2010
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT/ CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
Prepared May 17, 2011

REPORTE ANNUAL DE CALIDAD DE AGUA/REPORTE DE CONFIANSA AL CONSUMIDOR [REPORTE DISPONIBLE EN ESPANOL EN LA OFICINA DE LA CIUDAD (CIVIC CENTER)]

ATTENTION: CITY OF CHOWCHILLA WATER CUSTOMERS

The City of Chowchilla is required by the California State Department of Health Services to report annually to all customers regarding water quality. The enclosed report summarizes water quality sample results for 2010. You may also view this report and new ordinance provisions on the City of Chowchilla's website at **www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us**.

All samples were collected from seven groundwater wells. Source water wells are wells #1, #3, #4, #5A #8, #10 and #11.

Significant time and expense by the City ensures that consumers are provided with water that meets (is within drinking water standards) or exceeds (is better than) drinking water standards.

Questions regarding this report should be directed to Mike Eggert, Water Systems Worker III or Harry Turner, Interim Director of Public Services at (559) 665-8615, extension 305.

City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. for those interested in public participation. Council meetings are held at the Chowchilla Civic Center Council Chambers located at 130 S. Second Street, Civic Center Plaza.

(Pictured below is the 5A Well Site located at 1555 Truman Avenue)

This is a Public Service Announcement from the City of Chowchilla Public Services Department.

City of Chowchilla
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Required Public Notice

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 infection. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. 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, 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 may be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level or (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PGHs (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 Standard or PDWS: MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

Public Health Goals or 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 or 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.

Health Effects for Inorganic Contaminants

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45mg/L is a health risk for infants or those less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or if you are pregnant, you should seek advice from your heath care provider.

Treatment

Chlorine: Each well site has a chlorine pump metering chlorine dosage to the distribution system which is approximately 0.35 Parts Per Million.

Required Public Information

1. The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 human activity.
2. Contaminants that could be present in source water include:
    A. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
    B. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and minerals that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
    C. Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban water runoff, and residential uses.
    D. 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 storm water runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.
    E. Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
3. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Service (DHS) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

CITY WATER REGULATIONS

The City of Chowchilla **Resolution #67-02** and **Resolution #53-08** have modified the water conservation City Municipal Code Section #**13.04.160** which is in effect **YEAR-ROUND**. We want everyone to know what the changes are and how they will affect you. City Municipal Code Section #**13.04.160** regulates all outdoor use of water during the restricted periods including but not restricted to automated watering systems, sprinklers, hand-held hose watering of your lawn or garden, as well as washing down the sidewalk area.

The Outdoor Water Use Program is aimed at water conservation. Watering by automated water systems and sprinklers is the number one cause of water pressure problems. Compliance with the watering schedule can alleviate this problem and ***conserve water for our future****. The schedule below has been developed to assist our customers in adhering to the new water conservation ordinance. Everyone should do their part and follow the Outdoor Water Use Program; there are consequences for those who do not.*

Penalty fines will be assessed per Ordinance #444-08 regarding Administrative Citations through Police, Public Works, and Community Development/Code Enforcement efforts.

- **Watering hours are anytime OTHER than between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** ***(NO watering is allowed at all between those hours.)***
- **Customers with addresses that END with ODD numbers may water on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.**
- **Customers with addresses that END with EVEN numbers may water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.**
- **SUNDAY has been designated as a "NO WATERING DAY."**

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the State's Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program, a source water assessment was conducted for the Chowchilla Municipal Water Division water system in May of 2002 and updated in 2003.

Sources considered vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply:
Apartments and Condominiums, Housing - high density, Parks, Utility Stations - maintenance areas, Recreational Areas - surface water source

Sources considered vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:
Automobile - gas stations, Historic gas stations, Machine shops, Sewer collection systems

Discussion of Vulnerability:

Well 03 - In 1996 the concentration of Nitrate was above the trigger level of 23 mg/L but below the maximum allowable concentration of 45 mg/L. Nitrate was detected at 2.5 mg/L for 2010.

Well 04 - In the past, Manganese has been detected in the water produced by this well. No Manganese was detected in this well in 2010.

Well 08 - In the past, Iron has been detected in the water produced by this well. No Iron was detected in this well in 2010.

Well 10 - While sampling in July 2010, the Nitrate level reached greater than 50 percent of 45 mg/L. The results were 27.4 triggering quarterly Nitrate samples which are up to date. Quarterly testing will be continued.

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Primary Standards	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Detection	Average	U.O.M.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic	10.00	N/A	N/D TO 4.4	2.78	ug/L	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	1000.00	2000.00	N/D TO 384	201.00	ug/L	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO3)	45.00	45.00	N/D TO 27.4	10.40	mg/L	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks and sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)*	200.00	N/A	N/D TO N/D	N/D	ug/L	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes and tree fruit
Ethylene Dibromide (EDB)*	50.00	0.01	N/D TO N/D	N/D	mg/L	Discharge from petroleum refineries, underground gas tank leaks, banned nematocides that may still be present in soils due to runoff and leaching from grain and fruit crops

Secondary Standards	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Detection	Average	U.O.M.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride	250.00	N/A	15.8 TO 64.9	31.67	mg/L	Runoff /leaching from natural deposits, seawater influence
Iron	300.00	N/A	N/D TO 230	57.5	ug/L	Leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
Odor	3.00	N/A	N/D TO N/D	N/D	TON	Naturally occurring organic materials
pH (Laboratory)	6.5-8.5	N/A	6.6 TO 7.94	7.81	Std. Units	
Specific Conductance	900.00	N/A	190.00 TO 680	337	umho/cm	Substances that form ions when in water, seawater influence
Total Filterable Residue (TDS)	500.00	N/A	177 TO 410	245	mg/L	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	250.00	N/A	2.4 TO 11.8	5.65	mg/L	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
Lab Turbidity	5.00	N/A	N/D TO 2.1	0.6	NTU	Soil runoff
Total Chromium	50	N/A	5.7 TO 22	11.5	ug/L	

General Minerals	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Detection	Average	U.O.M.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bicarbonate	N/A	N/A	42 TO 196	101.75	mg/L	
Calcium	N/A	N/A	6 TO 60	24.25	mg/L	
Copper	1300	80	90th percentile (185)	N/A	mg/L	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	2.00	N/A	N/D TO 0.24	0.21	mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	15	<.005	90th percentile <.005	N/A	mg/L	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems, discharge from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	N/A	N/A	N/D TO 25	10.5	mg/L	
Potassium	N/A	N/A	2.4 TO 6.6	4.50	mg/L	
Sodium	N/A	N/A	N/D TO 34	22.00	mg/L	
Total Alkalinity	N/A	N/A	63.00 TO 208	106.50	mg/L	
Total Hardness (as CaCO3)	N/A	N/A	50 TO 239	103.80	mg/L	

Organics	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Detection	Average	U.O.M.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bromoform	N/A	0.50	N/D TO N/D	N/D	ug/l	
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	5.00	60.00	N/D TO 0.62	0.15	ug/L	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners and auto shops (metal degreaser)

Radioactivity	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range of Detection	Average	U.O.M.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha	15 pCi/L	N/A	0.00 TO 3.6	0.87	pCi/L	Erosion of natural and man-made deposits
Uranium	20 pCi/L	N/A	N/D TO N/D	N/D	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

During 2010, the City of Chowchilla collected 159 routine bacteriological distribution water samples: 158 samples, 1 repeat sample was absent for coliform bacteria. The state allows the City to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently. Some of the above data, though representative, is more than one year old; the data ranged from 2007 to 2010.

Abbreviation Key

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
mg/L = Milligrams per Liter or parts per million
ug/L = Micrograms per Liter or parts per billion
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity
PHG = Public Health Goal
N/A = Not Applicable
pCi/L = Picocuries per Liter
N/D = Non-Detect
U.O.M. = Unit of Measurement
TON = Threshold odor number
A.L. = Action Level
MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
umho/cm = Micromhos per Centimeter