

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

- 1) 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).
- 2) 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. 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).
- 3) 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 materials, 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 minerals, 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, 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 that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
 - Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- 4) **Arsenic Above 5 ug/l Up To And Including 10 ug/l:** While West Kern Water District's drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of 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 low level 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.

- 5) **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. West Kern Water 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>.

West Kern Water District complies with all State and Federal lead testing requirements, therefore any additional consumer lead testing would be at the expense of the customer.

- 6) **Drinking Water Source Assessment:** An assessment of the drinking water sources for West Kern Water District was completed in May 2001. The sources are considered most vulnerable during artificial recharge activities in spreading basins, but these activities have not been associated with any detected contaminants. A copy of the completed assessment may be viewed at:

West Kern Water District
800 Kern Street
P.O. Box 1105
Taft, CA 93268

You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:

Wendy Adams-Rosenberger
Regulatory Administrator
(661) 763-3151 office
(661) 765-4271 fax

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Public Health Services (Department) prescribes 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2014

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.)

TESTING FOR	UNITS	CA State Standards	PHG	MCLG	Range of Reporting	WKWD Average*	Typical Source of Contaminant
PRIMARY STANDARDS							
CLARITY							
Turbidity	NTU	1-5 Units	N/A		0 to 1.2	0.5	Soil runoff
Odor -Threshold		3	N/A		0	0	Naturally-occurring organic material
Color	units	15	N/A		0 to 1.2	0.5	Naturally-occurring organic material
MICROBIOLOGICAL							
Coliform Bacteria	% tests	5%	N/A	0%	N/A	0.0%	Naturally present in the environment
Disinfection	Chlorine Gas/Sodium Hypochlorite					0.30mg/L	
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
Total Trihalomethanes	ug/l	80	N/A		N/A	7.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids	ug/L	60	N/A		N/A	ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Disinfectant Residual	mg/l	4	N/A		0.14 to 0.23	0.16	By-product of drinking water chlorination
INORGANIC CHEMICALS							
Conductivity	umhos	1,600			338 to 588	541.2	Substance that forms iron in water
Chloride	mg/l	500			28 to 95	49.6	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	mg/l	500			27 to 240	90	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	1,000			218 to 560	355	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
INORGANIC CHEMICALS							
Arsenic	ug/l	10	N/A	N/A	2 to 8.4	2.80	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	mg/l	4			ND to 3	0.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ug/l	1000			ND to 67	31.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO3)	mg/l	45	45		0 to 30	2.6	Runoff and erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	mg/l	2.0	1		0.04 to 0.3	0.1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Bicarbonate	mg/l	NA			21 to 122	94.5	
ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS							
pH	units	NS			7.95 to 8.84	8	
Potassium	mg/l	NS			0 to 0.8	0.5	
Alkalinity	mg/l	NS			26 to 106	78.2	
Hardness	mg/l	200			46.5 to 130	107.2	
Sodium	mg/l	350			40.6 to 110	70.3	
Calcium	mg/l	NS			13.8 to 81	41.3	
Magnesium	mg/l	NS			0.22 to 1.98	1.1	
RADIOLOGICAL							
Gross Alpha	pCi/l	15			0 to 28.4	9.1	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/l	20			0.26 to 19.4	9.7	Erosion of natural deposits

Gross Alpha represents the total of alpha emitters and does not necessarily indicate an MCL violation should the RANGE or AVERAGE be greater than 15. Compliance with the MCL is based on a RAA (running annual average of 4 quarter per source) and the WKWD wells are currently in compliance.

*The average of all data from the system well samples taken in 2014.

ND = Non Detection

NS = No Standard

MCL = The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) represents the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the PHGs and MCLGs as is economically and technologically feasible.

DLR = Detection Limit for Reporting purposes; set by the Department of Public Health (DPH)

MCLG = The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) represents 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.

mg/l = Milligrams Per Liter (parts per million)

ug/l = Micrograms Per Liter (parts per billion)

pCi/l = Pico Curies Per Liter

pH = Optimal Range for Neutrality is 6.6 - 8.5

umhos = micromhos per centimeter

HARDNESS = The CA Standard of 200 MCL is considered to be medium-hard; 50-100 mg/l is very soft

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD: MCLs, specific treatment techniques adopted in lieu of primary MCLs, and monitoring and reporting requirements for MCLs that are specific in regulation.

SOURCE OF SUPPLY: West Kern Water District obtains its water supply from thirteen groundwater wells located within the Kern River hydrologic basin on the western edge of the Kern River Alluvial Fan.

ANALYTICAL MONITORING TIME FRAME: The California Department of Health Services allows West Kern Water District to monitor for some contaminants once per year or less. The concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the District's data, though representative, is more than one year old. Results indicate data from 2012 and 2013.

CONTACT PERSONNEL: Regarding further information or explanation of this report, please call West Kern Water District at (661) 763-3151 and request the District's contact person Wendy Adams-Rosenberger.



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**Consumer
 Confidence
 Report**

WEST KERN
 water district
 Volume 5, Number 26
 May 2015