

2015 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report
Del Oro Water Company – Country Estates District
Public Water System Number 1500314

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, 2015 and may include earlier monitoring data.

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

Water for the Del Oro Water Co., Country Estates District is produced from wells, specifically, the Cindy Well. Source water assessments were conducted for the Cindy Well in June of 2001. The source for the Cindy Well is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Septic systems – low density, and Fertilizer/Pesticide/Herbicide application.

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 level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs or 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 which a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: Not detectable at testing limit

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

MFL: Million fibers per liter

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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 picograms per liter

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, agriculture livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, agricultural application, 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, 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.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these 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 are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA – 2015 – Monthly

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest Number of Detections	Number of months in violation	MCL	MCLG (MPN/mL)	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. Coli	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E.Coli	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER – September 30, 2013

Lead and Copper	Number of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. of sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	5	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	5	0.17	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	MCL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	7/31/2015	112	None	None	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	7/31/2015	572			

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A *PRIMARY* DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Nitrate as N (ppm)	2015	6.97	10	Fertilizer, natural deposits, septic systems
Arsenic (ppb)	2015	4.3	10	Natural deposits, run off from orchards
Uranium (pCi/L)	2015	3.24	20	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2015	5.11	15	Erosion of natural deposits

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A *SECONDARY* DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent	Sample Date	Level Detected	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bicarbonate (mg/L)	7/31/2015	192	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
Calcium (mg/L)	7/31/2015	173	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
Magnesium (mg/L)	7/31/2015	34.2	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
Sodium (mg/L)	7/31/2015	112	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
Total Hardness (mg/L)	7/31/2015	572	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
pH (pH Units)	7/31/2015	7.2	None	No health effect is associated with this constituent
Specific Conductance (ppb)	7/31/2015	1950	2200	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	7/31/2015	335	600	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits' industrial wastes
TDS (ppb)	7/31/2015	1550	1500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	7/31/2015	0.58	5	Soil runoff
Chloride (ppm)	7/31/2015	309	600	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (ppm)	7/31/2015	5	15	Naturally-occurring organic materials

TABLE 6 – DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, and DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS

Chemical or Constituent (reporting units) – Distribution System	Sample Date	Level Detected	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	8/21/2015	5.3	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	8/21/2015	3.5	60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	12/2015	.95	4	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

**Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.*

* Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six month of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

ADDITIONAL GENERAL INFORMATION ON DRINKING WATER:

All 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 the 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 at 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 individuals, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Center 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 at 1-800-426-4791. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general populations. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your homes plumbing.

Del Oro Water Company would like to inform our customers to the safety of lead and copper testing. While Del Oro Water Company does not use lead pipes in the distribution lines that serve our customers, older homes may have been built using lead pipes or lead connectors. For this reason ***Lead and Copper Tap Monitoring*** by Del Oro Water Company is conducted at designated customer's homes and is an important part of a water utilities monitoring schedule.

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. Del Oro Water Company 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 for the Safe Drinking water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For additional information concerning your drinking water, or to file a protest or complaint please contact Community Relations at P.O. Drawer 5172, Chico, CA 95927, 1-530-717-2508. All Del Oro Water Company customers will be notified of, and invited to, any public meetings that pertain to their District, thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date. Public meeting may pertain to capital improvements being made in the District or proposed rate increases.

CE Mailing Completed By: May 18, 2016