



# WATER QUALITY REPORT 2014

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PWS ID#: 4010016



## THE LOS OSOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT WORKS HARD TO PROVIDE QUALITY WATER TO YOU!

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality Report for the 2014 calendar year. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

The Los Osos Community Services District safeguards its water supplies and once again, we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Margaret Falkner, Utility Compliance Technician III, at (805) 528-9376.

Maintenance of the distribution system is a high priority for the Los Osos Community Services District (LOCS) water resource operators. The operators implement a meter replacement program which replaces older meters with new meters in the system. The LOCS's meters are replaced approximately every 10 years. As meters get old they tend to slow down due to buildup of minerals from the drinking water. In 2014 the operators replaced 213 old meters in our distribution system.

In addition to the meter replacement program the operators maintain fire hydrants throughout our water service area. It is important to keep these hydrants in proper working order. They exercise main valves to make sure they function in the event of an emergency where a main line shut-down in the system is required. The operators work through the system exercising the valves to minimize any water loss due to an accident or main line break.

Water quality is tested throughout the distribution system as required by the state for free chlorine residual, reactive phosphate, and any coliform presence. The maintenance of the distribution system is important to sustain water quality goals.

In 2014 the LOCS water system operators continued providing our customers with high quality drinking water, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

If you have any questions regarding the quality of your water, contact the office at (805) 528-9370 and an operator will be sent to your home to investigate.



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## YOUR VIEWS ARE WELCOMED!

We invite the public to participate in our Board of Directors meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. Our Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Sea Pines Golf Resort Conference Room, 1945 Solano Street, Los Osos, CA 93402.

In addition, the public is invited to attend quarterly meetings of the Utilities Advisory Committee (UAC) held at 5:30 pm at the District office, 2122 9th Street, Suite 102, Los Osos, CA 93402. The UAC is a committee of five volunteers with one Director as the non-voting Chairperson along with another Director as a non-voting alternate Chairperson. The committees are advisory to the Board of Directors considering District-related issues assigned by the Board of Directors. The committee meeting schedule is set in December for the following year. The Board may ask for special committee meetings during the year based upon subject and timing.

## GET YOUR FREE WATER CONSERVATION ITEMS AND SAVE BOTH WATER AND MONEY!

Many customers in our water service area are doing their part to conserve water. The District provides low-flow fixtures free to our customers. These fixtures include showerheads, bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators, and garden hose nozzles. We also have a 5-minute shower timer. This item is a big hit with our customers who have teen-age children in their home. We also provide dye tablets to place in the toilet tank to see if there is a leak from the tank to the toilet bowl. There are drip gauges of all sorts to monitor slow drips. Even what appears to be a small leak will increase your water usage and bills. The District lobby is open between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday through Friday except on Holidays. Stop by the office at 2122 9th Street, Suite 102, in Los Osos and pick up as many fixtures as you like. Thank you for your water conservation efforts.

**Los Osos Community Services District**  
2122 9th Street, Suite 102  
Los Osos, CA 93402

<http://locsd.org/cm/Home.html>



## WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The Los Osos Community Services District (LOCS D) water system uses five source wells. Water delivered to the LOCS D customers is groundwater that originates from the Los Osos Valley Basin. The five water well sites are known as the 8th Street Well, 3rd Street Well, 10th Street Well, Palisades Well, and South Bay Well. The groundwater basin is a collection of local drainage basins, streams, creeks, and natural percolation from rain, agricultural, and domestic use. Water is cleaned through a natural filtration process as it trickles down through the ground. During this process, water may also pick up contaminants found in the soil, both naturally occurring minerals, and substances resulting from animal or human activity. Groundwater is normally very clean and is simply disinfected to help minimize the chance of any viral and bacterial contamination.

Each well is equipped with online devices for operation and monitoring purposes. An alarm system is integrated in the monitoring process to notify operators if there is a problem at any well site or facility. The South Bay and 8th Street wells have additional filtration equipment designed to remove iron and manganese found in these two wells to aesthetically acceptable levels.

Utilities Department operators are responsible for treatment of the five groundwater supply wells. They are also responsible for water quality monitoring, sampling, distribution system repair and maintenance, meter reading, and regulatory reporting compliance. The delivery of water to the District's water customers is conveyed through a network of over 27 miles of water mainlines connected to approximately 2,770 water service lines and meters serving residences and commercial businesses. Included in the infrastructure are three water storage tanks, a booster pump station, 162 fire hydrants with 558 valves that require maintenance and inspection. These services provided by the Utilities Department personnel not only assure delivery of pure, wholesome potable drinking water, but also provide the water essential for firefighting.

### LOS OSOS SOURCE WATER QUALITY (ALL TEST RESULTS ARE FROM JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2014.)

PRIMARY STANDARDS HEALTH BASED (UNITS)	Primary MCL	PHG (MCLG) [MRDL]	Range of Detection	Average Level	Most Recent Sampling Year	Violation	Typical Source of Constituent
Chlorine (mg/L)	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	0.35 - 1.75	0.93	2014	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chromium VI (mg/L)	10	0.02	0.001 - 0.01	0.006	2014	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [NO <sub>3</sub> ] (mg/L)	45	45	1.9 - 32.2	17.4	2014	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

SECONDARY STANDARDS AESTHETICS BASED (UNITS)	Secondary MCL (units)	Range of Detection	Average Level	Most Recent Sampling Year	Violation	Typical Source of Constituent
Chloride (mg/L)	500	35.5 - 92.6	62.9	2014	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	15	<1 - 1	1	2014	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron [Fe] (µg/L)	300	10 - 210	66	2014	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (µg/L)	50	<5 - 88	61.8	2014	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor Threshold (Units)	3	0 - 1	0.4	2014	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1,600	270 - 810	561	2013	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	10.6 - 47.3	25.2	2014	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (NTU)	5	0.05 - 0.22	0.9	2014	No	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1,000	170 - 490	263	2014	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	AL	PHG (MCGL)	Amount Detected (90th Percentile)	Sites Above AL / Total Sites	Year Sampled	Violation	Typical Source of Constituent
Copper (mg/L)	1.3	0.3	0.91	1/23	2013	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a 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.

Lead (µg/L)	15	0.2	ND	0/23	2013	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
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OTHER SUBSTANCES WITH NO MCLS OR PHG	Amount Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Constituent
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)	214	90-320	2014	"Hardness" is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring.
Sodium [Na] (mg/L)	35	23 - 53	2014	"Sodium" refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.

### LOCS D DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

PRIMARY STANDARDS HEALTH BASED (UNITS)	MCL	PHG (MCLG) [MRDL]	Range of Detection	Total Amount Detected	Most Recent Sampling Year	Violation	Typical Source of Constituent
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L)	80	N/A	1.5 - 6.9	3.25	2014	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria [Total Coliform Rule] (# positive samples)	No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	0	0	2014	No	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine [as Cl <sub>2</sub> ] (mg/L)	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	0.5 - 1.46	0.82	2014	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

**DEFINITIONS AL (REGULATORY ACTION LEVEL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**µS/CM (MICROSIEMENS PER CENTIMETER):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**MCL (MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL):** 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

**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 are set by the U.S. EPA.

**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.

**MRDLG (MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT 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.

**NA: NOT APPLICABLE ND (NOT DETECTED):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS:** No standard

**NTU (NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNITS):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**PDWS (PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**PHG (PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL):** 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 EPA.

**PPB (PARTS PER BILLION):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**PPM (PARTS PER MILLION):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

An assessment of the drinking water source(s) was completed in June 2001. All wells are considered most vulnerable to possible contaminating activities associated with high-density housing and associated septic systems, nearby storm water drainage, and some agricultural activities. Contaminants associated with these activities have not been detected in the water supply.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water District Office, 1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013 or the Los Osos Community Services District, 2122 9th Street, Suite 102, Los Osos, CA 93402.

### 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.
- 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.
- 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR 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 (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/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).

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. LOCS D 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 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>.

### STATISTICS FOR LOS OSOS CSD WATER SERVICE AREA:

- Water Production for the 2014 Calendar year was 206.6 Million Gallons (MG)
- The Average Daily Demand in 2014 was 506,066 gallons
- The Maximum Month Production was 20.9 MG in July 2014
- The Maximum Day Demand was July 20, 2014. On that day 889,500 gallons of water was produced.
- The District's total well capacity is 1,760 gallons per minute (gpm)
- The District's total storage capacity is 1.3 MG

