

2012 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Mount Weske Estates Water Company Report Date: 5/22/2013

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2012 and may include earlier monitoring data.

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

Type of water source(s) in use: Well # 01

Name & location of source(s): Well located off Mount Weske Drive. Approximately 200 feet west of the pond.

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 50 D Street, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Annually, date and time announced
Before hand per Bylaws.

For more information, contact: Tim Ehlert, Water Treatment Operator Phone: (707)823-3184

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 (USEPA).

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 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.

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 that 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 (ug/L)

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

ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

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

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.

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 wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that 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.
- *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.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California 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.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. 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 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	5	5.0	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	5	.23	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR 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)	8/25/11	18	na	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	8/25/11	110	na	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	8/25/11	.20	na	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	8/14/12	8.1	na	45	45	Runoff/leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
*Arsenic (ppb)	3/6/12- 12/18/12	21.75	15-31	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Turbidity (units)	8/25/11	.40	na	5	na	Turbidity has 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.
Gross Alpha PCi/L	8/20/11	0.687	na	15	(0)	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 increase risk of getting cancer.

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	8/25/11	18	na	500	na	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	8/25/11	12	na	500	na	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	8/25/11	340	na	1600	na	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	8/25/11	250	na	1000	na	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Color (Units)	8/25/11	10	na	15	na	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Turbidity (units)	8/25/11	.40	na	5	na	Soil runoff
Iron (ppb)	8/25/11	120	na	300	na	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
*Manganese (ppb)	3/6/12- 12/18/12	382.5	210-530	50	na	Leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (ppm)	8/25/11	.052	na	5.0	na	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	Notification Level	Health Effects Language

*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

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 the 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 (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 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language for Community Water Systems: 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. Mount Weske Estates Mutual Water Co. 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>.

Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, or AL or Violation of Any TT or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement (also see Summary below)

Arsenic is natural to the water table and the test results are typical of those obtained historically at our well since its commissioning and approved by Sonoma County in 1973. Any water system detecting arsenic levels above the standard is required to inform you in this report that the potential adverse health effects from arsenic are "Your drinking water does not meet the federal and state standard for arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects 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."

Unfortunately, cost estimates to reduce the arsenic at the well site would have required hundreds of thousands of dollars and even more for maintenance and waste disposal. As a result, all homeowners have installed the most cost-effective solution of Point-of-Use (POU) reverse osmosis filtration systems (NSF/ANSI Standard 58) per published recommendations in the EPA Guidelines for Small Water Systems. **All POU systems have been tested and showed the arsenic results at below 10 ppb in each of our 18 homes.** The Board of Directors will implement in 2012 a new procedure to obtain TDS readings from all households. Each homeowner will be provided with a handheld TDS meter and will be required to report TDS readings to the Board of Directors quarterly.

Also, we submitted a proposal to the Calif. Dept. of Public Health Services (CDPH) in 2002 to gain formal approval for all homeowners to use these systems to comply with arsenic regulations. However, we have been told by CDPH that our proposal will remain on "hold" until the State of California determines its own standard and policies in response to the Federal arsenic standard and EPA recommendations. We have not heard anything further on our proposal from the CDPH. However, California Assembly Bill 2515 adopted (effective 12/21/2010) emergency regulations approving the permitted use of point-of-entry (POE) and point-of-use (POU) treatment by public water systems in lieu of centralized treatment until January 1, 2014, or until the effective date of the adoption of "standard" regulations, whichever occurs first (for public water systems with fewer than 200 service connections). According to the CDPH website, following the adoption of the POU and POE emergency regulations, the Department will then begin the process of adopting "permanent" POU and POE regulation to fulfill its obligations set forth under the H&SC by AB 2515.

In October of 2011, the Board of Directors with the assistance of the California Rural Water Association completed the Proposition 84 Feasibility Study Funding Application and it was deemed complete by the California Department of Public Health. The Board continues to work with CDPH and the Town of Windsor to pursue this solution to our arsenic exceedance situation.

***Manganese:** system exceeded the Manganese MCL for Secondary drinking water standards. This MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high manganese levels are due to leaching of natural deposits and recent studies indicate that high levels of manganese in people have shown to result in effects of the nervous system. Homeowners in Mt. Weske mitigate the effect of manganese through the use of water softeners and/or other filtration systems that have been installed in each home.

The Mount Weske Estates Water Company water system is operated under contract by Weeks Water Treatment of Sebastopol. To inquire about the system or to report trouble, please call 707-542-3272.
