

City of Colusa

2007 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report

Public Water System Number 0610002

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

For additional information concerning your drinking water, contact **Frank Garofalo** at **530-458-2032**

Water for the City of Colusa originates from five groundwater sources known as Well #2, Well #3, Well #4, Well #5, and Well #6.

DEFINITIONS OF SOME OF THE 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 technologically, and economically feasible.

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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter

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

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

TDS: Total Dissolved Solids

Microbiological Water Quality:

Testing for bacteriological contaminants in the distribution system is required by State regulations. This testing is done regularly to verify that the water system is free from coliform bacteria. The minimum number of tests required per month is six. In our distribution system, we sample the water 6 times per month for coliform bacteria. The highest number of samples found to contain coliform bacteria during any one month in 2007 was one (November).

Lead & Copper Testing Results:

Lead & copper testing of water from individual taps in the distribution system is required by State regulations. The table below summarizes the most recent sampling for lead and copper. No results were over the action level.

	Year Tested	Number of samples collected	Number of above Action Level	90 th Percentile Result (ppb)	Action Level (ppb)
Lead	2007	20	1	7.6	15
Copper	2007	20	0	67	1300

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS IN OUR WATER:

The following table gives a list of all detected chemicals in our water during the most recent sampling. Please note that not all sampling is required annually so in some cases our results are more than one year old. As of 3/19/08

Chemical Detected	Source	Year Tested	Level Detected	MCL	PHG	Origin
Arsenic	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 6	2007 2007 2006 2006	3.7-7.4 6.5 ppb 4.5 ppb 6 ppb	50	.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Zinc	Well 6	2005	79 ppb	5000	None	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial waists
Fluoride	Well 2 Well 3 Well 6	2001 2001 2001	190 ppb 210 ppb 770 ppb	2000	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron	Well 2	2005	106.1 ppb	300	None	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	89.3 ppb 75.1 ppb 83.9 ppb 43.3 ppb 63.6 ppb	50	None	Erosion of natural deposits
Foaming Agents	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	150 ppb 80 ppb 50 ppb 100 ppb 70 ppb	500	None	Municipal and industrial waist discharges
Odor Threshold	Well 2 Well 3 Well 6	2005 2005 2005	2 units 2 units 3 units	3 units	None	Hydrogen Sulfide
Turbidity	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	0.82 NTU 0.65 NTU 0.24 NTU 0.21 NTU 0.97 NTU	5 NTU	None	Naturally occurring
Hardness	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2001 2001 2001 2001 2001	77 ppm 68 ppm 95 ppm 70 ppm 48 ppm	None	None	Naturally occurring
Sodium	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	88.7 ppm 81.2 ppm 94.3 ppm 80.0 ppm 69.8 ppm	None	None	Naturally occurring
TDS	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2001 2001 2006 2007 2001	335 ppm 326 ppm 450 ppm 334 ppm 279 ppm	1500	None	Naturally occurring
Chloride	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2001 2001 2001 2001 2001	20 ppm 28 ppm 47 ppm 29 ppm 20 ppm	600	None	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 6	2001 2001 2001 2001 2001	17 ppm 8.3 ppm 40 ppm 28 ppm 2.5 ppm	600	None	Naturally occurring
Toluene	Well 6	2007	ND- 2.19 ppb	150	150	Underground gas tank leaks
Gross Alpha	Well 5	2005	4.3 pCi/L	15	None	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	Well 2 Well 3 Well 6	2007	1.7 pCi/L 1.5 pCi/L 1.5 pCi/L	5.0	0.019	Naturally occurring
Chlorine	System avg.	2007	0.11 ppm	MRD L 4	None	Drinking water disinfectant
Total Tri-Halo methanes	System	2007	3.7 ppb	80	None	By-product of chlorine disinfection

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 at 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 individuals, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 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, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, that 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State 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.

Arsenic:

While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and other circulatory problems.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

A source water assessment was completed by the City of Colusa on April 30, 2001. The assessment determined the contaminant hazards near the well sites which would most likely threaten its water quality. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants.

- -Sewer collection systems (Wells 2 & 5)
- -Automobile-gas stations (Wells 2 & 6)
- -Underground injection of commercial/industrial discharges (Well 3)
- -Underground storage tanks – confirmed leaking tanks (Well 3)
- -Historic waist dumps (Well 4)
- -Dry cleaners (Well 6)

For further information on this source water assessment, call Frank Garofalo at (530) 458-2032.

Public Meetings

Regularly scheduled public meetings occur on the first and third Tuesday of every month at the City Hall located at 425 Webster St.

VIOLATION INFORMATION:

State records indicate the City of Colusa's Wells 2, 3, 4 and 6 exceed the MCL for Manganese. Manganese is on the State's Secondary Standards list of chemicals. There is no associated health risk for this level of manganese in the drinking water. The State has requested that we initiate quarterly monitoring for manganese..

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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