

June 28, 2011



TO: Westborough Water District Customers

FROM: Westborough Water District Board of Directors

SUBJECT: 2010 Annual Water Quality Report

To comply with Section 64463.1, Public Information, of the California Domestic Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations, attached is a copy of the Drinking Water Standards and Typical Concentrations of Constituents found in your water. The information was largely compiled by the San Francisco Water Department.

As you are aware, the District purchases all of our water from the San Francisco Water Department.

If you have any questions about the report, please call Darryl Barrow, General Manager, at (650) 589-1435 or e-mail us at: wwd@westboroughwater.com

We encourage you to make this Water Quality Report available to everyone, including tenants, employees, homeowner association member, etc.



Annual Water Quality Report (2010)

SFPUC Information for 2010 CCR

The Westborough Water District purchases 100% of its water from the SFPUC. The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, oceans, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. For the SFPUC system, the major water source originates from spring snowmelt flowing down the Tuolumne River to the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, where it is stored. This pristine Sierra water source meets all federal and state criteria for watershed protection. The SFPUC also maintains stringent disinfection treatment practices, extensive bacteriological-quality monitoring, and high operational standards. As a result, the California Department of Public Health and USEPA have granted the Hetch Hetchy water source a filtration exemption. In other words, the source is so clean and protected that the SFPUC is not required to filter water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir.

The Hetch Hetchy water is supplemented with surface water from two local watersheds. Rainfall and runoff from the Alameda Watershed, spanning more than 35,000 acres in Alameda and Santa Clara counties, are collected in the Calaveras and San Antonio reservoirs and treated at the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant before distribution. Rainfall and runoff from the 23,000-acre Peninsula Watershed in San Mateo County are stored in Crystal Springs, San Andreas, and Pilarcitos reservoirs and treated at the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant before distribution. The water from these reservoirs is treated at the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant. The treatment processes include ozonation, coagulation, flocculation, filtration, disinfection, fluoridation, corrosion control treatment, and chloramination.

In 2010, the Hetch Hetchy Watershed provided the majority of our total water supply, with the remainder contributed by the local watersheds.□

Protecting Our Watersheds

The SFPUC aggressively protects the natural water resources entrusted to its care. Its annual Hetch Hetchy Watershed survey evaluates the sanitary conditions, water quality, potential contamination sources, and the results of watershed management activities by the SFPUC and its partner agencies, including the National Park Service, to reduce or eliminate contamination sources. The SFPUC also conducts sanitary surveys of the local Alameda and Peninsula watersheds every five years. These surveys identified wildlife and human activity as potential contamination sources. The reports are available for review at the CDPH's San Francisco District office (510-620-3474).□



Water Quality, Contaminants, and Regulations

The SFPUC's Water Quality Division regularly collects and tests water samples from reservoirs and designated sampling points throughout the system to ensure that the SFPUC's water meets or exceeds federal and state drinking water standards. In 2010, Water Quality staff conducted more than 58,750 drinking water tests in the transmission and distribution systems. This monitoring effort is in addition to the extensive treatment process control monitoring performed by our certified and knowledgeable treatment plant staff and online instruments.

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. Such substances are called contaminants. 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.□

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. □

Key Water Quality Terms

Following are definitions of key terms noted on the adjacent water quality data table. These terms refer to the standards and goals for water quality described below.

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 USEPA.

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

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.

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

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity: A water clarity indicator that is also used to indicate the effectiveness of the filtration plants. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Regulatory Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Cryptosporidium is a parasitic microbe found in most surface water. The SFPUC regularly tests for this waterborne pathogen, and found it at very low levels in source water and treated water in 2010. However, current test methods approved by the USEPA do not distinguish between dead organisms and those capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may produce symptoms of nausea, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. □

2010 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT ENCLOSED



Translation Languages

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it. Para ver una versión en español, visite nuestro sitio web en www.sfwater.org/quality.

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

Tagalog: Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

Chinese (Traditional):

此份有關你的食水報告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找
他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。

Chinese (Simplified):

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找
他人为你翻译及解释清楚。