

Linden County Water District

Annual Water Quality Report

Newsletter

July 2008

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



Board of Directors

President

Michael Ostrom

Vice-President

Kevin Stevens

Directors

Sam Fonzi

Randy Owens

John Walsh

Staff

Manager/Consultant

Tom McCoy

Office Manager

Barbara Kascht

Lead Utility Operator

John Villierme

Utility Maintenance Operator

Joe Chaves

Inside this Issue:

Water Quality Data	Page 2
Water Quality Data	Page 3
Definitions and Abbreviations	Page 3
Home Water Conservation	Page 4

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. 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, 2007.

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*, 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 that 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*, 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 Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount 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.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 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 Department requires 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. Any violation of an MCL or AL is marked with an asterisk.

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).

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria)	Highest No. of detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 10-14-05	10	<3.0 ug/L	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm) 10-14-05	10	0.09 mg/L	0	1.3	0.17	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	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	11-03-05	10.08	9.4-11	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	11-03-05	87	75-111	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	11-03-05	0.125	0.052-0.272	1	NA (NA)	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Barium (ppm)	11-03-05	0.05	ND-0.10	1	NA (2)	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	11-03-05	3.88	3.0-5.5	50	NA (100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	11-13-07	4.3	3.9-4.9	45	45 (NA)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (ppb) (total trihalomethanes)	8-14-07	ND	NA	80	NA (NA)	By-product of drinking water chlorination

TABLE 5 - 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 Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	11-03-05	184.25	159-205	1,000	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	11-03-05	222	194-265	1,600	NA (NA)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	11-03-05	4.00	3.4-4.6	500	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	11-03-05	3.40	2.8-3.7	500	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Action Level	Health Effects Language
Vanadium (ppb)	11-03-05	7.9-10	50	NR

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the Linden County Water District was completed in September 1998. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: Pesticide/fertilizer chemical storage, metal plating/finishing/fabrication, septic systems, and historical gas stations.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at the Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 31 E. Channel Street, Room 270, Stockton CA 95202 or at the Linden County Water District. You may request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Joseph O. Spano, District Engineer, at (209) 948-7696, or the Linden County Water District at 887-3216.

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

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and 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.

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

ND: not detectable at testing limit

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

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

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**LINDEN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 595
18243 E. HWY 26
LINDEN, CA 95236**

**PH: (209) 887-3216
FAX: (209) 887-3972
E-MAIL: bklingencwd@verizon.net**

**OFFICE HOURS:
Monday thru Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**PUBLIC WELCOME
Monthly Board meetings
2nd Thursday of every month @ 7:00 p.m.
at the District Office**

*Quality on Tap
Our Commitment Our Profession*



Mission Statement

The mission of the Linden County Water District is to strive to provide the safest and most dependable domestic water service and wastewater service to its constituents at the lowest and most efficient costs possible to enhance the quality of life for its citizens. We are a creation and extension of the people we serve. We are obligated to serve the public's interest throughout our functions.

Check out our website!

www.lindencwd.com



LOW-COST WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER AT HOME

Reduce water use from showers and faucets

- Limit shower time to 5 minutes or less.
- Install an on/off valve between the shower arm and showerhead. This temporarily shuts off the flow while maintaining water temperature. Can be useful while soaping up or shaving.
- Install a low-flow showerhead.
- Insulate all accessible hot-water pipes, especially those within 3 feet of the water heater.
- Fit all household faucets with low-flow aerators.

Minimize appliance water consumption

- Dishwashers and clothes washers should be operated when full. If you must wash partial loads, adjust the water levels accordingly
- Use the dishwasher instead of washing dishes by hand.
- Scrape off food but don't pre-rinse before loading the dishwasher.
- Avoid the permanent press cycle when washing clothes, which uses an **additional 5 gallons** for the extra rinse.
- Consider buying a water-saving front-loading clothes washer or a top-loading one with no central agitator.

Toilet technology

- Check for leaks by putting a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired.
- Use less water in your toilet by placing a half-gallon plastic bottle inside your toilet tank to displace water volume. (Be sure at least 2.5 gallons of water remain in the tank so it will flush properly.) Weigh down the bottle with sand or pebbles so it doesn't interfere with the tank mechanisms. **OR** Purchase a prepared toilet bag designed to displace 0.8 gallons of water per flush.
- Consider replacing your toilet with either a very low (less than 1.6) gallon per flush (gpf) rating or dual flush controls.