

Ramona Municipal Water District

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

This information is about your water supply and test results measured in 2003.

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 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 two sources during 2003:

- **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 the MWD Lake Skinner Filtration Plant before reaching San Diego County.

Source Water Assessment In December 2002, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California completed its source water assessment of its Colorado River and State Water Project supplies. Colorado River supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to recreation, urban / storm water runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed and wastewater. State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban / storm water runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting Metropolitan Water District by phone at (213) 217-6850.

- **The District's John C. Bargar Water Treatment Plant** treats surface water purchased from Lake Sutherland, which is located northeast of Ramona. Lake Sutherland is owned by the City of San Diego and relies on rainfall to fill.

Source Water Assessment In February 2002, the City of San Diego completed a source water assessment for Lake Sutherland. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activity associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: use of watercraft for surface water recreation on source water reservoirs. In addition, the source is considered vulnerable to these activities: pump out toilets / sewage holding tanks, recreation on surface water streams / lakes, gas stations, historic mining, parking lots >50 spaces, parks, highways, road-right-of-way (herbicide use), water supply wells and storm water discharge. One potential contaminating activity that is of special concern is the use of watercraft for surface water recreation on Sutherland Reservoir. The use of watercraft has lead to measurable quantities of Methyl-Tert-Butyl-Ether (MTBE) in the source water. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting the Ramona Municipal Water District listed below.

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).

The table on the back of this page lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2003 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.

Ramona Municipal Water District

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Tom Brammell, General Manager

Board of Directors

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Douglas H. Wilsman, Vice President
James B. Robinson, Secretary
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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.

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

RMWD 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
- **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 (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 consumer tap. MRDLs are set by the U.S. EPA. The District Chlorine MRDL = 4 ppm.
- **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.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **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.
- **Clarity or Turbidity** 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 1.0 at any time. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance.

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS with Detected Chemicals & Constituents						
Contaminant (unit)	State	PHG	Bargar	Bargar	CWA	CWA
	MCL	(MCLG)	Water	Range	Water	Range
Clarity						
Turbidity (NTU)	TT = 1	NA	0.27 = Highest		0.09 = Highest	
TT=% of samples < 0.3 NTU	0.3 - 95%		100% < 0.3		100% < 0.3	
Typical source of Contaminant	Soil runoff.					
Microbiological						
Total Coliform Bacteria	<5% per Month	0	0%	0-0.0%	0.02%	0-0.11%
Typical source of Contaminant	Naturally present in the environment.					
Radionuclides (pCi/L)						
			Year 2000	Data	Year 2002-03	Data
Gross Beta Particle Activity	50	NA	5.04		ND	ND-4.08
Typical source of Contaminant	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.					
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	15	NA	0		3.41	2.99-3.96
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.					
Combined Radium	5	NA	0.09	0-0.3	ND	ND-0.51
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.					
Uranium	20	0.5	ND	ND-ND	ND	ND-2.39
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits.					
Organic Chemicals						
Methyl-tert-butyl-ether MTBE (ppb)	13	13	ND		ND	ND-0.5
Typical source of Contaminant	Leakage from underground gasoline storage tanks and pipelines.					
Inorganic Chemicals						
Arsenic (ppb)	50	NA	2.9	2.7-3.1	ND	ND-ND
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.					
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.3		0.22	0.15-0.27
Typical source of Contaminant	These levels are naturally occurring in the water but Fluoride is not currently added to your water.					
Nitrate (as Nitrate NO3 ppm)	45	45	< 2		ND	ND
Typical source of Contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.					
Selenium (ppb)	50	(50)	6.5		ND	ND
Typical source of Contaminant	Refineries, mines, and chemical waste discharges; runoff.					
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, Residuals						
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	NA	The MCL is based upon a system-wide running annual average.			
Typical source of Contaminant	The TTHM range was 35 to 190 and the system-wide running annual average was 58.9					
Haloacetic acids (ppb)	60	NA	The MCL is based upon a system-wide running annual average.			
Typical source of Contaminant	The HAA5 range was 17 to 94 and the system-wide running annual average was 28.2					
Chloramines (ppm)	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	Distribution system running annual average = 1.8			

Secondary Standards – Aesthetic Standards						
Chloride (ppm)	500	NA	62		81	76-92
Specific Conductance (umho/cm)	1600	NA	550		816	745-922
Sulfate (ppm)	500	NA	45		171	147-206
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	NA	330		487	436-563
Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring						
Boron (ppb)	NA	AL=1,000	ND		130	110-140
Perchlorate (ppb)	NA	AL=4	ND		ND	ND-ND
Additional Parameters						
Alkalinity (ppm)	NA	NA	135	120-140	112	100-124
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	45		76	66-89
Hardness (ppm) (as CaCO3)	NA	NA	140		227	209-264

• **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. To get grains per gallon hardness value, divide the mg/l value by 17.

In 2003, the Ramona Municipal Water District installed a new pipeline and additional pumping capacity at it's Poway pump station, which will enable the District to provide a more reliable supply of water to Ramona.

The District has information available on additional chemicals that were tested for, but not detected.

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