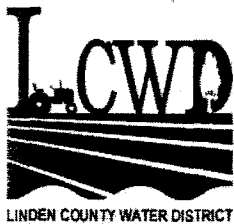


Linden County Water District Annual Water Quality Report

Newsletter

June 2011

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



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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, 2010.

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.

Linden's drinking water comes from two active wells located within the District's service area. Two additional wells are on standby status and are readily available for use during emergency situations.

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 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 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 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 those 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).

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

An assessment of the drinking water sources for 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 & 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 office. You may request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting David Remick, Sanitary Engineer, at 209-948-3878 or the Linden County Water District office at 887-3216.

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. Any violation of a MCL or AL is marked with an asterisk.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	No more than 1 positive monthly sample	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 are total coliform positive and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	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	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 6-17-08	10	<3.0 ug/L	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 6-17-08	10	0.073 mg/L	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household 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)	5-12-09	11.5	11.0 - 13.0	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	5-12-09	92.7	78 - 121	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

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 [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDL]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	5-12-09	0.079	0.076-0.085	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	5-12-09	3.1	3.2 - 5.4	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	5-12-09	0.11	0.11 - 0.12	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	5-4-10	3.43	2.6 - 4.1	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

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)	5-12-09	202.5	189 - 226	1,000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	5-12-09	235.5	211 - 288	1,600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	5-12-09	4.1	3.2 - 5.1	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	5-12-09	3.95	3.5 - 4.7	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Zinc (ppb)	5-12-09	14.8	<5.0 - 35.0	5000	N/A	Runoff /leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	5-12-09	5.0	<5.0 - 7.6	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
Iron (ppb)	5-12-09	56.5	<20 - 68	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notify Level	Health Effects Language
Vanadium (ppb)	11-03-05	8.95	7.9 - 10	50	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.

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.

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.

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.

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 (USEPA).

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.

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 (ug/L)

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

ppq: parts per quadrillion or pictogram per liter (pg/L)

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

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

PHONE: (209) 887-3216
FAX: (209) 887-3972
CONTACT: Barbara Kascht
bkлинденсwd@verizon.net

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Friday – 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



PUBLIC WELCOME
Monthly Board Meetings
2nd Thursday of every month @ 5:00 p.m.
at the District Office

Quality on Tap
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www.lindенсwd.com



Source Water Protection Tips

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 or consider connecting to the District's water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

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.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take shorter showers – a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill.