared with the public over the next month, as it becomes available.



**SAVE WATER
SAVE MONEY!**

**Learn How You Can
Do Your Part**

Visit us at:
www.ncsd.ca.gov |   /NipomoCSD



Nipomo Community Services District

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 the information in this report, please call the District at 929-1133 Monday - Friday 8AM - 4:30PM or email info@ncsd.ca.gov



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