Central Water 2012 Newsletter

- Doug Sharp, President, Board of Directors
- Christy Leach Marani, Vice-president, Board of Directors
- Carol Hamilton Monkerud, Member, Board of Directors
- Doug Titus, Member, Board of Directors
- John R. Benich, Member, Board of Directors

2011 Water Quality Report Inside

Distributed Spring/Summer 2012

Caroline's

Caroline's
"The True Beauty of Thrift"

Christy Licker had a vision to create an organization that celebrates the life of her daughter Caroline while giving back to the community. Caroline was a child with special needs who was 16 when she died. During her lifetime she and her family found support from four incredible local agencies:

Children's Hospice and Palliative Care, Hospice of Santa Cruz County, Jacob's Heart and Special Parent's Information Network.

In July 2011 the door to Caroline's was opened by Christy and her family. Located in Aptos Village, Caroline's offers items for sale that are presented in creative vignettes that evoke high end catalogue displays. When you walk into the shop you can't help but feel uplifted. You are greeted by smiling volunteers who staff the store filled with brightly colored and sparkling objects. The displays are updated frequently because new items are donated on a daily basis. And the finds are fantastic, from cashmere sweaters to crystal to artwork and furniture. And Christy's vision? In less than a year's time, at a reception held this past January, she was able to hand out four checks of $10,000 each to the organizations mentioned above. According to Christy, each dollar does so much good because the four organizations are so effective with their use of funds and in providing services. You can visit Caroline's at 402 Trout Gulch in Aptos Village 7 days a week. Call 831-662-0327 for hours.

"It's a way to give back." Christy Licker, Founder of Caroline's

District News

In December 2011 the Board of Directors held its annual election of officers. Sally Hume was elected President and Doug Sharp was elected to the position of Vice-president. At the Board meeting held on February 21, 2012, President Hume announced that she and her family would be moving to a home located outside the Central Water District boundaries and so she would have to resign her position on the Board. The Board members decided to advertise the vacancy and interview interested candidates for a possible appointment to the Board. Following the required process, John R. Benich, a 41 year resident of the District, was interviewed and appointed to sit on the Board. Doug Sharp now serves as President of the Board and Christy Leach Marani has assumed the Vice-presidency.

Water Conservation

- The Central Water District reduced its pumping of groundwater by 7% during Fiscal Year 2010-11
- Many customers have visitied the drought tolerant garden located at the district office and have taken away ideas to use in their own landscaping projects. There is a picnic table located in the garden and some customers take the opportunity to sit and take a break during their daily walks

2011 Water Quality Report

The Central Water District has five production wells currently in service – Wells 3 and 5 are in the Cox Road Well Field, drawing from the Purisima Aquifer, and Wells 4, 10 and 12 in the Rob Roy Junction area, drawing from the Aromas Red Sands Aquifer.

All water produced and delivered by the Central Water District meets or exceeds standards for public drinking water established by the California Department of Public Health Services and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This Water Quality Report provides information that explains Central Water District's water quality for the 2011 calendar year; the data is derived from the most recent testing completed in accordance with State and Federal regulations. This report represents only a fraction of the activity the District engages in to provide you, the consumer, a high level of confidence in the water you drink. Central Water District drinking water is tested extensively and results consistently show that regulated contaminants are either not detected or are present in amounts far below the limits permitted by state and federal drinking water standards. These tests monitor tap water for microbial organisms, minerals and organic substances that could cause disease or other adverse health effects. Testing is done for over 120 different contaminants including bacteria, metals, organic chemicals and pesticides. Only substances that are detected in the water are included in this report. **ATENCION RESIDENTES! Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

Terms Used in this Report

Definitions: In the following tables, you will find detailed information about the water that comes from your tap. Your water is regularly tested for many chemicals and other substances, as well as radioactivity. Only substances that were detected in the water are listed in the tables. This information is provided to help you understand the terms used in this Consumer Confidence Report,. CWD drinking water is tested extensively, and consistently show that regulated contaminants are either not detected, or are present in amounts far below the limits permitted by state and federal drinking water standards. These tests monitor tap water for microbial organisms, minerals and organic substances that could cause disease or other adverse health effects.

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 or 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 USEPA.

Public Health Goal (PHG) The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk no 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 containments,.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS) MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health long 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.

ACRONYMS

DLR - Detection Limit for purposes of Reporting
CL - Maximum Contaminate Level
CLG - Maximum Contaminate Level Goal
NA - Not Applicable
NC - Not Collected
ND - Not Detected
mg/L - Milligrams per Liter or parts per million). (Equivalent to 1 second in 11 1/2 days)
NL - Notification Level
TU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L - Pico Curies per Liter
ppt - Parts per Trillion (1 second in 31,700 years)
TT - Treatment Technique
ug/L - Micrograms per Liter or parts per billion (ppb) (Equivalent to 1 second in 31.7 years)

MONITORING & SAMPLING FREQUENCY

Distribution System
Bacteriological 3 X Month
Trihalomethanes 3 yrs
Color 3 X Month
Odor 3 X Month
Turbidity 3 X Month

Well Water
Bacteriological Quarterly
Inorganic Chemicals Once every 3 yrs.
Color Monthly.
Nitrates Quarterly
Odor Quarterly
Turbidity Quarterly
VOCs Once every 3 yrs.
SOCs Once every 3 yrs.
Radionuclides Once every 3 yrs. to 9 yrs.

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION: Assessment of the drinking water sources was completed in 2009 . A copy of the reports available at the District office.
400 Cox Road
Aptos Ca, 95003

MG/L - MILLIGRAMS PER LITER OR PARTS PER MILLION (EQUIVALENT TO 1 SECOND IN 11 1/2 DAYS).

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. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants & potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA 's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 wild.

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

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 storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

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

Agriculture in the District is primarily focused on grapes and apples.

Nitrate The District has detected nitrates above 22 mg/L, but less than the MCL of 45 mg/L in three (3) of its 5 active wells. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six (6) 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.

Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity.

Fluoride The District has detected levels of fluoride below the MCL (2 ppm) in all 5 of its active wells (naturally occurring).

Lead and Copper Survey Samples Taken in 2010

Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	10	0.0005	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	10	0.47	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Sodium and Hardness

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	05/24/11	26	14-26	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	05/24/11	200	140-200	none	none	Generally magnesium and calcium, and is usually naturally occurring

THE RESULTS FOR A FEW OTHER CONTAMINANTS THAT WE TESTED AND WERE NOT DETECTED:

ARSENIC,
ALUMINUM
BARIUM
COLIFORM BACTERIA
MERCURY
NICKEL
POTASSIUM
SELENIUM
SILVER
THALLIUM

Detection Of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Chromium (ppb)	5/24/11	(Highest) 14	ND-14	50	2.5	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	5/24/11	(Highest) 20	ND-20	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	08/02/05	0.56	0.31-0.80	15	NS	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes & Haa5 (ppb)	08/13/10	3.4 to 8.4 ND-2.8	3.4 to 8.4 ND-2.8	80 60	NS	By product of drinking water chlorination
Fluoride (ppm)	5/24/11	0.10 to 0.15	0.10 to 0.15	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	5/24/11	31 to 65	31 to 65	500	500	Runoff /leaching from natural deposits

Iron and Manganese are naturally occurring in the Purisima Formation so the District blends the water from Wells 3 and 5 with the water from the wells in the Aromas Aquifer where there is no detection of these secondary standard contaminants.

Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (units) ***Before blending**	2011	ND-40 **Wells 3/5**	ND-40	15	NA	Oxidized iron and manganese
Iron (ppb) ***Before blending**	05/24/11	**1400* Wells 3/5**	**ND-1300***	300	NA	Leaching of natural deposits
Manganese (ppb) ***Before blending**	05/24/11	**430* Wells 3/5**	**ND-450***	50 units	NA	Leaching of natural deposits
Odor-threshold (units)	2011	ND	ND	3 units	NA	Naturally occurring organic materials
Turbidity (units)	2011	.61	.44-1.5	5 units	NA	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	05/24/11	340	230-320	1000	NA	Leaching of natural deposits

Detection of Other Monitoring Results

Chemical or Constituent	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr6) (ppb)	5/24/11	Well 4 &10 (11) Well 12 (6) Well 3 & 5 ND	ND-11	Public Health Goal .002 (ppb.)	Naturally occurring chromium bearing minerals
Magnesium (ppm)	5/24/11	23 to 28	22-28	NA	Leaching of natural deposits

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding the quality of your water, please contact Ralph Bracamonte, at (831 688-2767).

Did you know?

Parts Per Million = 1 Drop in 14 Gallons

Parts Per Billion = 1 Drop in 14,000 Gallons

Parts Per Trillion = 1 Drop in 14,000,000 gallons

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the fluoride level of Central Water District (CWD) water?
A. CWD does not add fluoride to its water, however, fluoride occurs naturally in CWD's groundwater (ranging from 0.10 - 0.15 ppm). The maximum allowable level of fluoride set by the state is 2.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Moderate levels of fluoride are helpful in preventing tooth decay.

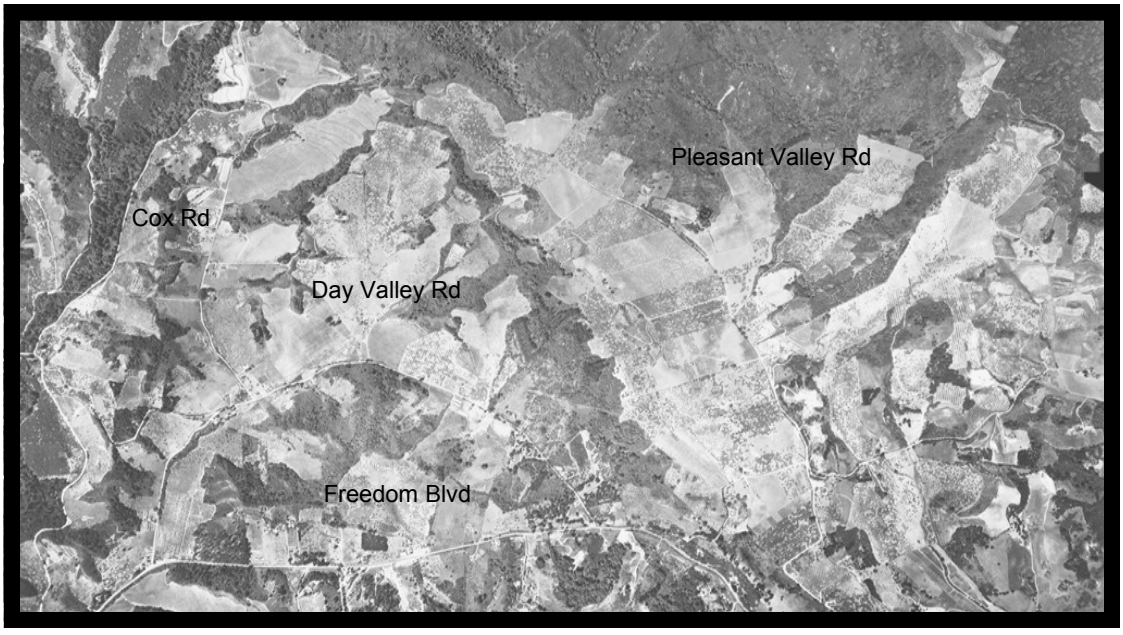
Q. Does Central have hard or soft water?
A. During the past year, CWD's water hardness averaged 186 milligrams per liter (mg/L) (equal to 9 grains per gallon, 1 grain = 17.1 mg/L). This is considered "hard" water. Hard water may cause ice cubes to be cloudy and leave water spots on glasses. The two most common components of hard water are calcium and magnesium, both important to good health.

Q. What about water softeners?
A. There is more to water softeners than soft water. Softeners can waste more water than they process because of the need to "flush" the softening system. In addition, softeners can release considerable salt by-products into wastewater treatment facilities and groundwater supplies, resulting in increased mineral levels. This is a particular concern in areas like ours where wastewater is disposed of in on-site septic tanks.

Q. Who regulates drinking water quality?
A. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) & the State Department of Public Health (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 provide the same protection for public health. 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 and that number is 1-800-426-4791.

FACTS ABOUT THE DISTRICT :

- ESTABLISHED IN 1950
- 3 FULL TIME STAFF
- 1.2 MILLION GALLONS TANK CAPACITY
- 5 WELLS
- 6 BOOSTER PUMP LOCATIONS
- 23. 2 MILE OF PIPES



The District presently serves 812 customers with domestic, fire, agricultural and commercial services. The size of the District is about five square miles. The photo to the left was taken in 1958 and depicts the Central Water District service area.

2011 Water Quality Report

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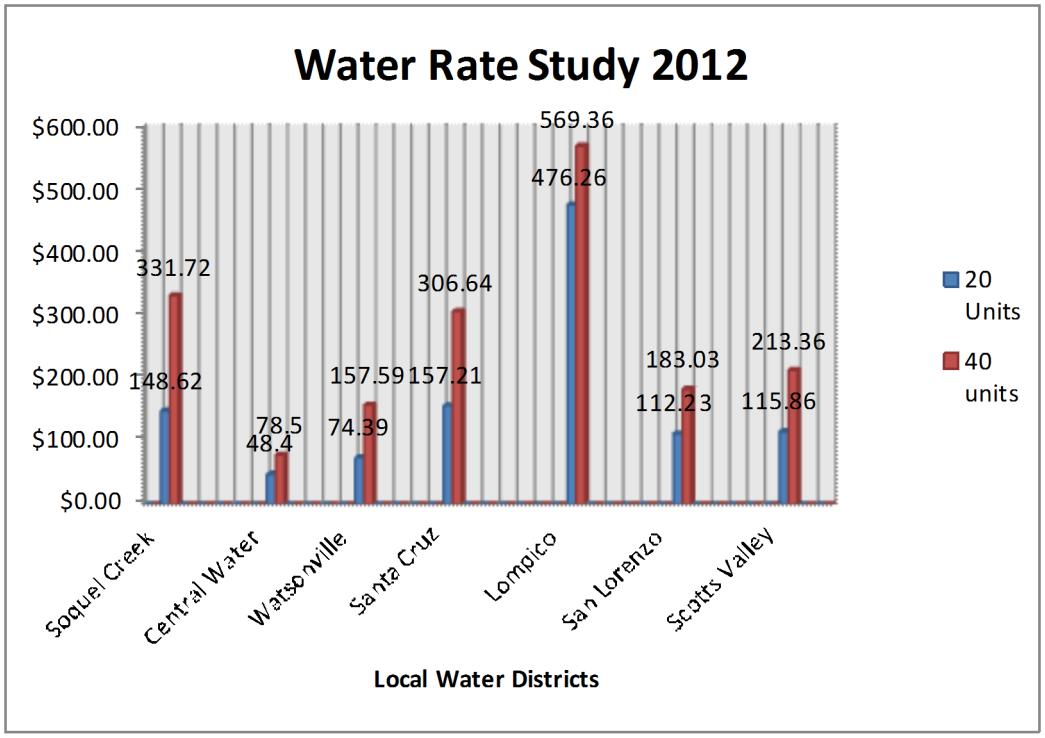
This newsletter was written and produced by the Central Water District staff. For more information about any of the newsletter topics please contact the District office.

The Board of Directors of the Central Water District meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Board meetings are held at the District office, 400 Cox Road, and are open to the public.

Below is a comparison of water rates in Santa Cruz County:



We're on the WEB!!! The Central Water District staff designed and published a website and you can visit it at: HTTP://WWW.CENTRALWATERDISTRICT.US.COM

Coreopsis verticillata is one of the most tolerant plants of both drought and neglect. Plants can grow to 3 ft. tall and half as wide with whorls of finely divided, very narrow leaves and bright yellow 2 inch daisies blooming from summer through autumn.

UPDATE: Prop. 84 Grant Funding

Last year we reported that the CWD received a grant in the amount of $200,000. The funds are to be used to conduct a planning and feasibility study regarding the redistribution of groundwater pumping between the Aromas and Purisima Aquifers. The State of California grant contract was formalized during the fall of 2011. CWD staff has since worked to form a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), developed and circulated a Request for Proposal document and reviewed those responses with the TAC and the Board of Directors. The Board directed that staff interview the team of Hydrometrics/Kennedy Jenks; the interview resulted in a contract with the team. Staff from Hydrometrics/Kennedy Jenks have started the preliminary work to complete the grant project. If you have any questions regarding the project please feel free to call Ralph or Christine at the office.