



SCOTTS VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT

REPORT ON WATER QUALITY FOR 2014

Scotts Valley Water Quality Makes the Grade

2014 Water Quality Report

This annual report on water quality shows that last year, as in years past, the District's water met all State and Federal primary drinking water standards. Included in the report is information about the source of the community's water and details about testing and water quality. It also explains how our water quality professionals test and treat water to ensure that it is always safe and refreshing to drink.

We Start With a Quality Water Supply

Your drinking water comes from local groundwater supplies.

Then We Provide Advanced Treatment

We operate four advanced water treatment facilities to produce safe, high-quality water.

We Test to Ensure Quality

Our state-certified water quality professionals monitor the water 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure the safety of your water.

Got Questions?

For more information about water quality, contact Operations Manager David McNair, at (831) 600-1903.

How to Get Involved:

Customers are invited to attend monthly board meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 7 PM at the District Office, 2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley.

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

Information About Drinking Water Quality

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 storm water 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 applications, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

An assessment of the drinking water sources for Scotts Valley Water District was completed in September 2001 and January 2011. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: drycleaning, gasoline storage and distribution, and manufacturing. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to these activities: abandoned water and monitoring wells, septic systems, transportation corridors, commercial parking lots, and sewer collection systems. A copy of the complete assessment is available at the District Office at 2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley or by e-mail at contact@svwd.org.

Water Quality Regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources 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.

When to Seek Health Care Advice

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised populations 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).

Please visit us at www.svwd.org. Use our website to access meeting agendas and minutes, as well as information about the Board of Directors, rates, water quality, water conservation, and more.

SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

RESULTS OF 2014 DRINKING WATER QUALITY TESTS

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants and other constituents detected between January 1 and December 31, 2014. Secondary Standards in the table refer to aesthetic aspects of water. In general, water quality remained constant or improved in 2014 and meets all State and Federal standards.

SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT TREATED WATER

CONTAMINANT	MCL or MRDL	PHG or MCLG	RANGE	AVERAGE	VIOLATION	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLs						
Arsenic (PPB)	10	0.004	ND to 5.0	1.5	NO	Naturally occurring minerals.
Fluoride (F) (PPM) (Natural-Source)	2	1	0.09 to 0.66	0.28	NO	Naturally occurring minerals.
Gross alpha particle activity ¹ (pCi/L)	15	NONE	ND to 3.8	0.29	NO	Naturally occurring minerals.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL

Total Trihalomethanes (PPB)	80	NONE	ND to 59	14.0	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (PPB)	60	NONE	ND to 5.1	3.5	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine (PPM)	4	4	0.19 to 1.46	0.7	NO	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.

LEAD AND COPPER²

	ACTION LEVEL	PHG SAMPLED	# OF SITES PERCENTILE	90 TH EXCEEDING	# OF SITES	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Lead ¹ (total) (PPB)	15	0	19	2.0	0	Customer household plumbing.
Copper ¹ (total) (PPM)	1.3	0.3	19	0.22	0	Customer household plumbing.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLs

CONTAMINANT	SECONDARY MCL	RANGE	AVERAGE	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chloride (PPM)	500	23 to 86	41	Naturally occurring minerals.
Iron (Fe) (PPB)	300	ND to 160	80	Naturally occurring minerals.
Manganese (Mn) (PPB)	50	ND to 26	11.75	Naturally occurring minerals.
Odor Threshold @ 60 C (TON)	3	ND to 2	1.48	Naturally occurring minerals.
Specific Conductance (E.C.) (micromhos per cm)	1,600	390 to 960	699	Naturally occurring substances that form ions in water.
Sulfate (SO ₄) (PPM)	500	72 to 240	123	Naturally occurring minerals.
Turbidity (NTU)	5	ND to 0.89	0.15	Naturally occurring minerals.
Total Dissolved Solids (PPM)	1,000	250 to 650	452	Naturally occurring minerals.

NO STANDARDS

pH (UNITS)	7.6 to 8.5	7.95
Sodium (PPM)	35 to 100	60.7
Total Hardness ³ as CaCO ₃ (PPM)	91 to 280	209.4
Calcium (Ca) (PPM)	29 to 85	59.3
Carbonate (as CO ₃) (PPM)	ND to 5.2	4.7
Magnesium (Mg) (PPM)	4.5 to 32	15.5
Potassium (K) (PPM)	1.5 to 3.1	2.2
Total Alkalinity (PPM)	62 to 300	157
Orthophosphate [as PO ₄] (PPM)	ND to 1.8	1
Carbon Dioxide (PPM)	ND to 4.9	3.5

DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS CHART:

Grains per Gallon: A unit of hardness where 17.1 parts per million equals 1 grain per gallon.

Turbidity: A physical characteristic of water that makes the water appear cloudy. The condition is caused by the presence of suspended matter. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

Micromhos per Centimeter: An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected at testing limit.

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit, indicating the clarity of the water.

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity.

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

PPB: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. 1 PPB equals 0.001 PPM and is equivalent to about one drop in 17,000 gallons of water.

PPM: Parts per million or milligrams per liter. 1 PPM equals 1,000 PPB and is equivalent to about one drop in 17 gallons of water.

PHG: Public Health Goal: 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.

Total Dissolved Solids: An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

TON: Threshold Odor Number: The unit of odor.

90TH Percentile: The third highest sample result of 20 sample results.

NOTES

- Water samples for the data reported above are drawn from both the treatment plants and the distribution system.
- Our treatment plants remove a combination of iron, manganese, arsenic, sulfide, and reduced constituents inherent to the Scotts Valley groundwater supply. Where needed volatile organic compounds are also removed.
- The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

FOOTNOTES

^{1,2} All testing is from 2014, except for radiological constituents which were drawn from three treatment plants in September 2010 and 2011, and Lead and Copper rule samples were drawn from 20 customer taps in September 2014.

³ Average Total Hardness for 2014 was 12.2 grains per gallon.