



Consumer Confidence Report 2007



Your Consumer Confidence Report

The Otay Water District is pleased to provide you with your annual consumer confidence report. This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards.

The information included in this water quality report represents only a small fraction of what we do to ensure high quality drinking water. Using state certified laboratories, we routinely scrutinize the water supply for an entire range of elements that have the potential to degrade the quality of your water.

As in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of California drinking water health standards. The Otay Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Sources

The Otay Water District imports an average of 97 percent of its water. This imported water is provided by the San Diego County Water Authority, which purchases water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Imported water is a blend of Colorado River water and State Water Project water.

The Otay Water District also purchases treated water from the City of San Diego and the Helix Water District.

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 human activity.



Safety & Security

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA 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.

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 1-800-426-4791 or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html>.

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. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



In 2004, Otay Water District introduced the Watchdog Program to utilize another vital asset - the community - for the protection of local water supplies

In this era of domestic security concerns, drinking water professionals are working vigilantly to safeguard our water supplies. Billions of dollars have been spent nationwide by water suppliers to address security needs, including improved fencing, lock systems, lights, alarms and other related measures.

Public Participation

The Otay Water District encourages public participation from the customers we serve. The board of directors generally meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30pm at district headquarters, 2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd., Spring Valley. We encourage the public to attend these meetings. For directions, agendas, or for further information, call (619) 670-2222 or visit our website at www.otaywater.gov.

Otay Water District Board of Directors

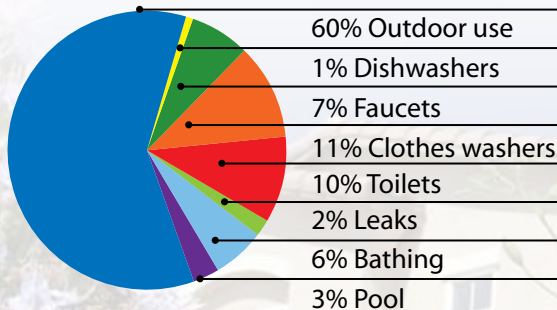
Gary Croucher, President, Division 3
Jose Lopez, Vice President, Division 4
Jaime Bonilla, Treasurer, Division 2
Larry Breitfelder, Director, Division 1
Mark Robak, Director, Division 5

Conservation

It's Easy to Conserve!

San Diego County has a semi-arid climate that receives only about 10 inches of rainfall per year. This does not provide enough water to meet local needs and the region must import as much as 90 percent of its water from the Colorado River and Northern California. To maintain our quality of life and ensure adequate water supplies now and for future generations, San Diego County residents are encouraged to make a conscious effort to use our limited supply of water as efficiently as possible.

The Otay Water District offers a number of programs to save water both indoors and outdoors. For useful ways to conserve water around the house visit our website at www.otaywater.gov and click on conservation.



ABOUT 60% OF THE WATER USED BY HOUSEHOLDS IS USED OUTDOORS. FOR WAYS TO SAVE WATER ON YOUR LANDSCAPING, VISIT THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN AT WWW.THEGARDEN.ORG

Fluoridation

Drinking water supplies for all 18 million Southern California residents will be fluoridated beginning in late 2007. The Otay Water District purchases drinking water from the San Diego County Water Authority that has been treated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). Metropolitan is a consortium of Southern California cities and water districts that provides drinking water to residents in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. Metropolitan provides approximately half of all treated water consumed in San Diego County.

In 2003, the Metropolitan board of directors adopted a policy of converting its water treatment processes to add fluoride, a tooth cavity fighting agent. This was in response to the California Fluoridation Act of 1995 that required all water systems with more than 10,000 service connections or customers to fluoridate their water.

The Otay Water District also purchases "raw" water from the San Diego County Water Authority, which is treated by the Helix Water District (Helix) at the R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant. Helix has also converted its treatment process to add fluoride and will begin delivering fluoridated water concurrently with Metropolitan.

The Otay Water District neither advocates nor opposes fluoridation. As a community water district regulated by state law, the Otay Water District had no part in the fluoridation decision. It is our policy, however, to keep our customers fully informed on issues affecting your water.

The Otay Water District encourages customer concerned about fluoridation or who are already taking fluoride supplements to talk to their medical or dental professional.

We encourage anyone with questions concerning fluoridation to visit the following websites:

The American Dental Association
www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/

Center for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/OralHealth/factsheets/fl-background.htm

Otay Water District Annual Water Quality Report

Parameter	Units	State or Federal MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	State DLR	Range Average	Treatment Plant Effluents			Major Sources in Drinking Water
						Skinner Plant	Helix Plant	Otay Plant	
Percent State Project Water	%	NA	NA	NA	Range Average	41-59 51	41-59 51	41-59 51	

PRIMARY STANDARDS - Mandatory Health Related Standards

CLARITY

Combined Filter	NTU	0.3			Highest	0.11	0.11	<0.3	
Effluent Turbidity	%	95 (a)	NA	NA	% < 0.3	100%	100%	100%	Soil runoff

MICROBIOLOGICAL

Total Coliform Bacteria	%	5.0(b)	(0)	NA	Otay Distribution System =0.1%				Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	(c)	(c)	(0)	NA	Otay Distribution System =0.0%				Human and animal fecal waste

INORGANIC CHEMICALS

Aluminum (f)	ppb	1000	600	50		Range: Average:	ND ND	110-190 143	ND ND	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits; erosion
Fluoride (naturally-occurring)	ppm	2.0	1	0.1		Range: Average:	0.16-0.23 0.20	0.19-0.23 0.21	0.18-0.29 0.24	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives for tooth health
Nitrate (as N) (g)	ppm	10	10	0.4		Range: Average:	ND-0.45 ND	ND-0.32 ND	ND-2.21 ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion

RADIOLOGICALS (f)

Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	(0)	3.0		Range: Average:	ND ND	1.5-3.2 2.4	ND ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	pCi/L	50	(0)	4.0		Range: Average:	ND ND	ND-59 ND	ND ND	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	1.0		Range: Average:	1.5 1.5	ND-2.2 ND	ND-2.54 ND	Erosion of natural deposits

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS PRECURSORS (FEDERAL RULE)

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (j)	ppb	80	NA	0.5	Otay Distribution System: 40-65 Highest RAA=56					By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (j,k)	ppb	60	NA	1	Otay Distribution System: 16-35 Highest RAA=23					By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Chlorine Residual	ppm	[4.0]	[4.0]	NA	Otay Distribution System: 0.3-5.3 Highest RAA=2.6					Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Bromate (l)	ppb	10	(0)	6.0		Range: Highest RAA:	NA NA	ND ND	NA NA	By-product of drinking water ozonation
DBP Precursors Control (TOC) (j)	ppm	TT	NA	0.30		Range: Average:	TT TT	2.1-2.9 2.4	1.1-6.6 3.8	Various natural and man-made sources

PRIMARY STANDARDS - Lead and Copper rule--Sampled at the tap in 2005

Copper	ppm	NL=1.3	0.17	0.05	0 sites above NL out of 54 sampled 90th percentile=0.33					Internal corrosion of household pipes; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	NL:=15	2	5	0 sites above NL out of 54 sampled 90th percentile=2.9					Internal corrosion of household pipes; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards

Aluminum (f)	ppb	200	600	50		Range: Average:	ND ND	110-190 143	ND ND	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	NA		Range: Average:	68-95 78	64-88 77	73-105 89	Runoff/leaching from from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	Units	15	NA	NA		Range: Average:	1-2 2	1-2.5 1	ND-4 1.2	Naturally occurring organic materials
Corrosivity (m) (as Saturation Index)	SI	non-corrosive	NA	NA		Range: Average:	0.17-0.45 0.28	NA NA	0.34-0.88 0.60	Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors
Odor Threshold (n)	TON	3	NA	1		Range: Average:	2 2	NA NA	ND-2 ND	Naturally-occurring organic materials

Parameter	Units	State or Federal MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	State DLR	Range Average	Treatment Plant Effluents			Major Sources in Drinking Water
						Skinner Plant	Helix Plant	Otay Plant	
SECONDARY STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards (continued)									
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	NA	NA	Range: 650-880 Average: 748	658-710 684	712-972 816	Substances that form ions in water, seawater influence	
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	0.5	Range: 118-184 Average: 154	140-170 153	96-141 120	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes	
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1000	NA	NA	Range: 381-518 Average: 438	430 430	361-485 443	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence	
UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING									
Boron	ppb	NA	NL = 1000	100	Range: 100-160 Average: 140	120-140 145	ND-147 ND	Runoff from natural deposits; seawater influence	
Chromium VI (o)	ppb	NA	NA	1	Range: 0.04-0.12 Average: 0.08	ND ND	ND ND	Industrial waste discharge	
ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS									
<i>List 1 - Assessment Monitoring</i>									
Perchlorate	ppb	NA	NA	4	Range: ND Average: ND	ND ND	ND ND	Industrial waste discharge	
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 80-100 Average: 88	88-122 100	81-136 107		
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 40-55 Average: 47	43-95 58	40-50 46		
Chlorate (r)	ppb	NA	NL = 800	20	Range: 25-41 Average: 52-104	NA NA	NA NA	By-Product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes	
Hardness	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 174-234 Average: 200	186-200 191	169-226 198		
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 18-23.5 Average: 20	19 19	17-25 20		
pH	pH Units	NA	NA	NA	Range: 8.1-8.2 Average: 8.1	7.5-7.9 7.6	8.1-8.6 8.4		
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 3.5-4.3 Average: 3.7	3.6-4.0 3.7	3.1-4.5 3.8		
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range: 62-88 Average: 72	61.68 65	61-68 75		
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (t)	ppm	TT	NA	0.30	Range: 2.0-3.1 Average: 2.4	2.1-2.9 2.4	1.1-6.6 3.8	Various natural and man-made sources	

Footnotes & Abbreviations

(a)	The turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is an indicator of treatment performance. The monthly averages and ranges of turbidity shown in the Secondary Standards were based on the treatment plant effluent.
(b)	Total coliform MCLs: No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be total coliform-positive.
(c)	Fecal coliform/E.coli MCLs: The occurrence of 2 consecutive total coliform-positive samples, one of which contains fecal coliform/E. coli, constitutes an acute MCL violation. The MCL was not violated in 2006.
(f)	Aluminum has both primary and secondary standards.
(g)	State MCL is 45 mg/L as nitrate, which equals 10 mg/L as N.
(m)	Metropolitan conducted four (4) quarters of monitoring from August 2005 to April 2006. Reported results were taken from the first two (2) quarters of 2006. Helix radiological monitoring was four quarters in 2005.
(j)	In 2006, Metropolitan and Helix were in compliance with all provisions of the Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products (D/DBP) Rule. The State of California had adopted the D/DBP Rule effective June 2006. TOC provides a medium for the formation on DBPs. Metropolitan was also in compliance with the DBP precursor (TOC) control portion of the stage 1 D/DBP regulation.
(k)	DLR = 1.0 ppb for each HAAS analyte (dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, and dibromoacetic acid) except for monochloroacetic acid which has a DLR = 2.0 ppb.
(o)	MWD Chromium VI reporting level is 0.03 ppb.
(p)	Both PHG (issued by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment) and NL (issued by CA Department of Health Services) were set at 6 ppb. Perchlorate reporting level is 2 ppb.
(q)	Data collected from January 2002 to January 2003. Minimum reporting levels are as stipulated in the Federal Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR). List 1 - Assessment Monitoring consists of 12 chemical contaminants for which standard analytical methods were available.
(r)	MWD ranges for the plant effluent and the distribution system were taken from two (2) quarterly samples. Distribution system samples were taken from three (3) locations.
(t)	MWD average and range for TOC were taken from weekly samples collected. Helix TOC results were from monthly samples.

AI	Aggressiveness Index
AL	Action Level
CFU/ml	Colony-Forming Units per Milliliter
DCCA	Dimethyl Tetrachloroterephthalate
DBP	Disinfection By-Products
DLR	Detection Limits for purposes of Reporting
HAAS	Haloacetic Acids (five)
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
MPN	Most Probable Number
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level based on the running annual average. Also to MRDLG: based on the running annual average
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
N	Nitrogen
NA	Not Applicable
ND	None Detected
NL	Notification Level
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
PG/L	picoCuries per Liter
PHG	Public Health Goal
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
RAA	Running Annual Average
TOC	Total Organic Carbon
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes
TT	Treatment Technique
µS/cm	microSiemen per centimeter; also equivalent to µmho/cm (micromho per centimeter)

Su Reporte de Confianza al Consumidor

Otay Water District (OWD) esta orgulloso de proporcionarle su reporte de confianza al consumidor. Este folleto es una fotografía de la calidad del agua del año pasado. Vienen incluidos los detalles de donde proviene el agua, que contiene y como se compara con los estándares del estado.

La información incluida en este reporte de calidad del agua representa una pequeña fracción de lo que hacemos para asegurar agua potable de alta calidad.

Usando laboratorios certificados por el estado, rutinariamente escudriñamos el suministro de agua por un completo rango de elementos que tienen el potencial de degradar la calidad de su agua.

Así como en años pasados, su agua potable reunió todos los estándares de salud del EPA y el estado para agua potable. OWD de una manera vigilante salvaguarda los suministros de agua y una vez más estamos orgullosos de reportar que nuestro sistema nunca ha violado un nivel contaminante máximo o ningún otro estándar de calidad del agua.

Fluorización

Los suministros de agua potable para más de 18 millones de residentes del sur de California será flúorizada empezando al final del 2007. OWD compra agua potable del San Diego County Water Authority y que ha sido tratada por la Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). Metropolitan es un consorcio de ciudades del sur de California y de distritos de agua que proveen de agua a los residentes de los condados de Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino y Ventura.

Metropolitan provee aproximadamente la mitad del agua tratada consumida en el condado de San Diego.

OWD no esta ni a favor ni en contra de la fluorización. Como somos un distrito de agua regulado por leyes estatales, OWD no tomo parte en la decisión de fluorización. Pero es nuestra política mantener a nuestros clientes completamente informados sobre cuestiones que afecten su agua.

OWD invita a que los clientes preocupados sobre la fluorización o los clientes que ya están tomando suplementos de fluoro que hablen con sus médicos o dentistas.

The American Dental Association –
www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/
Center for Disease Control and Prevention –
www.cdc.gov/OralHealth/factsheets/fl-background.htm

Una Plática Directa Sobre Agua

Todos tienen interés en la calidad de su agua y algunos a veces preguntan, “¿Puedo sentirme seguro bebiendo agua de la llave?” En el Condado de San Diego, la respuesta es que sí. Sistemas Públicos de Agua, tales como los operados por Otay Water District, deben cumplir con estándares para agua potable muy altos impuestos por la (EPA) United States Environmental Protection Agency.

El agua de la llave es regulada de una manera más rigurosa que el agua embotellada y debe cumplir con todos los estándares de calidad de agua tanto federales como estatales. Estas regulaciones son típicamente límites numéricos en las concentraciones, o cantidades de ciertos contaminantes en el agua. Para poder cumplir con estas regulaciones, los suministros de agua deben proporcionar un tratamiento específico, como desinfección y filtración, para asegurar que el agua sea potable.

Si todavía estas preocupado o prefieres beber agua con un sabor diferente, puedes comprar agua embotellada, pero puede costar hasta 1,000 veces más que el agua de la llave. Además, existen otras opciones más económicas que comprar agua embotellada. Para mejorar el sabor o el olor del agua de la llave, la cual esta tratada con cloro para asegurar una desinfección adecuada y mantener su alta calidad, la manera más fácil de hacer esto es dejar un recipiente abierto en el refrigerador toda la noche. Al exponer el agua al aire permite que cantidades pequeñas de cloro se evaporen. Además enfriar el agua la hace más refrescante.

Otras opciones incluyen sistemas de filtración para casas que son convenientes, mejoran el sabor, y solo cuestan una fracción del precio de agua embotellada. Los consumidores que deciden comprar una unidad de tratamiento de agua para casas deben leer cuidadosamente la información del producto para que comprendan lo que están comprando. También, deben seguir cuidadosamente las instrucciones de manufactura para la operación y mantenimiento del sistema, y recordar cambiarle el filtro de una manera regular.





For More Information

The Otay Water District appreciates your comments and active participation. If you have questions about the information contained in this report, or testing process, please contact Gary Stalker, System Operations Manager, at (619) 670-2228 or visit our website at www.otaywater.gov. You can also find helpful information by contacting the following agencies:

State of California Department of Health Services
 Division of Drinking Water and
 Environmental Management
 1350 Front Street, Room 2050
 San Diego, CA 92115
www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/

United States Environmental Protection Agency
 Office of Water (4101 M)
 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20460
 Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html>

Contact Information

General Information	(619) 670-2222
Emergencies (24-Hour)	(619) 670-2207
Water Quality Lab	(619) 670-2294
Customer Service	(619) 670-2777
Automated Information	(619) 670-2700
Engineering	(619) 670-2282
Development Services	(619) 670-2241
Public Information Office	(619) 670-2256
Water Conservation	(619) 670-2291
24-Hour Job Line	(619) 670-2700x2
Speakers Bureau	(619) 670-2256

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

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

Chi tiết này thật quan trọng. Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị

Comparative Costs

Beverage	Average Cost Per Gallon
Municipal Tap Water	Less than 1 cent
Cola	\$2.64
Milk	\$3.30
Sports Drinks	\$13.00
Designer Bottled Water	\$21.19

OTAY WATER DISTRICT
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