



Nipomo Community Services District

2014 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 2014.

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. In July, the District will be bringing in a supplemental water source from Santa Maria that will be a blend of groundwater and surface water.

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



NCSD Elected Board of Directors: Craig Armstrong, President | Dan A. Gaddis, Vice President
Bob Blair, Director | Ed Eby, Director | Dan Woodson, 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 and gas 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, agricultural application and septic systems.

ENSURING WATER SAFETY

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DDW 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 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

Area groundwater is the District's only source of water supply. Seven 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. Ground elevation relative to the tanks 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 2014 Drinking Water Quality Tests

The tables below and 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 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.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminate 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.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

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

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

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

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in last sample set)	Sample Date	90th Percentile Level	No. Site Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	2012	0.31	0	1.3	.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
*Lead (ppb)	2012	ND	0	15	.2	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

***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 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	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2014	59	45 - 71	none	none	Salt present in the water; generally naturally occurring.
Hardness (ppm)	2011-2014	314	164 - 459	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. Usually naturally occurring.

TABLE 3 - PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - HEALTH RELATED STANDARDS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
*Arsenic (ppb)	2011-2014	5	2 - 9	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium (ppm)	2014	ND	ND - 0.11	1	2	Discharge from oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Cadmium (ppb)	2014	ND	ND - 4.1	5.0	0.04	Internal corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from electroplating and industrial chemical factories; and from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and deposits.
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2014	1.1	ND - 2.1	10	0.02	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	ND	ND - 0.2	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer, aluminum factories.
*Nitrate (ppm)	2014	10.2	4.2 - 33.6	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium (ppb)	2014	ND	ND - 7	50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive).
Thallium (ppb)	2014	ND	ND - 1	2	.1	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2006-2014	ND	ND - 5.3	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium (pCi/L)	2008-2014	3.0	2.52 - 4.54	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits

***Arsenic:** 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.

***Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 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 45 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.

TABLE 4 - SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - AESTHETIC STANDARDS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	2014	58	43 - 81	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Color (Units)	2014	1	ND - 9	15	n/a	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
*Iron (ppb)	2014	ND	ND - 1880	300	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes.
*Manganese (ppb)	2014	21.5	ND - 860	50	n/a	Leaching from natural deposits.
*Odor Threshold at 60°C (TON)	2014	ND	ND - 4	3	n/a	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	2014	857	627 - 1050	1600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate (ppm)	2014	203	56.5 - 335	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2014	592	410 - 760	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
*Turbidity (NTU)	2014	0.7	ND - 11.5	5	n/a	Soil runoff.

***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. Exceeding this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

***About our Manganese:** Manganese was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The Manganese 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. Exceeding 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. Exceeding this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

***About our Turbidity:** Turbidity is Secondary Drinking Water Standards and has found no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

TABLE 5 - UNREGULATED PARAMETERS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Boron (ppm)	2014	N D	ND - 0.2	1	Babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in lab animals.
Vanadium (ppm)	2014	0.009	0.006- .011	0.05	Babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in lab animals.

TABLE 6 - DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCT RULE

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MRDLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	2014	1.2	1.0 - 1.4	(4.0)	(4)	Drinking water disinfectant.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)(ppb)	2014	8.1	2.8 - 12.0	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (five) (ppb)	2014	1	ND - 1	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

SEVERE WATER SHORTAGE: 30% Water Use Reduction Required

Reduce water use by 'browning out' lawns this summer

State regulations require the District to reduce water use or face significant daily fines. Additionally, the District's Board of Directors recently declared Stage III Water Shortage Conditions. District customers are strongly urged to make necessary water cutbacks to achieve a 30% reduction in District groundwater pumping by making the following changes:

- ◆ Take manual and direct control of irrigation.
- ◆ Provide minimum necessary irrigation to preserve trees and high-value landscape. (*Let turf areas 'brown-out' this summer and recover when winter rains return*)
- ◆ Do not drain or fill swimming pools or spas.
- ◆ Do not use water for dust control or construction.
- ◆ Do not use hoses to wash cars or equipment. (*Wash vehicles only when necessary for safety or maintenance*)
- ◆ Turn off and drain ornamental fountains and water features.



Supplemental Water is
Scheduled to Arrive in July!

Visit our website at ncsd.ca.gov to learn:

More information on the change in water disinfection methods and fluoride.

Information on supplemental water rates.



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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148 S Wilson St, PO Box 326, Nipomo, CA 93444 | (805) 929-1133 | info@ncsd.ca.gov | www.ncsd.ca.gov

