

# 2013 Consumer Confidence Report CSA 32 Cantua Creek

## **Spanish (Español)**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuníquese con alguien que pueda traducir la información.

## **Is my water safe?**

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 5 of those contaminants, and found only 2 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.)

## **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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. EPA/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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **Where does my water come from?**

Surface water comes from the California Aqueduct.

## **Source water assessment and its availability**

A source water assessment was conducted for the CALIFORNIA AQUEDUCT -RAW of the FCSA #32/CANTUA CREEK water system in April, 2003. According to CDPH records, this Source is Surface Water. This Assessment was done using the Surface Water System (Watershed with Zones) Method. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

Agricultural Drainage.

Discussion of Vulnerability: The California Aqueduct is exposed to a wide variety of possible contaminants throughout its length. Of primary concern to FCSA #32/Cantua Creek are those activities occurring in the reach downstream from the San Luis Reservoir. Water entering the San Luis Reservoir and the O'Neil Forebay bring with it a mixture of contaminants accumulated in passage through the Sacramento Valley, the San Joaquin Delta and the inflow from many drainage inlets between the Delta and the Reservoir. Storm runoff

and agricultural drainage inflow at many locations in this watershed could possibly reach the Aqueduct. In the O'Neil Forebay the Aqueduct water is mingled with water from the Federal Delta-Mendota Canal, which is also influenced by significant storm runoff and agricultural drainage. Contaminates can enter the Aqueduct in the reaches downstream of the San Luis Reservoir. Storm drainage from the east side of the Coast Range accumulates adjacent to the Aqueduct and is pumped into the Aqueduct for disposal. This drainage contains asbestos, agricultural drainage, oil field wastes and other potential chemicals from accidental spills. Westlands Water District enforces a policy that does not allow drainage water return water off fields to reenter their delivery system. The district maintains an active Municipal and Industrial Back-Flow prevention program approved by the California Department of Health Services for the connections that require protective devices.

**Drinking Water Source Assessment information:**

A copy of the complete assessment is available from the CDPH District Office located at 265 W. Bullard Ave Suite 101 Fresno CA 93704. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting the Supervising Regional Engineer at (559) 447-3300.

**Why are there contaminants in my 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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: 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, 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; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **How can I get involved?**

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation and Public meetings are scheduled as needed. Please contact Fresno County Special Districts for more information and dates at (559) 600-4259.

### **Cross Connection Control Survey**

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

### **Additional Information for 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 service lines and home plumbing. CA Aqueduct; Well No. 1-Fresno 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>.

## Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range</u>		<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>							
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	110	62	110	2013	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	190	120	190	2013	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	0.00193	0.0018	0.00214	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u># Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.00525	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.3	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
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Violations and Exceedances
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**Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)**  
Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. 01/01/13-12/31/13 Fresno County is in the design stages of developing a new water system that will be funded through the State Revolving Fund. The new system will consolidate County Service Areas 30 and 32. We anticipate resolving the problem by starting construction on the new facility in 2015.

**TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]**  
Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. 01/01/13-12/31/13 Fresno County is in the design stages of developing a new water system that will be funded through the State Revolving Fund. The new system will consolidate County Service Areas 30 and 32. We anticipate resolving the problem by starting construction on the new facility in 2015.

Unit Descriptions
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Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions
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Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

**For more information please contact:**

Contact Name: Amina Flores, Staff Analyst  
Address: 2220 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
Phone: (559) 600-4259  
Fax: (559) 600-4552  
E-Mail: [afloresvelazquez@co.fresno.ca.us](mailto:afloresvelazquez@co.fresno.ca.us)  
Website: <http://www.co.fresno.ca.us>