

County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
www.slocounty.ca.gov/PW.htm

Water Quality Report

County Service Area 10/10A - Cayucos
System Number 4010025 and 4010901

2014



*Public Works will be a valued community partner enhancing
quality of life for our fellow county residents.*

YOUR 2014 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The County of San Luis Obispo is pleased to present this annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We sincerely hope this report gives you the information you seek and have a right to know. *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

CAYUCOS NEWS



THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS APWA ACCREDITATION

The County of San Luis Obispo Public Works and Transportation Department has received Accreditation from the American Public Works Association (APWA). It is only the 96th Agency nationwide and 4th California County to achieve this rare honor.

APWA accreditation is an objective evaluation of an agency and how they conduct their work. It is a means of formally verifying and recognizing public works agencies for compliance with recommended practices. Initial accreditation covers a four year period and the department will be reviewed every four years for re-accreditation to demonstrate continuing compliance.

OTHER NEWS

The Cayucos CSA 10 Water Distribution System Improvement project is complete. This project will supply the residents of CSA 10A with fire flows able to meet California Fire Code requirements. These upgrades included upsizing 3,800 linear feet of undersized 4-inch distribution waterlines in south Cayucos, to 8-inch pipeline.

A project to construct a new water storage tank is in the permitting stage, which includes a lengthy Coastal Commission approval process. Construction of the tank is anticipated to be complete in 2016.

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On January 17, 2014, the Governor declared a drought emergency for all of California. On July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board approved an emergency regulation to ensure water agencies, their customers, and state residents increase water conservation in urban settings or face possible fines or other enforcement. On April 1, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown ordered mandatory water reductions for the first time in California's history. This comes after a four-year drought and a winter of record-low snowfalls.

Saving water is an easy way to stretch our water supply. Please conserve and help protect our vital water source.

RESTRICTIONS ON WATER USE:

- ❖ WATER OUTDOORS ONLY ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
- ❖ NO WATERING OF OUTDOOR LANDSCAPES THAT CAUSE RUNOFF
- ❖ NO USE OF HOSES WITHOUT SHUT-OFF NOZZLES
- ❖ NO USE OF WATER IN A FOUNTAIN OR DECORATIVE WATER FEATURE, UNLESS THE WATER IS RECIRCULATED
- ❖ NO WASHING OF DRIVEWAYS AND SIDEWALKS
- ❖ NO IRRIGATION OUTDOORS DURING AND WITHIN 48 HOURS FOLLOWING MEASUREABLE RAINFALL

Local agencies can fine those who violate the individual prohibitions up to \$500 a day. Thank you for your help during this drought emergency. For more information, contact (805) 781-4466 or visit www.swrcb.ca.gov or www.slocountywater.org.

CSA-10A Water Statistics (January to December)

Year	Total Production, million gallons	Average Daily Demand, gallons (all uses)	Estimated gallons per customer per day (residential)
2013	44.9	123,000	73
2014	42.9	118,000	67

Thank you for doing your part to conserve water!

YOUR WATER SUPPLY

The primary source of water for Cayucos is Whale Rock Reservoir. Whale Rock Reservoir has a total capacity of 40,660 acre-feet. The reservoir is managed by the Whale Rock Commission comprised of the City of San Luis Obispo, the California Men's Colony, and Cal Poly. No swimming or other body contact sports are allowed on the reservoir in order to minimize viral contamination from human contact. Water from the reservoir is piped downstream to the Cayucos Water Treatment Plant (WTP) where it is treated by a filtration system followed by chlorination. Prior to chlorination, a percentage of the water is passed through two granular activated carbon filters. In addition, Cayucos has a groundwater well, the Whale Rock Well (CAWO Well). The CAWO well contributed 1.2% of the total water production by CSA 10 in 2014.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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 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. 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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WATER QUALITY

Last year, your tap water met all USEPA and State drinking water health standards. The following tables are a snapshot of water quality and drinking water constituents that were detected in 2014, unless otherwise noted. The presence of these substances in water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State allows us to monitor for some constituents less than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently. Some of our data, although representative, may be more than one year old. For questions about this data, please contact the Water Quality Laboratory at (805) 781-5111 or email PW_SLO_WQL@co.slo.ca.us.

The Utilities Division Water Quality Laboratory provides laboratory and technical services to support the beneficial management of water and wastewater for the present and future residents of San Luis Obispo County.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLs, MRDLs, TTs or RALs

Constituent (Unit)	Where sampled	MCL , TT, or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	Range detected	Average detected	Violation	Potential Source of Contamination
<i>Filter Performance</i>							
Turbidity (NTU)	Filters	TT = 1 NTU TT = 95% of samples ≤ 0.3	----- -----	0.06-0.29 100 %	0.10 100%	No No	Surface water runoff
<i>Microbiological</i>							
Total Coliform Bacteria (Present or absent)	Distribution	> 1 positive sample per month	(0)	ND	ND	No	Naturally present in the environment
Heterotrophic Bacteria (CFU/mL)	Distribution	TT = < 500	N/A	ND—58	4	No	Naturally present in the environment
<i>Inorganic</i>							
Nitrate as NO ₃ (ppm)	Sources	45	45	ND - 10.3	ND	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<i>Radioactivity</i>							
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	Sources	15	N/A	1.31 – 2.42 (2013)	1.32	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<i>Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection Byproducts</i>							
Chlorine (ppm)	Distribution	[4.0 as Cl ₂]	[4 as Cl ₂]	0.49—1.75	1.07	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	Distribution	LRAA=60	-----	1.9-15.8	12.6 max LRAA	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	Distribution	LRAA=80	-----	8.4-65.1	59.2 max LRAA	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

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CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD (AESTHETICS)

Constituent (Unit)	Where sampled	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	Range detected	Average detected	Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	Treated	500	N/A	----	33.8	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Color (CU)	Distribution	15	N/A	ND—2	ND	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor – Threshold (TON)	Distribution	3	N/A	ND—3.0	1.2	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	Treated	1600	N/A	----	704	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	Treated	500	N/A	----	89.9	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Treated	1000	N/A	----	430	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	Distribution	5	N/A	0.06—0.39	0.09	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED CONSTITUENTS

Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	Treated	NS	N/A	----	243	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Calcium (ppm)	Treated	NS	N/A	----	40.9	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	Treated	NS	N/A	----	296	Generally found in ground and surface water; seawater influence.
Magnesium (ppm)	Treated	NS	N/A	----	47.2	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
pH	Treated	NS	N/A	----	8.25	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Sodium (ppm)	Treated	NS	N/A	----	40	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.

Lead and Copper in Customers' Homes (2014)

Constituent (Unit)	NL	PHG	Number of Samples Collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	Number of Sites found above the NL	Potential Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	10	ND	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
Copper (ppb)	1300	300	10	180	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems

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KEY ABBREVIATIONS

CFU/ml – Colony Forming Units per milliliter.

CU – Color Units.

LRAA – Locational Running Annual Average: The average of analytical results for samples at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

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 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. Environmental Protection Agency.

mg/L – Milligrams per Liter.

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.

N/A – Not applicable.

ND – Not Detected. Contaminant is not detectable at testing limit.

NL – Notification Level

NS – No Standard

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

pCi/L – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

PDWS – Primary Drinking Water Standards. MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements. PDWS pertain to the following: Filtration Performance, Microbiological Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, Radioactive Contaminants and Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfection Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors.

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 Environmental Protection Agency.

ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$).

ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

Primary MCL – Maximum contaminant level for contaminants that affect health along with their

monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible.

RAL – Regulatory Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Secondary MCLs – Maximum contaminant level for contaminants to protect the taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with secondary MCLs do not affect health at the MCL levels.

SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board

TON – Threshold Odor Number.

TT – Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

$\mu\text{S/cm}$ – microsiemens per centimeter (unit of specific conductance of water).

$\mu\text{g/L}$ – Micrograms per Liter.

USEPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency.

WRR – Whale Rock Reservoir

WTP – Water Treatment Plant

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CAYUCOS CSA10/10A WATER PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY

	2013	2014
Total Deliveries (million gallons)	135.7	128.7
CSA 10 A Delivered Water	44.9	42.9
Morro Rock Mutual Company	39.7	35.6
Paso Robles Beach Water Association	51.1	50.2
Average Daily Demand (gallons)	371,863	352,535
Percent decrease between 2013 and 2014	5.2%	

DRINKING WATER AND HEALTH RISKS

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).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water typically comes from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The County of San Luis Obispo 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 (1-800-425-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

OPERATIONS

The Cayucos water system is assigned three primary operators who, like all operators who work for the County, are certified by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Our operators are knowledgeable professionals who have many years of experience. They are dedicated to maintaining an excellent water system and providing you with the best quality water possible.

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Operators conduct weekly inspections of the well, tank, and distribution system to ensure a safe and reliable water supply. In addition, the SWRCB routinely inspects the facilities, operating procedures, and water quality monitoring records to verify compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements.

WATER QUALITY LABORATORY

The Department of Public Works Water Quality Lab provides laboratory services for most County operated water and wastewater systems. The lab is certified by the State of California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP). To remain certified by the State, the lab is required to annually demonstrate capability by analyzing unknowns for each constituent. In addition to analytical work, the laboratory also provides sampling, compliance reporting, watershed monitoring, and technical support services for our systems.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TIPS FOR CONSUMERS

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday (except the 5th Tuesday in a month) at 8:30am in the board chambers located in the new Government Center, 1055 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo. The Board holds budget hearings during the month of June. Interested persons should check the Board's agendas for specific dates. Agendas for all Board of Supervisors meetings are posted in some County libraries, the County Government Center, and on the Board of Supervisors internet web site at www.slocounty.ca.gov.

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The Cayucos Citizens Advisory Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Cayucos Veterans Hall at 7:00 pm. The Cayucos Area Water Organization meets the first Monday of each month at the Cayucos Fire Station at 1:30 pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION



Internet

USEPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>

California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/publicwatersystems.shtml

San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department

www.slocounty.ca.gov/PW.htm

SLO County Water Quality Laboratory

805-781-5111

PW_SLO_WQL@co.slo.ca.us

<http://slocountywater.org/WQL/wql.html>

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