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Sweetwater Springs Water District
2023 Consumer Confidence Report
Guerneville

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Dear Sweetwater Springs Customer:

Water quality is an important issue with us. Providing water that meets state and federal drinking water standards is our Number 1 priority. The District provides water quality information each year to customers in conformance with these state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2023.

The District's water is supplied by three groundwater wells (#4, #5, #6) located between Rio Nido and Guerneville. A source water assessment was completed for all the wells in April of 2005. These sources are considered most vulnerable to historic gas stations not associated with any detected contaminants. You can obtain a summary of the assessment at our office at 17081 Hwy. 116, Ste. B, Guerneville.

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

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, 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 Board 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, 5, and 6 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.

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 2022	(In a mo.) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	(In the year 2023) 0	0	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL
(b) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E.coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. Coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. Coli*.

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**	**90th percentile level detected**	**No. Sites exceeding AL**	**AL**	**MCLG**	**No. schools requesting lead samples**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Lead (ppb) Sample date: 2022	23	<5.0	0	15	0.2	N/A	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm) Sample date: 2022	23	0.928	0	1.3	0.3	N/A	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)	1/25/2022	13	13	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	1/25/2022	180	180	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
Gross Alpha (Radioactive) (PCI/Ll)	2022	ND	ND	15	N/A (0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Asbestos (MFL)	2018	ND	ND	7	7	Interior corrosion of asbestos mains; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppb)	2022	100	100	1000	N/A (2)	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2022	0.16	0.16	2	N/A (1)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Arsenic (ppb)	2022	ND	ND	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits: Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (as N)(ppm)	2023	0.45	0.45	10	N/A (10)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT AND PRECURSORS IN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
Total Trihalomethanes (PPB)	2023	13	13	80	N/A (N/A)	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (PPB)	2023	N/D	N/D	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (PPM)	Daily 2023	Avg. 1.2	1.0-1.4	4	4	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

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
Iron (ppb)	2023	ND (after treatment)	(after treatment)	300	N/A (N/A)	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2023	ND (after treatment)	ND (after treatment)	50	N/A (N/A)	Leaching from natural deposits
Color (units)	2022	5	5	15	N/A (N/A)	Naturally occurring organic materials
Turbidity (units)	2023	Avg. 0.03 (before treatment)	0.01-0.4 (before treatment)	5	N/A (N/A)	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	2022	200	200	1000	N/A (N/A)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	2022	340	340	1600	N/A (N/A)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	2022	9.7	9.7	500	N/A (N/A)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2022	11	11	500	N/A (N/A)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits' industrial wastes

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

During the last 9 years there has not been any detection of unregulated contaminants.

Additional General Information On Drinking Water

All 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).

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.

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)

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

MFL: million fibers per liter

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.

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