

# Consumer Confidence Report 2012

Water System Name: City of Kingsburg Report Date: January 29, 2013

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. The drinking water quality is tested for all of the elements that are required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2012

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

Your water comes from these 7 sources: The City of Kingsburg had 7 active wells in 2012. Wells 09, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call (559) 897-5328.

City council meetings are held in the council chambers on the first and third Wednesday of the month.

## TERMS 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 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. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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, order, 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 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.

Variations and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

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

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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.

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, which may come from a variety of sources such as 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.

# Consumer Confidence Report 2012

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

Tables 1,2,3,4 and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituents. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS				
Microbiological Contaminants	No. of Month in Violation	MCL	MCLG 0	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	1 (May 2012)	3 positive results ranging from <1.1 – 1.1 M.P.N. (Most Probable Number)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform Bacteria or E. coli.	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E. coli.	0	Human and animal fecal waste.

Table 2 - Sampling Results for Sodium And Hardness						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2009	15	11 - 22	none	none	Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Hardness (ppm)	2009	91	67 -144	none	none	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally-occurring.

Table 3 - Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standards							
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Sources of Contaminant	Health Effects Language
Arsenic (As) Ppb	2012	3.3	2 - 5	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes	Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Barium (Ba) Ppb	2012	32.89	13.2 to 51.5	1000		Discharge from oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience an increase in blood pressure.
Chromium (Total Cr) Ppb	2012	2.29	1 - 4	50.0	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits	Some people who use water containing chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.

## Consumer Confidence Report 2012

Table 3 - Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standards							Health Effects Language
Chemical or Constituent  (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Sources of Contaminant	
Nitrate (NO3) Ppm	2012	16.3	8.9 to 20.6	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.
Gross Alpha pCi/L	2012 Well 12	9.25	0.290-10.1	15	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits.	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) ppt		0.0371	ND - 0.11	0.2	1.7	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff or leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes, and tree fruit	Some people who use water containing DBCP in excess of the MCL over many years may experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Table 4 - Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standards						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chloride ppm	2009	14.8	6- 26	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance umhos/cm	2009	264	151 - 370	1600	n/a	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (SO4) ppm	2009	6.7	3.0 - 18.0	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS ppm	2009	163	110 - 250	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

# Consumer Confidence Report 2012

Table 5 - Detection of Unregulated Contaminants				
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Average Level Detected	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Vanadium ppm	2012	42.666	50	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of the action level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.
123 TCP	2012	0.018	0.005 µg/L	Some people who use water containing 1,2,3-trichloropropane in excess of the notification level over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer, based on studies in laboratory animals.

### Additional General Information on Drinking Water

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).

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 guideline 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).

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. The City of Kingsburg 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>.

### Drinking Water Source Assessment Information

An assessment of the drinking water sources was completed in August 2001. These sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply:

- Crops irrigated
- Chemical/Petroleum Processing/Storage
- Pesticide/Fertilizer/Petroleum Storage and Transfer Areas
- Fertilizer, Pesticide/Herbicide Application
- Housing - High Density
- Automobile - Gas Stations
  - Historic Gas Stations
  - Dry Cleaners
- Photo Processing/Printing
- Storm Drain Discharge Points
- Storm Water Detention Facilities

### Source Water Protection Tips for Consumers

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

## Consumer Confidence Report 2012

- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste – Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water". Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

### Water Conservation Tips for Consumers

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

Take short showers – a 5 minutes shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.

- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## WATERING REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF KINGSBURG

Let your gardener or landscaper know that watering regulations apply all year long.

Odd numbered addresses:

Your watering days are Tuesday Thursday and Saturday

Even numbered addresses:

Your watering days are Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

- NO watering on Monday
- NO watering between noon and 6:00 pm on any day
- NO water to flow beyond your property line

These are regulations from the Kingsburg Municipal Code available online at [www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov](http://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov)