

Nipomo Community Services District Consumer Confidence Report Water Quality Data 2008



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year.

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

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 this information to keep you informed about your water supply.

For more information about your water, you may call (805) 929-1133 and ask to speak with a member of the District's professional staff. The District holds public meetings the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at 148 South Wilson Street in Nipomo, California. Meeting agendas and breaking District news can be accessed on the District's website at www.ncsd.ca.gov.

Your water comes from 2 distinct groundwater sources: the Nipomo Mesa Sub-Basin of the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater basin, and the Nipomo Valley Basin via nine wells

An assessment of the District's drinking water sources was completed June, 2001. Our water resources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: pesticides and fertilizers associated with golf courses and agriculture, low and high density septic systems, sewer collection systems, and wastewater treatment plants. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at the District office.

Sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 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*, 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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.

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.

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: 1-800-426-4791.



Nipomo Community Services District

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT – 2008 WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2008 calendar year. The presence of these 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, 2008. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of those contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.



Terms & abbreviations used below:

- ◆ **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 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.
- ◆ **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 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. MRDLs are set the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- ◆ **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- ◆ **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 the health at the MCL levels.
- ◆ **NA** not applicable **ND:** not detectable at testing limit **NS:** no standard or not regulated **MFL:** million fibers per liter
- ◆ **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation) **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) **ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picograms per liter (pg/L) **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (PDWS)						
Detected Contaminants	Units	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Results		Typical Sources of Contaminants
				Average	Range	
Aluminum (Al)	ppm	1	0.6	0.003	ND – 0.03 (2008)	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic (As)	ppb	10	n/a	4.1	ND - 11 (2008)	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (Ba)	ppm	1	2	0.03	0.03 - 0.05 (2008)	Discharge from oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (Cd)	ppb	5.0	0.04	0.5	ND – 1 (2008)	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 paints
Chromium (Total Cr)	ppb	50.0	n/a	0.7	ND – 2 (2008)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (NO ₃)	ppm	45	45	7.6	ND – 24 (2008)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (Se)	ppb	50	n/a	6.0	ND - 10 (2008)	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	n/a	3.6	0.1 - 8 (2008)	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Radium 228	pCi/L	5	n/a	0.05	ND - 0.3 (2006)	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.5	3.0	0.2 - 6 (2008)	Erosion of natural deposits
SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (SDWS)						
Chloride	ppm	500	n/a	64	44 - 104 (2008)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Unfiltered)	Units	15	n/a	5	ND - 20 (2008)	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Corrosivity (Langlier Index)	NA	> 0	n/a	-0.5	-2 - 0.4 (2008)	Natural or industrial-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water; affected by temperature, other factors
Iron (Fe)	ppb	300	n/a	480	ND – 5500 (2008)	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (Mn)	ppb	50	n/a	33	ND – 620 (2008)	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor Threshold at 60°	TON	3	n/a	0.2	ND – 4 (2008)	Naturally-occurring organic materials

Items shaded are greater than MCL or AL.

Nipomo Community Services District CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT – 2008 WATER QUALITY DATA



SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (SDWS)

Detected Contaminants	Units	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Results		Typical Sources of Contaminants
				Average	Range	
Specific Conductance	umhos/cm	1600	n/a	845	358 - 1340 (2008)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (SO ₄)	ppm	500	n/a	187	13 - 362 (2008)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS	ppm	1000	n/a	581	230 - 820 (2008)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (Zn)	ppm	5	n/a	0.004	ND – 0.06 (2008)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Detected Contaminants	Units	Action Level	Results		Typical Sources of Contaminants
			Average	Range	
Boron	ppm	1000	0.05	ND – 0.2 (2008)	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of action level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.
Vanadium	ppm	50	0.008	ND – 0.01 (2008)	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of action level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	n/a	0.12	ND – 0.7 (2008)	n/a
Bromoform	ppb	n/a	0.17	ND – 1.9 (2008)	n/a
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	n/a	0.13	ND – 1.4 (2008)	n/a

SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Detected Contaminants	Units	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Results		Typical Sources of Contaminants
				Average	Range	
Sodium	ppm	NS	n/a	64	44 -103 (2008)	Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	NS	n/a	310	57 - 529 (2008)	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally-occurring

FEDERAL DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCT RULE

Detected Contaminants	Units	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Results		Typical Sources of Contaminants
				Average	Range	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	80	n/a	0.4	ND – 3.9 (2008)	By-product of drinking water chlorination

About our Arsenic (AS): Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

About our Color (Unfiltered): Color was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The color MCL was set to protect you from unpleasant aesthetic affects due to color. Violating this MCL does not pose any risk to public health.

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

About our Iron (Fe): 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 any risk to public health.

About our Manganese (Mn): 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. Violating this MCL does not pose any risk to public health.

About our Odor Threshold @ 60°: Odor was found at levels that exceed the secondary ML. The Odor MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects 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.

Compliance with Other Regulations: The State requires us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. In 2008, we met all sampling, treatment and reporting requirements.

**THANK YOU FOR
SAVING WATER!**

Check the NCS D website (www.ncsd.ca.gov) regularly for water conservation tips, news about free gardening and irrigation workshops, information on Household Hazardous Waste disposal, recycling and more !

Nipomo Community Services District

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

WATER QUALITY DATA
2008

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