

Linden County Water District Annual Water Quality Report

Newsletter

July 2009

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, 2008.

Linden's drinking water comes from four active wells located within the District's service area.

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 byproducts 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, 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.

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 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 a 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 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 Joseph O. Spano, District Engineer, at 209-948-7696 or the Linden County Water District office at 887-3216.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of detections	Violations In a month	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) 6-17-08	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) 6-17-08	10	0.073 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)	11-12-08	10.7	9.9 - 12.0	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	11-12-08	92	83 - 113	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)	11-12-08	<50	<50	1	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Barium (ppm)	11-12-08	0.079	0.076-0.081	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	11-12-08	3.6	2.6 - 5.0	50	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	11-12-08	4.4	3.5 - 6.2	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	6-24-08	0.95	0.88 - 1.01	6	6	Inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries. It usually gets into drinking water as a result of environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store or dispose of perchlorate and its salts
TTHM (ppb) total trihalomethanes	3-11-08	ND	N/A	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Fluoride (ppm)	11-12-08	0.12	0.12	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

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
Turbidity (units)	11-12-08	0.57	<0.10 - 1.3	5	N/A	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	11-12-08	207.5	189 - 232	1,000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	11-12-08	224.5	205 - 263	1,600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	11-12-08	3.9	3.4 - 4.5	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	11-12-08	3.9	3.8 - 4.0	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Zinc (ppm)	11-12-08	10.9	5.0 - 25.0	500	N/A	Runoff /leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	11-12-08	5.65	<5.0 - 7.6	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
Iron (ppb)	11-12-08	82.2	<20 - 188	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

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	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 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 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 below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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 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 (ug/L)

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

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

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OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through 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

Return Service Requested



WATER USE COMPARISON

DEVICE	STANDARD	IMPROVED EFFICIENCY
Tank toilet	5 - 7 gallons (19-26 liters) per flush	1.6 gallons (or less) per flush
Shower	Up to 12 gallons (45 liters) per minute	2.5 gallons (11 liters) per minute
Kitchen and lavatory faucets	Up to 5 gallons (20 liters) per minute	1.5 gallons (5.7 liters) per minute
Pressure-reducing valve	80 pounds per square inch	50 pounds per square inch
Hot water pipe insulation	Not insulated	Insulated
Automatic clothes washer	27 - 54 gallons (100 - 200 liters) per load	16 - 20 gallons (60 - 75 liters) per load
Automatic dishwasher	7.5 - 16 gallons (28 - 60 liters) per load	7.5 gallons (28 liters) per load

* The rate of consumption for water-saving devices or products varies significantly. Please check the packaging on the plumbing fixture or product you purchase to determine the water efficiency of your merchandise.