



Coastside County Water District  
766 Main Street  
Half Moon Bay CA 94019-1925



## BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

Coastside County Water District offers several payment options for your convenience.

- **Online:** Make a one-time payment or recurring payments by credit or debit card (VISA or MasterCard). With Online Bill Payment Services, you can review your current bill, print a copy for your records and make a payment online.
- **Phone:** Payments can be made using VISA or MasterCard.
- **Mail:** Use the return envelope provided by the District (credit card, money order or check).
- **In Person:** Visit the District Office to pay in person (cash, check, money order or credit card).
- **Drop Box:** Visit the District Office and drop off your payment before, during or after business hours, using the drop box located at the front door (credit card, money order and check).
- **Direct Debit:** Pay your water bill automatically by having the total amount of your bill deducted from your checking or savings account.
- **Online Banking:** Check with your bank to see if they offer online banking service.

## CONNECT WITH US!

The District encourages participation in the decisions affecting the community's drinking water. Regular Board meetings occur at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the District's Board Room at 766 Main Street, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.



If you have any questions or desire additional information about this report, contact Joe Guistino, Superintendent, at (650) 726-4405. To find out more about the District, sign up for our E-newsletter at [www.coastsidewater.org](http://www.coastsidewater.org).

## WATER SUSTAINABILITY



The District has partnered with EPA WaterSense® to promote water efficient products and to support efforts to use water more efficiently by providing incentives and information. For information about the District's water use efficiency programs, including high efficiency toilet rebates, go to the District's website at

[www.coastsidewater.org/water-use-efficiency](http://www.coastsidewater.org/water-use-efficiency) or to learn more about EPA's WaterSense® program visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense).

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Si le gustaría recibir una copia de este reporte en Español, favor de llamar al Coastside County Water District, y le enviaremos una por correo.

Coastside County Water District (District) is pleased to present the 2015 Annual Water Quality Report in accordance with state and federal regulations. The data presented are from sampling and testing done in accordance with Safe Drinking Water Act regulations.

*The treated drinking water delivered to your home or business met all drinking water quality standards set by the state and federal governments.*



# Coastside County Water District 2015 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT



**WHAT'S INSIDE ►**  
Important information about your water  
Water use restrictions  
Ways to contact the District

*Hetch Hetchy Dam. Image provided courtesy of Mary Rogren.*

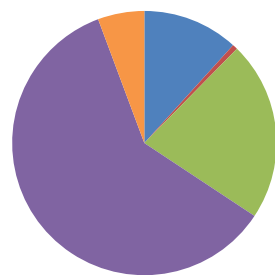
## Where your Water Comes From

The District receives water originating from pristine and highly protected watersheds in California's Sierra Nevada Mountain Range and San Mateo County's Coastal Mountain Range.

The District owns and operates the Denniston Project (surface and groundwater) and the Pilarcitos Creek Infiltration Well Field, both of which receive water originating from the local coastal range.

The District purchases raw water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Raw water from SFPUC originates from Pilarcitos Reservoir, which is supplied by local runoff from the local coastal range, and from Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir, which is supplied by imported water from SFPUC's Regional Water System, including the Hetch-Hetchy watershed.

Water delivered to District customers receives full treatment at our two water treatment facilities in accordance with federal and state standards. The Nunes Water Treatment Plant is capable of treating up to 4.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of water from Pilarcitos Lake, infiltration wells in Pilarcitos Creek Canyon and Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir. The Denniston Water Treatment Plant treats up to 1.4 mgd of water from Denniston Creek and Denniston Well Field.



Calendar Year 2015

- Denniston Creek 12%
- Denniston Groundwater <1%
- Pilarcitos Lake 22%
- Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir 60%
- Pilarcitos Creek Infiltration Wells 6%

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT – WATERSHED SANITARY SURVEY

The District completed a source water assessment in 2011 for the San Vicente Creek and the Denniston Creek watersheds. The Upper Pilarcitos Creek watershed and Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir watershed source water assessments were completed by SFPUC. The assessments are available for review at the Division of Drinking Water – San Francisco District Office.

**DDW–San Francisco District** ►  
(510) 620-3474

## Health and Education Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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 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.

Coastside County Water District does not fluoridate its drinking water. For information about fluoridation, go to [waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml](http://waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml)

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; and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice 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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

**USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline** ►  
(800) 426-4791



## THANK YOU FOR SAVING WATER



### Summary of Recent Water Use Restrictions and Prohibitions for All Customers

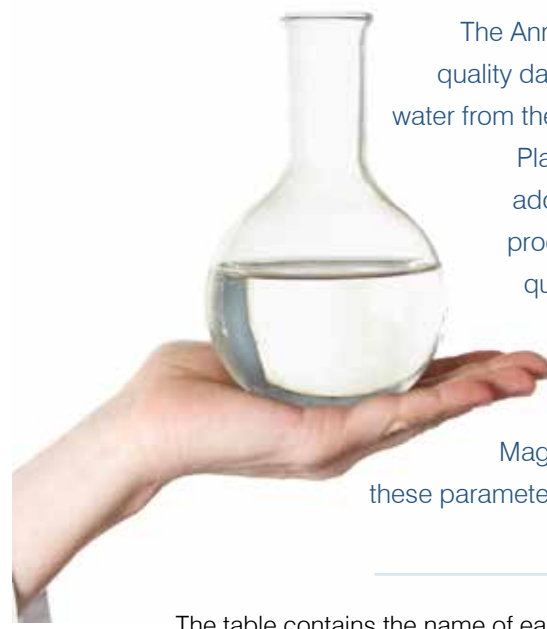
- Outdoor irrigation during, and 48 hours following, measurable precipitation is prohibited.
- Irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians is prohibited.
- The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures is prohibited.
- The use of a hose that dispenses potable water to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use, is prohibited.

- The application of potable water to driveways and sidewalks is prohibited.
- The use of potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature, except where the water is part of a recirculating system, is prohibited.
- Restaurants and other food service establishments can only serve water to customers upon request.

To stay up-to-date on District water use restrictions visit [www.coastsidewater.org](http://www.coastsidewater.org)

To report water waste or to ask questions regarding the water use restrictions, please call the District's hotline at (650) 276-0647 and leave a message. If you notice a water leak in the street or meter box, please call the District's main phone number at (650) 726-4405.

# 2015 WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS



The Annual Water Quality Report contains water quality data tables that show the results of treated water from the Nunes and Denniston Water Treatment Plants as well as the distribution system. In addition, the District monitors the treatment process 24 hours a day. The District's water quality monitoring program includes many compounds or water quality parameters that are not regulated or harmful, such as Hardness, Alkalinity, Magnesium and many others. Knowledge of these parameters allows us to provide you with the best treatment available.

The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG/PHG), the range of samples detected from lowest to highest, and the usual sources of the constituent. To help you understand these tables, we have included the following definitions listed on the bottom of this page.

Some data—although representative—were collected prior to 2015, as the State Board requires monitoring for some constituents less than once per year since the concentrations of these constituents do not vary frequently or significantly.

### More information ►

For more information about this report or the District's water quality monitoring program contact: Joe Guistino, Superintendent, at (650) 726-4405.



## PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED STANDARDS)

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL, (AL), or [MRDL]	PHG, (MCLG), or [MRDLG]	Nunes WTP		Denniston WTP		Typical Sources
				Average or [Max]	Range	Average or [Max]	Range	
<b>SOURCE WATER SAMPLING</b>								
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>								
Aluminum	ppm	1	0.6	0.07	0.05 - 0.31	ND	ND	3, 4
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	0.48	0.10 - 0.79	0.21	0.21	3, 5, 6
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	0.45	0.45	ND	ND	3, 7, 8
Turbidity	NTU	TT <sub>a</sub>	NA	[0.09]	100% <sub>b</sub>	[0.15]	100% <sub>b</sub>	2
<b>DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSOR</b>								
TOC (precursor control)	ppm	TT	NA	1.3	1.0 - 2.6	1.5	1.1 - 2.4	10
<b>DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM SAMPLING</b>								
<b>LEAD AND COPPER (2015 AT-THE-TAP SAMPLING)</b>				90th Percentile		Samples Above AL		Typical Sources
Lead (30 Sample Sites)	ppb	(15)	0.2	7		1		3, 17, 19
Copper (30 Sample Sites)	ppm	(1.3)	0.3	0.162		None		3, 17, 18
<b>DISINFECTION RESIDUALS AND BYPRODUCTS</b>				Running Annual Average		Range		
Disinfectant Residual as Chlorine	ppm	[4]	[4]	0.73		0.08 - 1.6		20
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	NA	66.8 <sub>c</sub>		47.5 - 78.0		9
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	NA	26.0 <sub>c</sub>		16.3 - 38.8		9

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (AESTHETIC STANDARDS)

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL	Average	Range	Average	Range	Typical Sources	
Aluminum	ppb	200	68	50 - 310	ND	ND	3, 4	
Chloride	ppm	500	20	12 - 32	44	14 - 47	11, 12, 14	
Color	Units	15	<2	<2	<2	<2	13	
Iron	ppb	300	ND	ND	ND	ND	12, 15	
Manganese	ppb	50	ND	ND	ND	ND	12	
Odor - Threshold	T.O.N.	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	13	
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	210	136 - 319	351	336 - 370	14, 16	
Sulfate	ppm	500	21	21	12	12	11, 12, 15	
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	120	80 - 190	209	195 - 236	11, 12	

## UNREGULATED PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	Unit	NL	Nunes WTP		Denniston WTP		Distribution System	
			Average	Range	Average	Range	Average	Range
Boron	ppb	1000	58	ND - 166	81	ND - 122	NA	NA
Chlorate (2014)	ppb	800	213	180 - 230	380	380	387	290 - 660
Molybdenum (2014)	ppb	NS	NA	NA	2	2	0.3	ND - 1.1
Strontium	ppb	NS	43	30 - 50	57	57	49	37 - 71

## OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL	Average	Range	Average	Range	Average	Range
Alkalinity	ppm	NS	48	20 - 90	96	77 - 108	NA	NA
Bromide (SFPUC)	ppb	NS	<50	<50 - 75	NA	NA	NA	NA
Calcium	ppm	NS	13.5	4.4 - 26	22	21 - 24	NA	NA
Chromium	ppb	50	1	ND - 7	NA	NA	0.31	ND - 0.82
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr VI, 2014)	ppb	10	0.05	0.04 - 0.07	0.02	ND - 0.054	0.21	0.05 - 0.83
Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	ppm	NS	48	17 - 97	84	73 - 92	NA	NA
Magnesium	ppm	NS	3.9	1.2 - 7.7	7.3	6.7 - 7.9	NA	NA
pH	no unit	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA	8.3	7.7 - 9.3
Potassium	ppm	NS	0.5	0.3 - 0.7	0.6	0.5 - 0.7	NA	NA
Silica (SFPUC)	ppm	NS	7.4	4.5 - 10.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sodium	ppm	NS	23	19 - 29	40	34 - 44	NA	NA
Total Coliform Bacteria	#pos/month	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0

## Important information about your water quality

### Lead

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 service lines and home plumbing. The District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: [www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water)

### Chromium-6

On July 1, 2014, the new MCL of 10 ppb became effective for Chromium-6. Until then, chromium-6 was regulated under the 50 ppb primary drinking water standard for total chromium, which was established in California in 1977. The District is pleased to report that there have been no detections exceeding the new MCL.

### Hardness

Water hardness is determined mainly by the presence of calcium and magnesium salts. Although hard water does not pose a health risk, it may be considered undesirable for other reasons. Some benefits of water softening are reductions in soap usage, longer life for water heaters and a decrease in encrustation of pipes. Some disadvantages of water softening are an increase in sodium intake (depending on type of water softener used), an increase in maintenance and servicing requirements and potential adverse effects on salt-sensitive plants and landscaping. To convert hardness from ppm to grains per gallon, divide by 17.1. A hardness scale is provided above for your reference.

Hardness Classification	Grains per Gallon	mg/L or ppm
Soft	less than 1.0	less than 17.1
Slightly hard	1.0-3.5	17.1-60
Moderately hard	3.5-7.0	60-120
Hard	7.0-10.5	120-180
Very hard	over 10.5	over 180

Imported water from SFPUC's Regional Water System, including Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir feeds Crystal Springs Reservoir.



## HOW TO READ THIS CHART

### DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

**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 are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water. MCLs are established by USEPA and the State Board.

**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 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.

**Notification Level (NL).** Notification levels are health-based advisory levels established by the State Board for chemicals in drinking water that lack MCLs. When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain requirements and recommendations apply.

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

**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 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

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

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

**Total Organic Carbon (TOC).** TOC has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts including trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. Drinking water containing disinfection byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of cancer.

**Turbidity.** Turbidity has no health effects. It is a measure of the clarity of the water and is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of a filtration system. The MCL for turbidity is based on the TT. For unfiltered water, the MCL is 5.0 NTU. For filtered water, the MCL is ≤0.3 NTU 95% of the time.

**Waiver.** State permission to decrease the monitoring frequency for a particular contaminant.

### ABBREVIATIONS

°C	Degrees Celsius
CU	Color unit
DDW	Division of Drinking Water
Max	Maximum
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
NS	No standard established
NTU	Nephelometric turbidity unit
ppb	parts per billion (micrograms per liter)
ppm	parts per million (milligrams per liter)
µS/cm	microSiemens per centimeter
pCi/L	PicoCuries per liter
RAA	Running annual average
SFPUC	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
TOC	Total organic carbon
TON	Threshold odor number
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency

### NOTES

- a For filtered water, the MCL is ≤0.3 NTU 95% of the time
- b Percent of time ≤0.3 NTU
- c Sampling location highest RAA

### \* TYPICAL SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER

- 1 Naturally present in the environment
- 2 Soil runoff
- 3 Erosion of natural deposits
- 4 Residue from some surface water treatment processes
- 5 Water additive that promotes strong teeth
- 6 Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
- 7 Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use
- 8 Leaching from septic tanks and sewage
- 9 By-product of drinking water disinfection
- 10 Various natural and man-made sources
- 11 Runoff from natural deposits
- 12 Leaching from natural deposits
- 13 Naturally-occurring organic materials
- 14 Seawater influence
- 15 Industrial wastes
- 16 Substances that form ions when in water
- 17 Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
- 18 Leaching from wood preservatives
- 19 Discharges from industrial manufacturers
- 20 Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

### SERVICE AREA MAP



District service areas (designated in green) include the City of Half Moon Bay and unincorporated areas of San Mateo County including: El Granada, Miramar and Princeton by the Sea.