

# City of Oceanside 2001 Consumer Confidence Report of Detected Compounds

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulation. Your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, call Guss Pennell at (760) 435-5804.

**Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## Health Information

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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/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 (800-426-4791).

## Oceanside's Water Sources

Approximately 93% of the water we use in Oceanside is imported from hundreds of miles away. This is "surface water" from rivers and streams in Northern California and the Colorado River Basin. The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) imports this water to Southern California via a 242-mile-long aqueduct that carries Colorado River water from Lake Havasu, and a 444-mile-long aqueduct bringing water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Both aqueducts terminate in Lake Skinner in Riverside County, where these waters are combined.

The San Diego County Water Authority (Authority) purchases this imported water from MWD and distributes it to water agencies throughout the County, including the City of Oceanside. Approximately 53% of Oceanside's water is purchased "raw" from the Authority and is treated at the City's Robert A. Weese Water Filtration Plant. Another 40% of our water is purchased from the Authority already treated.

In addition, the City is fortunate to have a local source of groundwater. This groundwater is extracted by wells and demineralized at the Mission Basin Desalting Facility. About 7% of our water is local groundwater. When the desalting plant is expanded in the next few years, it will supply up to 21% of our water needs.

The **Oceanside Utilities Commission** meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 300 North Coast Highway. The public is welcome to participate in these meetings. For more information, please call (760) 435-5800.

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.

**Radon** is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a

home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

## Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which 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**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture 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, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Unregulated contaminants**, included under Additional Parameters (Unregulated). No maximum contaminant level (MCL) currently exists for these parameters. This monitoring helps EPA and the California Department of Health Services to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations which 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.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

## NOTES:

- TT=Treatment Technique. The turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.5 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Monthly turbidity samples taken from the distribution system are listed in the *Secondary Standards* section.
- Aluminum has a secondary MCL of 200 ppb.
- Standards are for Radium-226 and -228 combined.
- Calculation based on pH, temperature and dissolved minerals to determine scale forming (positive value) or scale dissolving (negative value) tendencies.
- Pour plate technique, CFU: colony forming unit.
- Data collected for Information Collection Rule 1997-1998.
- Compliance is based on a running annual average of six distribution system samples taken quarterly.

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2001 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2001. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### Terms and abbreviations used 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- 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.
- Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- n/a:** not applicable • **ND:** not detectable at testing limit • **NS:** no standard • **NC:** not collected
- µmho/cm:** micromhos per centimeter • **pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
- ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter • **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter • **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

PARAMETER	Units	SOURCE WATERS						Major Sources in Drinking Water
		State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range Average Highest	Robert A. Weese Treated Water (surface water)	MWD Lake Skinner Treated Water (surface water)	Mission Basin Desalting Facility (groundwater)	
<b>PRIMARY STANDARDS — Mandatory Health-Related Standards</b>								
<b>CLARITY</b>								
Turbidity	NTU	0.5 TT	NS	Highest %<0.5	0.12	0.13	0.06	Soil runoff.
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>								
Aluminum (b)	ppb	1000	600	Range Average	ND-326 130	ND ND	ND-70 ND	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	ppb	50	NS	Range Average	ND-3 2	ND ND	ND-3 ND	Erosion of natural deposits; glass and electronics production wastes.
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	Range Average	0.25-0.32 0.29	0.19-0.24 0.22	ND ND	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Selenium	ppb	50	50	Range Average	ND-9 5	ND ND	ND-9 ND	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from cattle feed.
Nitrate	ppm	45	45	Range Average	ND ND	ND ND	2.2-3.4 3	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	ppm	1.3 (AL)	0.17	Range for 55 homes sampled = ND-0.457 # exceeding = 0 90th Percentile for 55 homes sampled = 0.209				Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	ppb	15 (AL)	2	Range for 55 homes sampled = ND-11 # exceeding = 0 90th Percentile for 55 homes sampled = 4				Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
<b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS</b> <small>[analyzed every four years, for four consecutive quarters (sampled from 8/98 to 4/99)]</small>								
Gross alpha	pCi/L	15	NS	Range Average	ND-6.22 4.05	ND-5.53 3.99	0.6-2 1.2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross beta	pCi/L	50	NS	Range Average	4.18-7.42 5.52	ND-7.48 5.24	NC NC	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Combined radium (c)	pCi/L	5	NS	Range Average	ND-1.56 ND	ND-2.36 1.25	NC NC	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radon	pCi/L	NS	NS	Range Average	ND-5 2.5	ND ND	5.05-130 51.7	Decay of natural deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	20	NS	Range Average	ND-3.2 2.6	ND-3.18 2.61	1-3 3	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS — Aesthetic Standards</b>								
Chloride	ppm	500	NS	Range Average	72-85 76	76-85 79	67-93 77	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.

Color	Units	15	NS	Range Average	ND-3 ND	1 1	ND-3 2	Naturally occurring organic materials.
Corrosivity (d)	Non Corrosive	Non Corrosive	NS	Range Average	-0.45 to 0.23 -0.12	0.19 to 0.42 0.34	0.27 to 0.67 0.46	Natural or industrial factors that influence balance.
Hardness (Total hardness)	ppm	NS	NS	Range Average	225-252 239	232-248 239	114-188 158	Leaching from natural deposits.
Hardness (Total hardness)	grains/gal	NS	NS	Range Average	13.2-14.7 14	13.6-14.5 14	6.7-11.0 9.2	Leaching from natural deposits.
Heterotrophic Plate Count (e)	CFU/mL	NS	NS	Range Average	ND-10 ND	ND ND	1-31 8	Bacteria naturally present in the environment.
Iron	ppb	300	NS	Range Average	ND ND	ND ND	ND-94 ND	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese	ppb	50	NS	Range Average	ND ND	ND ND	ND-36 22	Leaching from natural deposits.
Sodium	ppm	NS	NS	Range Average	73-84 77	72-81 77	48-54 51	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Specific Conductance	µmho/cm	1600	NS	Range Average	790-894 829	813-876 836	438-660 570	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate	ppm	500	NS	Range Average	164-199 1838	166-186 177	53-104 87	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NS	Range Average	424-584 512	480-521 500	224-1710 351	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Turbidity	NTU	5	NS	Distribution system-wide Range = 0.05-0.80 Distribution system-wide Average = 0.11				Soil runoff.

### ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS — Disinfection by-products

Chloral hydrate (f)	ppb	—	—	Range Average	ND-2.9 1.8	3.5-7.0 5.1	ND ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorate (f)	ppb	—	—	Range Average	NC NC	NC NC	150-420 267	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Cyanogen chloride (f)	ppb	—	—	Range Average	ND-1.2 0.7	2.3-5.5 3.4	ND ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic acids	ppb	—	—	Range Average	12-14 13	17-33 25	1.6-1.8 1.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetonitriles (f)	ppb	—	—	Range Average	ND-6.0 2.7	5.6-17 8.7	ND ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloketones	ppb	—	—	Range Average	24 2.4	1.4-2.5 1.7	ND ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total chlorine residual	ppm	—	—	Range Average	2.3-3.1 2.7	2.3-2.8 2.6	1.9-2.42 2.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total organic halides (f)	ppb	—	—	Range Average	175-275 218	115-157 138	ND ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	100	NA	Range Average	33-38 36	36-59 50	3.5-5.7 4.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (g)	ppb	100	NA	Distribution System-wide Range = 27-72 Distribution System highest running annual average = 48				By-product of drinking water chlorination.

### ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (unregulated)

Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	ppm	—	—	Range Average	93-118 109	112-123 116	45-78 67	Leaching from natural deposits.
Ammonia as nitrogen	ppm	—	—	Range Average	0.54-1.29 0.84	NC NC	0.53-1.02 0.76	By-product of drinking water chloramination.
Boron	ppb	NA	1000(AL)	Range Average	100-130 122	120-130 120	110-116 108	Leaching from natural deposits.
Calcium	ppm	—	—	Range Average	54-61 58	55-59 57	28-40 34	Leaching from natural deposits.
Magnesium	ppm	—	—	Range Average	22-24 23	23-24 24	10-21 18	Leaching from natural deposits.
Perchlorate	ppb	—	18(AL)	Range Average	ND ND	ND-6 4	ND ND	Used in rocket motors, fireworks and explosive devices.
pH	pH units	—	—	Range Average	7.0-7.9 7.6	8.0-8.1 8.1	8.3-9.0 8.7	
Potassium	ppm	—	—	Range Average	3.8-4.0 3.9	3.8-4.1 3.9	1.1-1.3 1.2	Leaching from natural deposits.
Vanadium	ppb	—	50(AL)	Range Average	3-10 6	ND ND	ND-10 ND	Leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes.