

2014 Consumer Confidence Report

SPCA Water System

June 12, 2015

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, 2014.

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

Type of water source: The SPCA water system consists of one well located at the entrance to the facility along the Monterey-Salinas Highway, in the Highway 68 water shed.

Drinking Water Source Assessment: A drinking water source assessment for Well 03 was not available at the time of this report.

For more information, contact: MCSI Water Systems Management

Phone: (831) 659-5360

Fax: (831) 659-3166

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: State Board 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 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 byproducts 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board 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.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Bacteriological Contaminant(s)	Highest # of Detection	# Of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliform, Bacteria	0 / month	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform/E Coli	0 / year	0	A routine sample and repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E. coli	0	Human & animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Contaminant(s) (units)	Number of Samples Collected	PHG	AL	90 th Percentile Level Detected	# of Samples > AL	Sample Date	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	5	0.3	1.3	1.2	1	9/2014	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative
Lead (ppb)	5	0.2	15	9.5	0	9/2014	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF RADIOACTIVITY

Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	AL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	(0)	15	0.54	ND-1.07	2009	Erosion of natural deposits

SAMPLE RESULTS SHOWING DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS					
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	16	9/2012	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	N/A	60	4	9/2012	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb)	0.004	10	19.5	26-32	2014	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Arsenic (ppb) (post-treatment)	0.004	10	7.8	1-13	2014	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	1	0.079		9/2014	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	(100)	50	3		9/2014	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1	2.0	0.2		9/2014	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (NO ₃) (ppm)	45	45	6		9/2014	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	30	50	6		9/2014	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Toluene (ppb)	150	150	2		10/2008	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; underground gas tank leaks

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Contaminant(s) (units)	PHG/ (MCLG)	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	500	260		9/2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence
Specific Conductivity	N/A	1600	1057		9/2014	Substances that form natural deposits; sea water influence
Iron (ppb)	N/A	300	16		9/2014	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	N/A	50	11		9/2014	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (units)	N/A	3	1		9/2014	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	500	24		9/2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	N/A	1000	571		9/2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	N/A	5	0.05		9/2014	Soil runoff.
Zinc (ppm)	N/A	5	0.004		9/2014	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

SUBSTANCES OF INTEREST				
Contaminant(s) (units)	MCL	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	N/A	76	9/2014	Generally found in ground water
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	147	9/2014	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally-occurring
Total Hardness (ppm)	N/A	137	9/2014	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally-occurring
pH (STD units)	N/A	6.6	9/2014	A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral

SAMPLING RESULTS FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS					
Contaminant(s) (units)	MCL	Notification Level	Level Detected	Sample Date	Typical Source
Boron (ppb)	N/A	1000	100	9/2010	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Vanadium (ppb)	N/A	50	12	9/2010	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Additional 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 Environmental Protection Agency'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. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Arsenic above 5 ppb but below or equal to 10 ppb:

While your drinking water meets the federal and state stand for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic stand balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans in high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Lead Statement: 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. SPCA Water System 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 drinking 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>.

Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding and MCL, MRDL, AL or a Violation:

- *Arsenic 10 ppb or greater:* Some people who drink water-containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Four of the fifteen post-treatment samples were over the MCL. The treatment annual average was under the MCL.
- *Copper:* Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. One of the distribution samples was over the allowable limit.

For Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUND WATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year)/ 0	None	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Ground Water Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Violation of Ground Water TT

- None

System Improvements and Updates:

- The water system has plans for investigation and mitigation of filter plant waste.

Conservation and Drought Tips:

- Contact MCSI at (831) 659-5360 or The Water Awareness Committee at www.waterawareness.org for further information.