

HIDDEN VALLEY

2002

WQCCR-00053



WATER

quality report

Department of



Water Resources



# 2002 WATER QUALITY REPORT

CONSTITUENTS	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (mg/L)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (mg/L)	HIDDEN VALLEY WELL #3	HIDDEN VALLEY WELL #5	TMWA WATER
<b>PRIMARY STANDARDS:</b>					
Antimony	0.006	0.006	<0.001	<0.001	<0.002
Arsenic	0.05	0.05	0.012	0.005	<0.002
Asbestos (mfl)	7	0	NOT DETECTED IN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		
Barium	2	2	0.03	0.04	<0.03
Beryllium	0.004	0.004	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Cadmium	0.005	0.005	<0.001	<0.001	<0.002
Chromium	0.1	0.1	<0.005	0.002	<0.005
Cyanide	0.2	0.2	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
Fluoride	4	4	0.09	0.04	<0.25
Mercury	0.002	0.002	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005
Nickel	0.1	0.1	<0.001	<0.001	<0.005
Nitrate (as N)	10	10	1.0	2.5	<0.5
Nitrite (as N)	1	1	<0.01	<0.01	<0.25
Selenium	0.05	0.05	<0.001	<0.001	<0.01
Thallium	0.002	0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0001
<b>SECONDARY STANDARDS:</b>					
Chloride	250		6	13	7
Color	15		3	3	<5
Copper	1		0.01	0.01	<0.02
Fluoride	2		0.09	0.04	<0.25
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	0.5		<0.1	<0.1	<0.05
Iron	0.3		0.01	0	<0.1
Magnesium	125		9	14	0.3
Manganese	0.05		0	0	0
pH	6.5 to 8.5		8.0	7.9	8.0
Sulfate	250		18	19	9
Zinc	5		0.01	0.01	<0.1
Total Dissolved Solids	500		173	220	54
Lead	0		<0.005	<0.005	0.015
Total Trihalomethanes	0.08	0	0	0	0.028
Tetrachloroethene (PCE)	0.005	0.005	0	0.0007	0
Hardness	No Standard		95	148	30
Calcium	No Standard		23	36	6
Potassium	No Standard		4	4	1
Sodium	No Standard		16	12	7
Silica	No Standard		37	37	19
<b>RADIOCHEMISTRY (pCi/L)</b>					
Gross Alpha Emitters	15	(pCi/L)	<3	<3	<3
Gross Beta/Photon Emitters	50		6	4	<0.5
Radon	No Standard	0	650	725	<50
<b>MICROBIOLOGY (Samples collected from throughout the system)</b>					
Total Coliform	1 positive sample/month	0 positive samples	Coliform was not detected		
<b>LEACHABLE LEAD AND COPPER (Samples collected from throughout the system)</b>					
Lead		ACTION LEVELS	90TH PERCENTILE		
		0.015	0.005		
Copper		1.3	0.1		

## How To Read This Water Quality Chart

The far left column, titled **Constituents**, lists the naturally occurring and man-made inorganic contaminants that are monitored by the Washoe County Department of Water Resources, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards. The **Primary Inorganic Standards** are monitored to ensure the water is safe to drink, and the **Secondary Inorganic Standards** are monitored to ensure the water is aesthetically pleasing.

The second column, titled **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**, is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water defined by the EPA. The third column, titled **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**, is the level of a contaminant in drinking water in which there is no known or expected risk to health defined by the EPA. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

The subsequent columns show what contaminant level, if any, was contained in the indicated water sources. In most cases, your water comes from a blending of these supplies, meaning a blend of water from various wells. The map lists all the sources supplying a specific water system.

## Things to Know About Your H<sub>2</sub>O

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking 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).

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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) monitors their source water and treated water for Cryptosporidium on a weekly basis. Cryptosporidium is rarely detected in the Truckee River and has not been detected in treated water that goes to your tap. If you have any questions regarding TMWA water quality please contact our office.

## Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## Lead and Copper

The Washoe County Department of Water Resources has completed monitoring in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. According to the Lead and Copper Rule the 90th percentile lead and copper concentrations are not to exceed action levels of 0.015 mg/L for Lead and 1.3 mg/L for Copper. Please refer to the table for the most recent lead and copper results. If you would like more information regarding the Rule or would like to participate in future sampling please contact our office.

## Glossary of Terms

In this report you may find terms or abbreviations you may not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

**ACTION LEVEL** - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**COLOR UNITS (CU)** - is the standard unit of measure for water color.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)** - is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)** - is the level of a contaminant in drinking water in which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (mg/L)** - one milligram per liter corresponds to one penny in \$10,000 (same as Parts Per Million or PPM)

**MILLION FIBERS PER LITER (mfl)** - is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**pH** - pH is a measure of acidity. A pH value of less than 7 is acidic, values greater than 7 are alkaline.

**PIECOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/L)** - is a measure of water radioactivity.

**THE SYMBOL "<"** - means less than

## WHY WE TEST THE WATER.

The Washoe County Department of Water Resources is committed to be the leader in the provision of integrated water resources services to our community. Our mission is to provide quality product and service to our community through teamwork, accountability and professionalism.

Regular testing of water resources is one way we fulfill that mission. This report provides water chemistry data for the period of July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002.

We monitor each well for volatile organic compounds (solvents) and semi-volatile organic compounds (pesticides and herbicides). Volatile and semi-volatile constituents have not been detected in any of the County groundwater wells. If you would like a list of the regulated and unregulated compounds we monitor, please contact our office.

The Department also manages a comprehensive methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) monitoring program. MTBE, a fuel additive, has not been detected in any of the Department of Water Resources' wells.

The Department of Water Resources has conducted source water assessments for each well. This source water assessment identifies the origins of contaminants within the service area and indicates the susceptibility of the water system to such contaminants. If you are aware of any source of contamination located near the wells, please contact our water quality section. Source water assessment information is available from our office upon request.

The Washoe County Department of Water Resources  
telephone number is 954-4600.

