Coastside County Water District
Water Quality Report 2024

Coastside County Water District (District) is pleased to present the 2024 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.

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

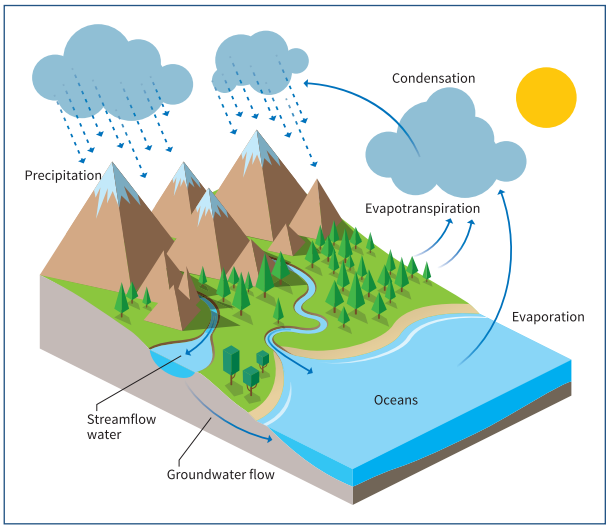
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Si le gustaría recibir una copia de este reporte en Español, favor de llamar al Coastside County Water District, y le enviaremos una copia por correo.

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.

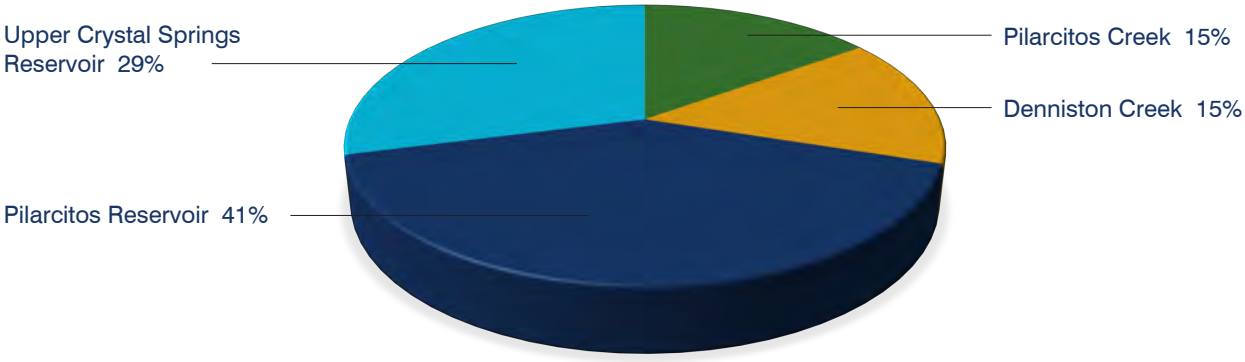
The District purchases raw water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Raw water from SFPUC originates from Pilarcitos Reservoir, which is supplied by local runoff from the coastal range, and from Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir, which is supplied by imported water from SFPUC's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



Water delivered to 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 Reservoir, 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.

Coastside County Water District does not fluoridate its drinking water. For information about fluoridation, go to www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.html

District Water Sources for Calendar Year 2024



Source Water Assessment – Watershed Sanitary Survey

The District updated the source water assessment in 2021 for the San Vicente Creek and the Denniston Creek watersheds. This assessment can be found on the District's website under Resources. 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 (DDW) – San Francisco District Office.

DDW–San Francisco District ▶ (510) 620-3474

Pilarcitos Reservoir Spillway

Conserving Water Around the House and Yard

Implementing changes in our daily water use can make a big impact toward ensuring we have enough water supply to meet current and future needs. We all need to do our part to conserve water and use it as efficiently as possible. Here are ways you can do your part to save water:

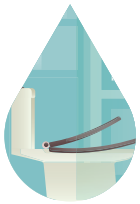
- Consider replacing your lawn with water wise plants, and add hardscaping elements to your yard, like pavers, decomposed granite, or bark, to create year-round spaces that eliminate the need to weed, mow, and irrigate regularly.
- Install drip irrigation for your trees, shrubs, and flowers.
- Adjust sprinkler heads to make sure your sprinklers water the plants, not your driveway.
- Use mulch to help the soil retain more moisture.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean outdoor areas and save up to six gallons of water every minute.
- Instead of letting cold water go down the drain, place a bucket under the showerhead while you wait for the water to warm up, then use it to water your outdoor garden.

Let's make every drop count!

More information ▶ coastsidewater.org/save-water

Wash Full Loads of Clothes & Dishes

Washer: saves 15–45 gallons per load
Dishwasher: saves 5–15 gallons per load



Install a High-Efficiency Toilet

Saves 19 gallons per person/day

Fix Leaks

Even a small leak can waste up to 6,300 gallons of water per month!

Adjust Sprinkler Heads

Saves 12–15 gallons each time you water

Use Mulch

Saves 20–30 gallons per 1000 sq. ft. each time

Drought Resistant Trees & Plants

Saves 30–60 gallons per 1000 sq. ft. each time

Building Water Reliability

Water infrastructure is vital to the prosperity of the Coastside. Investing in and modernizing the water systems used to capture, store, treat, and deliver drinking water is crucial for the resilience of the Coastside. Water infrastructure projects provide water to fight fires, keep businesses operating, and maintain community health.

Coastside CWD's water infrastructure projects such as the Carter Hill Tank Replacement Project help ensure our community has the water it needs. Replacing and upgrading treated water storage tanks to withstand earthquakes provides resilience during natural disasters. The Nunes Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project supports the district's goal of providing the highest quality drinking water to our community.

Pipeline replacements help protect the community against catastrophic pipeline failures. Valve replacements ensure that valves are operable during emergencies to prevent water loss and help isolate portions of the distribution system for repairs. Coastside CWD invests in the San Francisco Regional Water System to diversify our water supplies and leverage regional water infrastructure to support the water needs of the Coastside.

Infrastructure projects like these can help contribute to a reliable and sustainable water system that our community can depend on. Investing in these projects means investing in the present and future of the Coastside.

To learn more about Coastside CWD's water infrastructure visit coastsidewater.org/projects.

2024

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 definitions and notes to the right and on the following page.

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.

USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline ▶ (800) 426-4791

Water quality sampling station

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED STANDARDS)

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL, (AL), or [MRDL]	PHG, (MCLG), or [MRDLG]	Nunes WTP Average	Nunes WTP Range	Denniston WTP Average	Denniston WTP Range	Typical Sources*
SOURCE WATER SAMPLING								
INORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Aluminum	ppm	1	0.6	ND	ND–0.078	ND	ND	3, 4
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	0.13	ND–0.5	0.2	0.1–0.2	3, 5, 6
Nitrate (NO_3) as Nitrogen (N)	ppm	10	10	0.4	0.4	ND	ND	3, 18, 19
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSOR								
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	TT	NA	1.2	0.9–2.0	1.2	0.9–1.7	8
MICROBIOLOGICAL								
Turbidity	NTU	TT_a	NA	0.025	0.018–0.079	0.025	0.019–0.075	2
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM SAMPLING								Typical Sources*
DISINFECTION RESIDUAL				Average		Range		
Disinfectant Residual as Chlorine (Cl_2)	ppm	[4]	[4]	0.84		0.20–1.68		1
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS				Highest Location RAA		Range		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	80	NA	60		28–59		7
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	60	NA	27		12–34		7
LEAD AND COPPER (2024 AT-THE-TAP SAMPLING)				90th percentile		Samples above AL		
Lead (42 Sample Sites)$_b$	ppb	(15)	0.2	1.7		0		3, 15, 17
Copper (42 Sample Sites)	ppm	(1.3)	0.3	0.080		0		3, 15, 16

SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (AESTHETIC STANDARDS)

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL	Nunes WTP Average	Nunes WTP Range	Denniston WTP Average	Denniston WTP Range	Typical Sources*
Aluminum	ppb	200	ND	ND–78	ND	ND	3, 4
Chloride	ppm	500	25	16–30	33	29–36	9, 10, 12
Iron	ppb	16	ND	ND–61	ND	ND	10
Color	Color Units	15	ND	ND–7	ND	ND–5	3, 15, 16
Manganese	ppb	50	ND	ND	ND	ND–34	10
Odor – Threshold	T.O.N.	3	ND	ND–2	ND	ND–1	11
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	286	168–354	296	272–312	12, 14
Sulfate	ppm	500	24	20–30	7	6–9	9, 10, 13
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	162	102–200	163	146–186	9, 10

UNREGULATED PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	Unit	NL	Nunes WTP Average	Nunes WTP Range	Denniston WTP Average	Denniston WTP Range	Distribution System Average	Distribution System Range
Boron	ppb	1000	ND	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA

OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	Unit	MCL	Nunes WTP Average	Nunes WTP Range	Denniston WTP Average	Denniston WTP Range	Distribution System Average	Distribution System Range
Alkalinity	ppm	NS	76	26–114	81	72–86	NA	NA
Calcium	ppm	NS	23	9–31	20	16–23	NA	NA
Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	ppm	NS	86	37–117	73	63–87	NA	NA
Magnesium	ppm	NS	7.3	3.8–9.5	6.0	5.4–7.0	NA	NA
Potassium	ppm	NS	0.7	ND–0.9	0.6	ND–0.9	NA	NA
pH	no unit	NS	8.1	7.4–8.9	8.2	7.6–8.9	8.25	7.8–9.0
Sodium	ppm	NS	23	18–28	29	26–33	NA	NA
Hexavalent Chromium	ppm	(0.02)	ND	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA

Abbreviations

DDW	Division of Drinking Water
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
RAA	Running annual average
SFPUC	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
TON	Threshold odor number
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

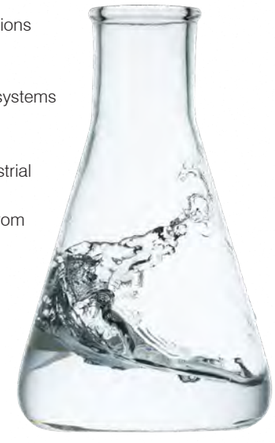
Table Notes

a For filtered water, the MCL is <0.3 NTU 95% of the time. This standard was met 100% of the time.

b In 2024, there were no requests for lead testing in schools.

* Typical Sources in Drinking Water

1 Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
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 By-product of drinking water disinfection
8 Various natural and man-made sources
9 Runoff from natural deposits
10 Leaching from natural deposits
11 Naturally occurring organic materials
12 Seawater influence
13 Industrial wastes
14 Substances that form ions when in water
15 Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
16 Leaching from wood preservatives
17 Discharges from industrial manufacturers
18 Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use
19 Leaching from septic tanks and sewage



More information ▶

For more information about this report or the District's water quality monitoring program contact: Sean Donovan, Water Treatment Manager (650) 276-0817.

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 Water 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 Water 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 Environmental Protection Agency.

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 water clarity 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 $\leq$0.3 NTU 95% of the time.

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

Health and Education Information

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.

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

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

Important Information about your Water Quality

Lead

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized service line requiring replacement, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the District at (650) 276-0817. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Lead and Drinking Water

The USEPA issued revisions in 2021 to the existing Lead and Copper Rule that was first implemented in 1991. The revised Lead Copper Rule was issued to address concerns about the presence of lead in drinking water throughout the nation.

Drinking water systems were required to develop an inventory of their water services from the water main in the street up to the meter, including the connection to the meter on the private property side. This inventory identified the material used for the pipes and fittings supplying the drinking water to customers. It is not common for public water systems in California to use lead pipes and fittings.

Upon completion of this inventory, Coastside County Water District did not identify any lead pipe or fittings. You can find the District's inventory and additional information about lead in drinking water on our website.

coastsidewater.org/production/water-quality/lead-information

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 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

Facility Highlight:

Water Treatment Plant Upgrades

In 2024, the District completed upgrades to its Nunes Water Treatment Plant in alignment with its core goal to provide safe and reliable drinking water. The cost was just over 10 million dollars.

Numerous improvements were made during the three-year project, including:

- An additional sedimentation basin
- A new caustic soda storage tank
- Filter improvements, clearwell improvements, electrical system improvements, and instrumentation improvements

These upgrades provide operational redundancy and improve efficiency at the treatment plant, ensuring backups are available in case of equipment failure or during planned maintenance of the facilities.

Visit the District's website for more information on its Capital Improvement Program. coastsidewater.org/projects

Connect With Us!

The District encourages community participation in the decisions affecting 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. Videos of past Board meetings are available at www.coastsidewater.org/board-activities/board-meeting-videos.html, and are also broadcast on Pacific Coast Television.

If you have any questions or desire additional information about this report or water quality, contact Sean Donovan, Water Treatment Manager, at (650) 276-0817.

To receive communications from the District about current events and news, sign up for our E-newsletter on the District's website.

To communicate with Customer Service and Utility Billing (650) 726-4405 | customerservice@coastsidewater.org

WaterSmart

Coastside County Water District partners with VertexOne to offer customers access to a free web portal.
In the portal you can:

- View hourly and daily water usage.
- Set up high usage alerts.
- Compare your water usage with similar homes in your neighborhood.

To register for the free web portal, go to the WaterSmart sign up page. Make sure you have your water account, email, and zip code.

coastsidewater.watersmart.com

Questions? email watersmart@coastsidewater.org or call (650) 726-4405.

Service Area Map

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