Carpinteria Valley Water District
1301 Santa Ynez Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013

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Carpinteria Valley Water District
2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

Vital Information on Water Quality for Residents of the Carpinteria Valley

Aerial view of Lake Cachuma

Carpinteria Valley Water District

1301 Santa Ynez Avenue • Carpinteria, CA 93013
Phone (805) 684-2816 • Fax (805) 684-3170

June/July 2009

Dear Carpinteria Valley Residents,

Carpinteria Valley Water District is pleased to present you with this Annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for the year 2008. Operating under a water supply permit issued by the California Department of Public Health, the District supplies water to about 19,000 people at their homes and businesses throughout the Valley. Half or more of the District's water is **surface water** that comes from Lake Cachuma, including water delivered to Lake Cachuma through the State Water Project Facilities. The balance of the District's water supply comes from our **groundwater** pumped from up to five wells in the Carpinteria Valley Groundwater Basin.

Our Lake Cachuma water has been severely degraded as a result of the 2007 Zaca Fire. Huge amounts of silt and ash, originating in the burn area around the Lake, have washed into the Lake. This has caused the level of total organic carbon (TOC) to rise dramatically. As a result, the City of Santa Barbara Cater Treatment Plant managers and operators, who treat Carpinteria Valley's Cachuma supply, have dramatically changed and increased their treatment process and efforts, at a huge cost to both Santa Barbara and the Carpinteria Valley. Most importantly, thanks to their efforts, our water in the Carpinteria Valley continues to meet safe drinking water standards in spite of the Zaca Fire impacts.

In the near future, more stringent drinking water standards, soon to be in place, will require that an advanced treatment facility, utilizing ozone, be added to the Cater Treatment Plant. The cost of this advance treatment, is estimated to be about $20 million. The City of Santa Barbara is seeking both state and federal grants and low interest loan funds. CVWD's estimated cost share is about $4 million.

The District exceeded the MCL for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) in the third quarter of 2008. Some people who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of EPA's standard **over many years** may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The problem was resolved by the fourth quarter with increased use of groundwater using the District's new Headquarters Well and Foothill Reservoir. The District met all other state and federal monitoring and drinking water standards for 2008.

If you have any questions or concerns about this report please call Omar Castro, Operations and Maintenance Manager, or myself at the District office at (805) 684-2816.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Hamilton
General Manager

Questions and Answers About your drinking water….

Is my drinking water pure?
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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Is there a risk to Immuno-compromised persons?
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

What types of contaminants could be found in my drinking water?
Contaminants that may be present in source water (prior to treatment) 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, animal waste, fertilizer and farming operations.
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.

How can I know that my drinking water is safe?
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (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.

CUSTOMER VIEWS WELCOME:

If you are interested in learning more about Carpinteria Valley Water District and water quality, or participating in the decision making process, opportunities are available. You can simply come into the District offices and speak to any one of the employees, or call the office at 684-2816. Board of Directors meetings are normally held on the third or fourth Wednesday of the month beginning at 4 pm in the Board room at 1301 Santa Ynez Ave.

Definitions

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.

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 **(SMCL)** are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) The level of a disinfectant (chlorine) added for water treatment at which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the USEPA.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) The level of a disinfectant (chlorine) added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the customer's tap.

Regulatory Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in 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 effect taste, odor, or appearance of drinking water. Secondary Contaminants are not based on health effects at MCL levels.

Legend

Symbol "<"	denotes 'less than'
µg/L	Micrograms per liter (parts per billion)
mg/L	Milligrams per liter (parts per million)
ND	Not detected at testing limit
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
µmho/cm	Micro Ohms per centimeter
NA	Not Analyzed
None	None Required
RRA	Running Annual Average

Surface Water: All water open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff such as lakes, reservoirs and rivers. Water from Lake Cachuma and Gibraltar Reservoir is treated at the William B. Cater Water Treatment Plant.

Groundwater: All subsurface water found underground in cracks and spaces in soil, sand and rock. The area where water fills these spaces is the saturated zone, the top of this zone is called the water table.

For Water Softeners: The District's water has a hardness range of 19 to 25 grains per gallon. One grain per gallon equals 17 milligrams per liter.

Annual Water Quality Report for 2008

	SUBSTANCE/(Parameter)	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL)	SURFACE WATER (CATER TREATMENT PLANT) Range Detected	SURFACE WATER **Reporting Value	GROUNDWATER (DISTRICT WELLS) Range Detected	GROUNDWATER **Reporting Value	Likely Source of Substance/Notes
PRIMARY STANDARDS	**Monitored Before Distribution**							
	Turbidity (NTU)		TT = 1 NTU (Max.)	0.02-0.15	0.15	0.01-0.30	0.13	Natural river sediment; soil runoff
		NA	TT=95% smpl ≤ 0.3 NTU	NA	100%	NA	NA	
	Aluminum (µg/L)	600	1000	15 - 490	105	ND-2500	830	Erosion of natural deposits
	Barium (mg/L)	2	1	No Range	0.061	ND-0.11	0.03	Erosion of natural deposits
	Flouride (mg/L)	1	2	0.29 - 0.47	0.39	ND - 0.30	0.15	Erosion of natural deposits
	Nitrate as Nitrate NO_3 (mg/L)	45	45	ND - 2	1.20	5.6 - 27.3	15	Natural deposit, fertilizer
	Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	NA	15	ND	ND	ND - 1.9	1.9	Erosion of natural deposits
	Radon 222 (pCi/L) *2005 Reporting Data, 2009 next reporting date*	NA	NA	ND	ND	190 - 963	487	Decay of naturally occuring radium
	Uranium (pCi/L)	NA	30	2.40 - 2.86	2.55	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
	Radium 228 (pCi/L)	NA		_	_	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
	Control of Disinfection By-Products Precursers (DBP)-Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (mg/L)	NA	Treatment Requirements	2.63 - 3.90	3.26	NA	NA	TOC has no known adverse health effects and provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. Sources include plant decay and other natural processes
	Monitored in the Distribution System	***In 2008 CVWD exceeded the MCL for THMs, resulting in a violation***						
	Total Coliform Bacteria	0	No more than 1 Mo. sample	ND	ND	ND	ND	Naturally present in the Environment
	Total Trihalomethanes (µg/L) ***	NA	RAA 80	1.6 - 114	69.5	68.7 - 82.08	78.56	By-product of water chlorination
	Haloacetic acids - HAA 5 (µg/L) ***	NA	RAA 60	ND - 5.8	9.4	16.47 - 24.46	16.47	By-product of water chlorination
	Chlorine Residual (Free chlorine) (mg/L)	**MRLDG** as CL_2 4.0	**MRLD** as CL_2 4.0	ND - 1.60	0.5	0.5 - 3.2	1.14	Used to disinfect potable water
LEAD/COPPER RULE	**Monitored at the Customer's Tap**	*30 sites sampled in October 2007*		*Sampling was completed late; it should have been collected in June.*				
	Lead (µg/L)	2	15 (AL)	NA	NA	ND	ND	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing and errosion of natural deposits
	Copper (mg/L)	0.17	1.3 (AL)	NA	NA	0.05 - 0.35	0.14	
SECONDARY STANDARDS	**Monitored Before Distribution**	*Aesthetic Standards Established By the State of California, Department of Health Services*						
	Zinc (mg/L)	None	5	ND - .0156	0.009	ND	ND	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
	Chloride (mg/L)	None	500	16 - 22	19	27 - 55	41	Leaching of natural deposits
	Cooper (µg/L)	None	1000	ND - 2.9	1.7	ND	ND	Corrosion of household water plumbing and errosion of natural deposits
	Iron (µg/L)	None	300	ND	ND	ND - 100	38	Leaching of natural deposits
	Manganese (µg/L)	None	50	ND	2.5	ND	ND	Naturally occurring organic materials; causes discoloration of water
	Color (units)	None	15	ND - 7	ND	ND	ND	Naturally-occuring organic materials
	Sulfate (mg/L)	None	500	204 - 316	250	104 - 151	128	Substances that form ions in water
	Specific Conductance (µmhos)	None	1600	749 - 1149	868	829 - 966	898	Runoff/Leaching of natural deposits
	Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	None	1000	532 - 742	622	660 - 750	705	Runoff/Leaching of natural deposits
	Threshold Odor Number at 60°C (TON) *exceeded SMCL*	None	3	3 - 10	6	1 - 3	1.6	Naturally occurring organic materials
Other Constituents monitored	pH (units)	None	None	7.93 - 8.23	8.09	6.90 - 7.20	7.03	Varies in water; 0-6=acidic; 7=neutral; 8-14=alkaline
	Total Hardness as CaCO3 (mg/L)	None	None	331 - 466	380	300 - 417	360	Leaching of natural deposits
	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3 (mg/L)	None	None	166 - 224	185	260 - 290	275	Leaching of natural deposits
	Calcium (mg/L)	None	None	80 - 91	88	84 - 116	101	Leaching of natural deposits
	Magnesium (mg/L)	None	None	31 - 46	37	22 - 31	27	Leaching of natural deposits
	Sodium (mg/L)	None	None	33 - 46	40	37 - 65	51	Leaching of natural deposits
	Potassium (mg/L)	None	None	2.8 - 5.6	3.8	1 - 2	1.5	Leaching of natural deposits
	Methyltertbutylether (MTBE) (µg/L)	13	5	ND	ND	ND	ND	Leaking from underground gasoline storage tanks; discharge from petrolium and chemical factories
*UCMR	***Additional Paremeters Analyzed***							
	Boron (µg/L)*	None	1000 (AL)	260 - 270	265	ND - 0.12	0	Erosion of natural deposits
	Vanadium (µg/L)*	None	50 (AL)	ND - 4.9	2.2	ND - 5	5	Erosion of natural deposits
	Chromium (Total Cr) (µg/l) 2005 Reporting Data 2009 next reporting date	(100)	50	ND - 3.4	2.10	ND-1	0.25	Erosion of natural deposits

Note : Listed in the table above are substances detected in the District's drinking water or of special interest to certain consumers. Not listed are approximately 135 substances which were below the laboratory detection levels.

* UCMR - Unregulated Constituents Monitoring Rule was promulgated by the EPA to study other constituents.
** Reporting values are determined by methods set by the State depending on the constituent. Most constituent reporting values are determined by simple averaging. For more information on a specific constituent contact the District.
*** Disinfection by-products including Haloacetic acids (HAA5) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) form when naturally occurring organic materials found in potable water react with disinfectants such as chlorine. In particular, elevated HAA5 or TTHM levels in drinking water pose the following health risk: Some people who drink water containing HAA5 or TTHM in excess of the MCL over many years may develop an increased risk of getting cancer.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration do not change very frequently. Some of the data shown, although representative of your water, is more than one year old.