

NCCWD

Consumer Confidence

Report for 2005

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Where Our Water Comes From

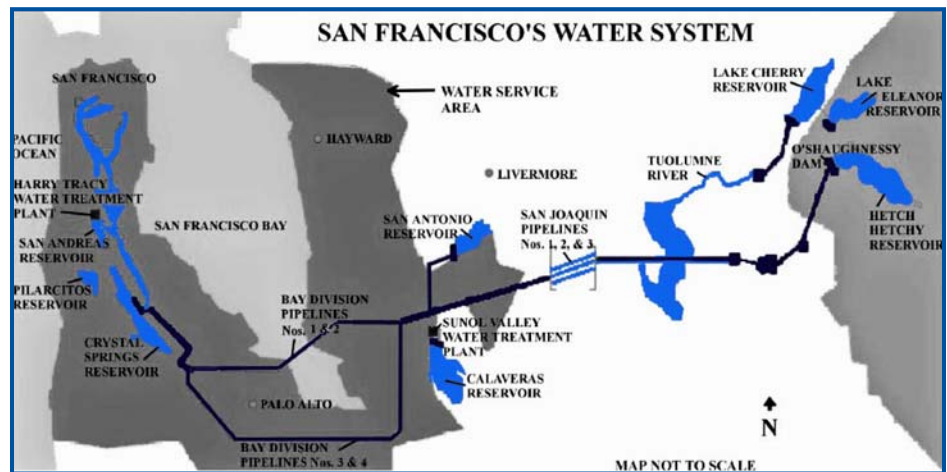
All of the drinking water delivered by the North Coast County Water District (NCCWD) during 2005 was purchased from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Nearly all of the supply for NCCWD comes from Crystal Springs and San Andreas Reservoirs. All the water stored in the local reservoirs is filtered and disinfected at the Harry Tracy Filter Plant, located in Millbrae, prior to delivery to NCCWD. There, the water is tested and monitored to ensure that it meets the standards for clarity set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Health Services.

The major source of water for the SFPUC originates from spring snowmelt flowing down the Tuolumne River and is stored in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. This pristine water source meets all federal and state criteria for watershed protection, disinfection treatment, bacteriological quality and operational standards. For these reasons, the California Department of Health Services has granted this water source a filtration exemption.



Surface water from rainfall and runoff captured in the 23,000 acre Peninsula Watershed, which is located in San Mateo County, is stored in four reservoirs: Crystal Springs (Lower and Upper), San Andreas, Pilarcitos and Stone Dam.

This annual Consumer Confidence Report is prepared to inform you, our customer, about the quality of your water. It is based on data compiled during Calendar Year 2005.



The District receives water from the Hetch Hetchy watershed located in Yosemite National Park and from local watersheds located in Alameda County and the Peninsula.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the North Coast County Water District to serve our customers by delivering a sufficient quantity of the highest quality water available in the most cost-effective, reliable and environmentally sensitive manner.

Furthermore, the Board, the staff and all employees of the District are committed to providing prompt, efficient and courteous customer service.

Ensuring the Highest Quality Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S.



Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Services (DHS) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DHS regulations also

establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. During 2005, NCCWD's Certified Water Quality Laboratory collected and conducted more than 5,000 water quality tests. All compliance monitoring results met or exceeded federal and state drinking water regulations. Samples are taken from representative locations throughout the entire water delivery system.

Typically, the sources of drinking water (both bottled and tap) 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 (in some cases radioactive material) and can pick up potential contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. The water treatment process removes or reduces these contaminants to make the water safe.

The adjacent table lists all drinking water contaminants detected in 2005. Contaminants below detection limits, such as arsenic, perchlorate, MTBE, and others, are not listed.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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, 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, 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, can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 or by calling the District at (650) 355-3462.

Understanding the Charts

NCCWD believes you have a right to know what is in your drinking water. A summary of the key results are presented on the following page. Here are a few definitions to make the charts easier to read.



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 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.

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. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):

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

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

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.

Cryptosporidium and Giardia are parasitic microbes found in most surface water supplies. The SFPUC tests for them regularly both in source and treated water supplies. If ingested, either parasite may produce symptoms of diarrhea, stomach cramps, upset stomach and slight fever. Both were occasionally found at very low levels in the SFPUC's water in 2005.

North Coast County Water District Water Quality Data for Year 2005 ⁽¹⁾

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	Unit	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range	Average (Max)	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
TURBIDITY ⁽²⁾						
Unfiltered Hetch Hetchy Water, max 5 NTU	-	TT	NS	0.25 - 1.00 ⁽³⁾	(1.74) ⁽⁴⁾	Soil run-off
Filtered Water - Harry Tracy WTP, max 1 NTU	-	TT	NS	-	(0.17)	Soil run-off
more than 95% of measurements < 0.3 NTU	-	TT	NS	100% ⁽⁵⁾	-	Soil run-off
Filtered Water - Sunol Valley WTP, max 1 NTU	-	TT	NS	-	(0.27)	Soil run-off
more than 95% of measurements < 0.3 NTU	-	TT	NS	100% ⁽⁵⁾	-	Soil run-off
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (SFPUC Regional System)						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	80	NS	11 - 71	(38) ⁽⁶⁾	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	ppb	60	NS	6 - 47	(24) ⁽⁶⁾	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) ⁽⁷⁾	ppm	NS	NS	0.9 - 3.0	2.3	Various natural and man-made sources
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (North Coast County Water District)						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	80	NS	21.5 - 26.1	23.4	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	ppb	60	NS	11.0 - 12.8	11.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) ⁽⁷⁾	ppm	NS	NS	0.9 - 3.0	2.3	Various natural and man-made sources
MICROBIOLOGICAL ⁽⁸⁾ (North Coast County Water District)						
Total Coliform, highest % of positives detected in any month	%	≤ 5	(0)	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Aluminum	ppb	1000	600	6 - 70	38	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride ⁽⁹⁾	ppm	2.0	1.0	0.1 - 1.2	1.0	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Chlorine (North Coast County Water District)	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	1.79 - 2.09	1.92	Tested for Total Chlorine

CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Chloride	ppm	500	NS	< 3 - 25	9	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Color	unit	15	NS	< 5 - 25 ⁽⁸⁾	12	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	NS	25 - 435	155	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	NS	1 - 42	19	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NS	20 - 210	116	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	5	NS	0.09 - 0.49	0.24	Soil runoff

LEAD AND COPPER RULE STUDY (North Coast County Water District)	Unit	AL	PHG	Range	90th Percentile	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppb	1300	170	34.0 - 236.5	68.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	ppb	15	2	<1.0	<1.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS	Unit	NL	Range	Average
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	NS	6 - 150	54
Boron	ppb	1000	16 - 168	73
Calcium	ppm	NS	3 - 30	16
Fluoride (source water)	ppm	NS	< 0.1 - 0.2	0.1
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	NS	8 - 150	56
Magnesium	ppm	NS	< 0.5 - 12.3	6.6
pH	unit	NS	7.6 - 9.8	8.9
Potassium	ppm	NS	< 0.5 - 1.4	0.8
Silica	ppm	NS	4.4 - 7.2	6.3
Sodium	ppm	NS	3 - 26	15

KEY:
< / ≤ = less than / less than or equal to
AL = Action Level
Max = Maximum
NL = Notification Level
NS = No Standard
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
ppb = parts per billion
ppm = parts per million
TT = Treatment Technique
µS/cm = microSiemens / centimeter

(1) All results met State and Federal drinking water regulations.

(2) Turbidity is the water clarity indicator; it also indicates the quality of the water and the treatment system efficiency.

(3) Turbidity is measured every four hours. These are monthly average turbidity values.

(4) This is a single, maximum measuring result.

(5) This is the minimum percentage of time that the filtered water turbidity was less than 0.3 NTU.

(6) This is the highest quarterly running annual average value.

(7) TOC is a precursor for disinfection byproduct formation.

(8) The sample collected from Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant effluent on 7/16/2005 had a color result above the SMCL. There is no health effect due to this exceedance.

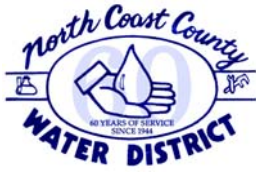
(9) Latest round of Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2004. 0 out of 33 residences were over the copper Action Level at consumer taps.

(10) Latest round of Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2004. 0 out of 33 residences were over the lead Action Level at consumer taps.

Note: Additional water quality data may be obtained by calling the North Coast County Water District at (650) 355-3462.

Este informe contiene la información importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.



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Stay Informed!
Board Meetings are on the
3rd Wednesday of every month
at 7:00 p.m.

Special Health Needs

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 (800) 426-4791.



Poster Contest

The NCCWD sponsored a poster contest open to all elementary aged children. The winners were awarded with prizes at the District's Board of Directors meeting held on May 17, 2006. A poster commemorating all the winning posters (pictured below) is available at the District's office located at 2400 Francisco Boulevard, Pacifica.

The winners are as follows:

2ND GRADE WINNERS

- Ocean Shore School
- First Place – Kirsten Kasallis
- Second Place – Tiffany Tamin
- Third Place – Izzy Burns

3RD GRADE WINNERS

- Sunset Ridge School
- First Place – Parin Rau
- Second Place – Kiara Donaie
- Third Place – Garry A. McIntyre

5TH GRADE WINNERS

- Sunset Ridge School
- First Place – Marcus Nunes
- Second Place – Amber Malinowsky
- Third Place – Alexander Cote

