

2016 Consumer Confidence Report

Water is Precious



MEINERS OAKS WATER DISTRICT CONSUMERS CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2016

Last year, as in years past, your tap water meets all EPA and State drinking water health standards. Meiners Oaks Water District has delivered safe drinking water that did not violate any maximum contaminant levels. This report details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

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. 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).

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. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of

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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, 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.
- Disposing of unused, unwanted, and expired medications once it was common practice to flush these medications (also known as pharmaceuticals) down the toilet. Your doctor or pharmacist may have directed you to do this. We now know that these substances are bad for our environment - the ground, water, and the air around us. Please return all unused medications to your pharmacist.
- Department of Health and EPA regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

For more information, please look to (www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org)

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the number 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.

It is also worth noting, that in light of recent events in Flint Michigan about lead content and lead poisoning stemming from the local changes in the water supply. Meiners Oaks Water District tested three random sites in the distribution system before accepting water from Casitas MWD, after our wells were turned off and 100% of Casitas was being purchased, and again at nine different points now that our wells are back online. We are happy to inform you all of the samples returned from our lab were well below the MCL(Maximum Contaminant Level) or non-detectable in our water system.

Lead in the water can cause serious physical symptoms such as;

- Constipation
- Headaches
- Irritability
- Memory loss

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- Tingling in the hands and feet
- Inability to have children

Children are at greater risk to lead poisoning as they are more likely to put more in their mouths.

Sources of your Water

Your water comes from four district wells drilled 100 to 400 feet into underground aquifers. Two groundwater wells are located at Lomita and Rice, and two wells three miles north of Meiners Oaks. We also have two 4" connections to receive surface water from Lake Casitas. Customers may receive Lake Casitas surface water if our wells need repair or cannot keep up with system demand. A blend of surface and ground water is delivered on those occasions.

Water purchased from Casitas is treated by using chloramines; this type of treatment utilizes chlorine mixed with a small amount of ammonia. People on dialysis should ensure that they are using the proper filtration. If you have a fish pond or aquarium, the added ammonia will kill your fish if not properly treated by removing the ammonia content.

Water Conservation

Meiners Oaks Water District would like to remind its customers that a **Phase 3 water shortage** still continues, and encourages every customer to stay diligent with their conservation practices. Lake Casitas currently measures at 43.8% of its capacity, and our wells have recovered nicely after nearly 30 inches of rainfall this year. This will help reduce the strain on our wells and lower the amount of water that would need to be purchased from Lake Casitas. It is a precious natural resource that we cannot afford to waste. So please keep in mind to use positive shut-off valves when washing your car or watering your plants or garden. Use low-flow shower heads and faucets. Low flow toilets are also a big water saver. If you cannot afford low flow fixtures or any of the many other water-saving devices available to you, as a customer of Meiners Oaks Water District, you are eligible for rebates from Casitas Municipal Water District as a Meiners Oaks Water District customer.

Another way to save water is to use smart controllers for your irrigation valves. They are available through Casitas Municipal Water rebate program and most irrigation supply houses. Let Casitas Water know that you are one of our customers and present them a water bill from our district and they will take it from there. Please contact Ron Merckling at 649-2251 EXT. 118 for more information.

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Fun Facts about Water



A jellyfish and a cucumber are each 95% water.



1/3 of what the world spends on bottled water in one year could pay for projects providing water to everyone in need.



70% of the Earth is covered with water, but only about 1% of the world's water is readily available for human use. Nearly 97% is salty or otherwise undrinkable. Another 2% is locked in the ice caps and glaciers. That leaves just 1% for all humanity's needs.



If all of the water vapor in the Earth's atmosphere fell at once, distributed evenly, it would only cover the earth with about an inch of water.



There is an estimated 326 million trillion gallons of water on earth.



More than half (63%) our daily water consumption at home originates from the bathroom and the toilet.



In one year, the average American residence uses over 100,000 gallons (indoors and outside).



By 2025, water withdrawals are predicted to increase by 50 percent in developing countries and 18 percent in developed countries.



The United States draws more than 40 billion gallons (151 million liters) of water from the Great Lakes every day—half of which is used for electrical power production.



If everyone in the US flushed the toilet just one less time per day, we could save a lake full of water about one mile long, one mile wide and four feet deep.



500 sheets of paper requires 1,321 gallons of water.

For more information about saving water and doing your part go to

www.bewaterwise.com or www.meinersoakswater.org or www.casitaswater.org

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Water System Name: MEINERS OAKS CWD

Report Date: March 2017

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, 2016.

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

Type of water source(s) in use: According to SWRCB records, the Sources Well 01 and Well 02 are Groundwater under the influence of Surface Water. This Assessment was done using the Default Groundwater System Method. According to SWRCB records, the Sources Well 04, and Well 07 are Groundwater. This Assessment was done using the Default Groundwater System Method.

Your water comes from 4 source(s): Well 01, Well 02, Well 04 and Well 07

Opportunities for public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality: Regularly-scheduled water board or city/county council meetings are held at 202 W. El Roblar every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm.

For more information about this report, or any questions relating to your drinking water, please call (805) 646-2114 and ask for Mike Hollebrands or visit our website at www.meinersoakswater.org.

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically 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 the contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for the 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.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

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

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

umhos/cm: micro mhos per centimeter

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 USEPA and the State Water Resource 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 do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

Any violation of MCL, AL or MRDL is highlighted. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

| Table 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in last sample set) | Sample Date | 90th percentile level detected | No. Sites Exceeding AL | AL | PHG | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
| Lead (ppb) | 19 (2014) | 4.7 | 0 | 15 | 0.2 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 20 (2014) | 0.66 | 0 | 1.3 | .3 | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |

| Table 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------|------------|--|
| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
| Sodium (ppm) | (2014) | 63 | 52 - 72 | none | none | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring |
| Hardness (ppm) | (2014) | 471 | 447 - 499 | none | none | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring |

| Table 3 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|---|
| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
| Fluoride (ppm) | (2014) | 0.4 | 0.3 - 0.5 | 2 | 1 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------|----|-----|---|
| Nitrate as N (ppm) | (2016) | 3.8 | 1.5 - 6.4 | 10 | 10 | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate + Nitrite as N (ppm) | (2014) | 2.5 | ND - 5.6 | 10 | 10 | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | (2008) | 1.133 | ND - 2.86 | 15 | (0) | Erosion of natural deposits. |

Table 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------|------------|---|
| Chloride (ppm) | (2014) | 59 | 55 - 67 | 500 | n/a | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Iron (ppb) | (2014) | ND | ND - 120 | 300 | n/a | Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes |
| Specific Conductance (umhos/cm) | (2014) | 1093 | 1040 - 1120 | 1600 | n/a | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence |
| Sulfate (ppm) | (2014) | 258 | 213 - 303 | 500 | n/a | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) | (2014) | 743 | 700 - 780 | 1000 | n/a | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |
| Turbidity (NTU) | (2014) | 0.4 | 0.2 - 0.7 | 5 | n/a | Soil runoff |

Table 5 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | Notification Level | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|
| Boron (ppm) | (2014) | 0.9 | 0.5 - 1.3 | 1 | The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals. |

Table 6 - DETECTION OF DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCT RULE

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCL (MRDL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Typical Sources of Contaminant |
|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|------------|-----------|--|
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb) | (2016) | 28.8 | n/a | 80 | n/a | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Chlorine (ppm) | (2016) | 3.00 | 0.50 - 4.80 | 4.0 | 4.0 | No | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment. |
| Haloacetic Acids (five) (ppb) | (2016) | 18 | n/a | 60 | n/a | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

Any violation of MCL, AL or MRDL is highlighted. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Additional General 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 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 (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.

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).

Lead Specific Language for Community Water Systems: 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 the service lines and home plumbing. *Meiners Oaks 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/lead>.

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

About our Chlorine: Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water contains chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

2016 Consumer Confidence Report Drinking Water Assessment Information

Assessment Information

A source water assessment was conducted for the WELL 01, WELL 02, WELL 04, and WELL 07 of the MEINERS OAKS CWD water system in March, 2001.

Well 02 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:
Agricultural Drainage
Septic systems - low density [<1/acre]

Well 04 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:
Agricultural Drainage
Sewer collection systems
Wells - Agricultural/ Irrigation

Well 07 - is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:
Agricultural Drainage
Sewer collection systems
Wells - Agricultural/ Irrigation

Acquiring Information

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:
SWRCB Division of Drinking Water
1180 Eugenia Place
Suite 200
Carpinteria, CA 93013

You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:
Jeff Densmore
District Engineer
805 566 1326