Ramona Municipal Water District

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

This information is about your water supply and test results measured in 2002.

The purpose of this report is to inform and enhance consumer understanding about the quality of the drinking water provided by the Ramona Municipal Water District. Federal and State regulations require all U.S. public water suppliers to produce an annual Consumer Confidence Report.

The quality of the water provided by the Ramona Municipal Water District meets all of the Primary and Secondary standards as set by the California State Department of Health Services (CDHS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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.

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

Contaminants that may be present in source water before it is treated 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.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **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 system.

RMWD obtained its water from the following sources during 2002:

- **The San Diego County Water Authority** (CWA) purchases water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This water is a blend of surface water from the Colorado River and runoff from the Northern California Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is treated at two MWD Lake Skinner Filtration Plants before reaching San Diego County.
- **The District's John C. Bargar Water Treatment Plant** treats surface water from Lake Sutherland, located northeast of Ramona. Lake Sutherland is owned by the City of San Diego and relies on rainfall to fill.
- **The District's Well Field** provided a small percentage of water near the downtown area during last year's drought.

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

Ramona Municipal Water District
105 Earlham Street
Ramona CA 92065
760-789-1330

Tom Brammell, General Manager

Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane.

The table on the back of this page lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2002 calendar year, unless otherwise noted. The State requires monitoring 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. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber.
Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Water Quality Data Table

Terms & abbreviations used in the following table:

- **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.
- **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 **(EPA)**.
- **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.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard or PDWS:** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirement.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumers tap. **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs are set by the U.S. **EPA**. The District Chlorine **MRDL** = 4 ppm.
- **Treatment Technique**
- **Not Applicable** (NA); **Not Detectable at Testing Limit** (ND); **Not Collected** (NC); **Parts Per Billion** (ppb) or micrograms per liter.
- **Parts Per Million** (ppm): parts per million or milligrams per liter; **Picocuries Per Liter** (pCi/l): a measure of radiation.
- **Hardness** in water refers to the dissolved minerals calcium and magnesium which may cause mineral deposits.

The harder the water, the more soap is required. One grain per gallon = 17 ppm.

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS with Detected Chemicals & Constituents								
Contaminant (unit)	**State**	**PHG**	**Bargar**	**Bargar**	**CWA**	**CWA**	**Well**	**Well**
Microbiological Contaminants	**MCL**	**(MCLG)**	**Water**	**Range**	**Water**	**Range**	**Water**	**Range**
Turbidity (NTU) TT=1	1	NA	0.23	=high	0.11	=high	0.23	=high
TT=% of samples < 0.3 NTU	>95%		100%		100%		100%	
Typical source of Contaminant	Soil runoff							
Total Coliform Bacteria (month%)	<5.0	0	0%	0-0.0%	0.02%	0-0.12%	0%	0-0.0%
MCL= if more than 5% samples are positive per month								
Typical source of Contaminant	Naturally present in the environment.							
Radionuclides (pCi/L)			Year 2000	Data	Year 1999	Data	Year 2002	Data
Gross Beta Particle Activity	50	NA	NC		5.24	ND-7.48	NC	
Typical source of Contaminant	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.							
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	15	NA	0		3.99	ND-5.53	14.5	8.9-21.8
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.							
Combined Radium	5	NA	0.09	0-0.3	1.01	ND-2.36	NC	
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.							
Uranium	20	0.5	ND	ND-ND	2.61	ND-3.18	5	2.0-8.0
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.							
Inorganic Contaminants								
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	ND		ND	ND–ND	0.027	ND-.08
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes.							
Arsenic (ppb)	50	NA	2.3		ND	ND–ND	2.5	ND-3.9
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.							
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.3		0.24	0.19-0.26	0.53	ND-.6
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum							
Nitrate (as Nitrate NO3 ppm)	45	45	< 2.0		ND	ND	12	3.1-18.9
Typical source of Contaminant	Natural deposit erosion; runoff, leaching from fertilizer use; septic tanks, sewage.							
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	2	0 sites out of 30 sites found above the AL					
Typical source of Contaminant	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits.							
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	0.17	0 sites out of 30 sites found above the AL					
Typical source of Contaminant	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits.							
Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors								
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	MCL = 80	NA	The MCL is based upon a system wide running annual average.					
	The TTHM range was **46** to **160** and the system-wide running annual average was **59.2**.							
Typical source of Contaminant	By-product of drinking water chlorination:							
Health Effects Language								
Haloacetic acids (ppb)	MCL = 60 | The HAA5 range was **12.3** to **99** and the system-wide running annual average was **28.7**.							
RMWD has contracted with an Engineering Firm to develop process modifications at Bargar Plant to lower chlorine by-products (TTHM & HAA5).								
Secondary Standards – Aesthetic Standards								
Chloride (ppm)	500	NA	52		83	78-92	25.3	210-290
Specific Conductance (umho/cm)	1600	NA	520		852	830-902	1533	1300-1700
Sulfate (ppm)	500	NA	24		179	162-191	117	110-120
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	NA	320		509	495-543	977	830-1100
Methyl-tert-butyl-ether MTBE (ppb)	5	13	ND		0.6	ND-1.4	ND	
ICR-Disinfection By-Products								
Chloral hydrate (ppb)	NA	NA	NC		5.1	3.5-7.0	NC	
Cyanogen chloride (ppb)	NA	NA	NC		3.4	2.3-5.5	NC	
Haloacetonitriles (ppb)	NA	NA	NC		8.7	5.6-17	NC	
Haloketones (ppb)	NA	NA	NC		1.6	1.3-2.2	NC	
Total organic halides (ppb)	NA	NA	NC		138	115-157	NC	
Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring								
Boron (ppb)	NA	AL=1,000	NC		130	110-140	ND	
Perchlorate (ppb)	NA	AL=18	NC		ND	ND-5	ND	
Additional Parameters								
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	38		79	76-86	177	150-200
Hardness (ppm) (as CACO3)	NA	NA	160		241	230-250	463	390-500

For more information about your water or this report, please call Alan Birket at (760) 788-2236.