

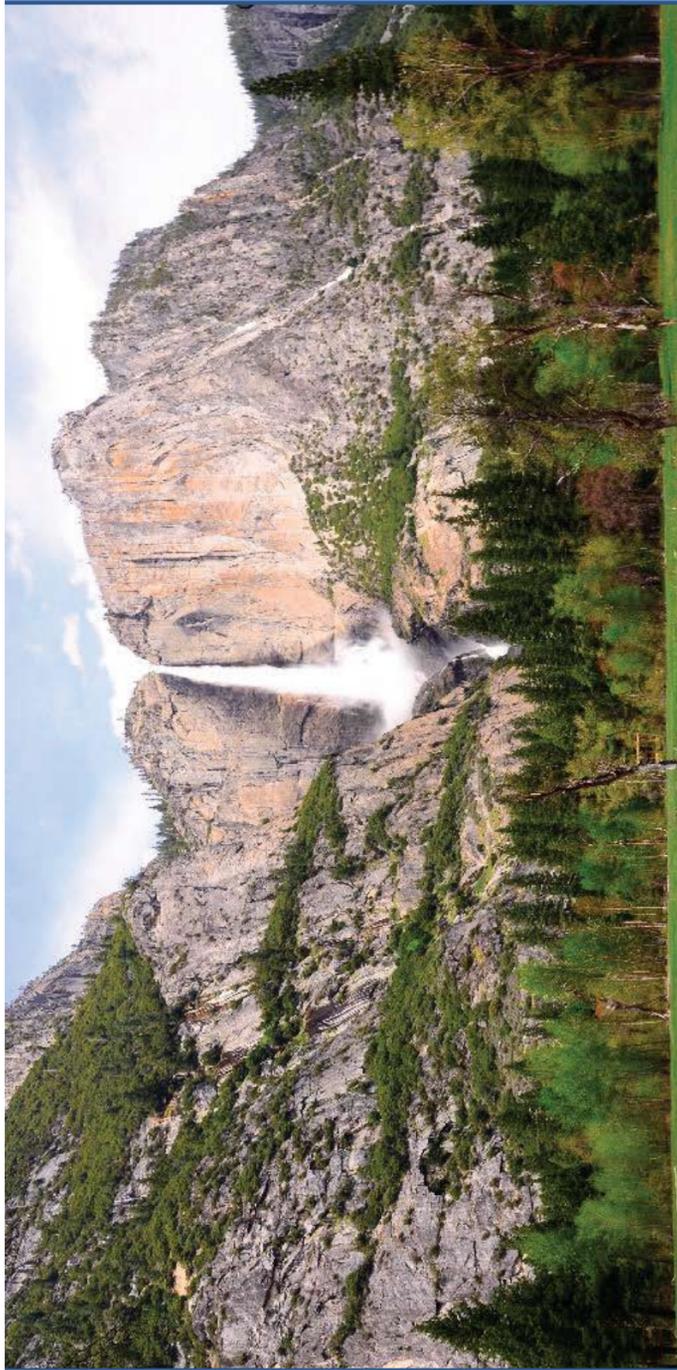
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CITY OF MENLO PARK
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2010 WATER QUALITY CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

EN ESPAÑOL:
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Por copias en español, llame a la Ciudad de Menlo Park,
(650) 330-6740.

WATER QUALITY 2010



A Protected Source - Good News

You may have read in the news of concern around the country about pharmaceuticals and personal care products getting into water supplies. The good news for customers of SFPUC is that because of our protected watersheds, there are no opportunities for these contaminants to get into our water system. One less thing to worry about!

Your 2010 Annual Water Quality Report

Every year the City of Menlo Park's Municipal Water District (MPMWD) publishes this water quality information for our customers. As in prior years, the quality of your drinking water in 2010 exceeded all federal and state standards.

Please remember, this natural resource is precious and it takes great care and expense to collect it and pipe it to your home and business. Be a good steward of the earth and conserve water in every way you can.

To be green and save money, take advantage of rebates on water conserving appliances and get FREE water conserving fixtures. Call us at 650-330-6740 or visit www.menlopark.org/departments/pwk/mpmwd.html. You'll find conservation information for both homeowners and businesses.

Protecting Your Health

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 guidelines on appropriate means to reduce the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater

Sources of Your Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, oceans, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. The City of Menlo Park Municipal Water District receives its water from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) whose main water source is spring snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada which flows down the Tuolumne River to the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Rainfall and runoff water from two other local watersheds in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties is also used.

SFPUC acts aggressively to protect these natural water resources entrusted to its care. An annual report on the Hetch Hetchy watershed evaluates sanitary conditions, water quality and potential contamination sources. SFPUC and partner agencies, including the National Park Service, conduct management activities in the watershed that reduce or eliminate potential contamination. Survey reports for all three watersheds are available from the California Department of Public Health, San Francisco District office, at 510-620-3474.

SFPUC maintains high operational standards and its Water Quality Division regularly collects and tests water samples from reservoirs and designated sampling points throughout its system to ensure that it meets or exceeds federal and state drinking water standards. In 2010, SFPUC Water Quality staff conducted 58,750 drinking water tests in the transmission and distribution systems. At numerous locations, SFPUC also has online instruments that provide continuous water quality information. In addition, monitoring is done throughout the extensive treatment process which is performed by their certified and knowledgeable treatment plant staff.

Once the water reaches MPMWD, City staff conduct additional sampling throughout our system on a weekly basis. In 2010 we collected 556 samples from 28 locations. These samples were analyzed for concentrations of up to nine different constituents.



Reducing Lead from Plumbing Fixtures

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with private service lines and home plumbing. The MPMWD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in your household or building plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. MPMWD tests for lead every 3 years. If you have old plumbing and are interested in having your water tested in 2012, please contact us. More information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



For More Information

Water Bills-650-330-0385
Water Quality-650-330-6780
Water Conservation-650-330-6740
Water Policy Decisions-Sign up to receive City Council agendas at http://www.menlopark.org/council/city_council.html. Scroll down to "Schedule" and click on "agendas."

If you have other questions about your water or this brochure, please call Virginia Parks at 650-330-6740 or visit www.menlopark.org/departments/pwk/mpmwd.html. Further information is available at the California Dept. of Public Health (CDPH): www.cdph.ca.gov.



How Do Drinking Water Sources Become Polluted?

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. 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 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.

Cryptosporidium is a parasitic microbe found in most surface water. SFPUC regularly tests for it and in 2010 found it at very low levels in both source and treated waters. However, current test methods do not distinguish between dead microbes and those capable of causing disease. Ingestion of live *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.

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.



Water Quality Definitions

These terms refer to the standards and goals for water quality that are used in the table 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. MPMWD primarily uses chloramine.

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 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.

2010 WATER QUALITY RESULTS¹

These tables list drinking water contaminants and the amounts that are in the water. Water staff tested for many other constituents which are not shown because the amounts were too small for testing equipment to detect.



DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	Unit	MCL	PHG or [MCLG]	Range or Level Found	Average or [Max]	Major Sources in Drinking Water
TURBIDITY²						
Unfiltered Hetch Hetchy Water	NTU	5	N/A	0.2 - 0.6 ²	[4.9] ³	Soil runoff
Filtered Water - Sunol Valley WTP	NTU	1 ⁴ : min 95% of samples ≤0.3 NTU ⁴	N/A	97.6%-100%	[0.54]	Soil runoff
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRE-CURSORS (SFPUC Regional System)						
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	14 - 92	[40] ⁵	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	7 - 55	[25] ⁵	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon ⁶	ppm	TT	N/A	2.4 - 3.2	2.7	Various natural and human-made sources
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRE-CURSORS (MPMWD System)						
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	32.5 - 51.1	[43.4] ⁵	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	26.4 - 40.0	[31.9] ⁵	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
MICROBIOLOGICAL						
Total Coliform (MPMWD)	-	>1/month	[0]	0-1/month	[1]	Naturally present in the environment
<i>Giardia lamblia</i> (SFPUC Regional System)	cyst/L	TT	[0]	ND - 0.06	[0.06]	Naturally present in the environment
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Fluoride (source water) ⁷	ppm	2.0	1	ND - 0.15	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (treated water) ⁸	ppm	0.8-1.5	1	0.6-1.5	1.0	Added to prevent cavities
Chloramine (as chlorine)	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	1.00 - 3.00	2.22	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS						
Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water	
Chloride	500	N/A	3 - 16	9.5	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits	
Color	15	N/A	<5 - 6	<5	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Specific Conductance	1600	N/A	33 - 316	179	Substances that form ions when in water	
Sulfate	500	N/A	1.6 - 38.7	18.2	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits	
Total Dissolved Solids	1000	N/A	27 - 174	95	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits	
Turbidity	5	N/A	0.07 - 0.33	0.16	Soil runoff	
LEAD AND COPPER (MPMWD)						
Unit	AL	PHG	Range	90 th Percentile	Typical Sources in Drinking Water	
Copper	1300	300	2.2 - 152.2 ⁹	78.2	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	
Lead	15	0.2	<1 - 6 ¹⁰	2.2	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	

OTHER CONSTITUENTS	Unit	ORL	Range	Average
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	N/A	8 - 98	49
Bromide	ppb	N/A	<10 - 17	<10
Calcium (as Ca)	ppm	N/A	2 - 26	12
Chlorate ¹¹	ppb	(800) NL	92 - 357	150
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	N/A	8 - 104	53
Magnesium	ppm	N/A	0.3 - 9	4.6
pH	-	N/A	8.2 - 8.7	8.5
Potassium	ppm	N/A	0.34 - 1.2	0.6
Silica	ppm	N/A	4.1 - 7.6	5.7
Sodium	ppm	N/A	3 - 22	13

FOOTNOTES

- All results met State and Federal drinking water health standards.
- Turbidity is measured every four hours. These values are monthly averages.
- This is the highest turbidity of the unfiltered water served to customers in 2010. The switch of San Joaquin Pipelines and flow rate change caused elevated turbidities as a result of sediment re-suspension in the pipelines. The turbidity spike was not observed downstream at Alameda East.
- There is no MCL for turbidity. The limits are based on the TT requirements in the State drinking water regulations.
- This is the highest quarterly running average value.
- Total organic carbon is a precursor for disinfection byproduct formation. The TT requirement applies to the filtered water from the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant (SVWTP) only.
- The naturally occurring fluoride levels in the Hetch Hetchy and SVWTP source water ranged from ND to 0.15ppm. The average was ND.
- SFPUC adds fluoride to the naturally occurring level to help prevent dental cavities in customers. The CDPH requires that fluoride levels in treated water be maintained within a range of 0.8-1.5 ppm. In 2010, the range in treated water was 0.6ppm to 1.5 ppm and the average fluoride level was 1.0 ppm.
- The most recent Copper monitoring was in 2009. Of the 35 residences tested none were over the PHG. And 90% of the results were below 78.2 ppb.
- The most recent Lead monitoring was in 2009. Of the 35 residences tested none were above the AL. And 90% of the results were below 2.2 ppb.
- There was no chlorate detected in the raw water sources. Detected chlorate in treated water is a degradation byproduct of sodium hypochlorite, the primary disinfectant used by SFPUC.

ABBREVIATIONS

- < = less than
- ≤ = less than or equal to
- AL = Action Level
- Max = Maximum
- Min = Minimum
- N/A = Not Available
- ND = Non-detect
- NL = Notification Level
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
- ORL = Other Regulatory Level
- ppb = part per billion
- ppm = part per million
- TT = Treatment Technique
- µS/cm = microSiemens/Centimeter
- WTP = Water Treatment Plant