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Water System



PCWA UPDATE

Placer County Water Agency

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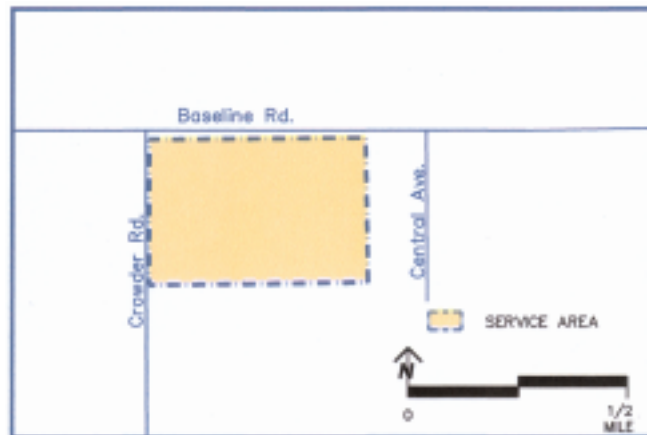
Annual Water Quality Report Shows PCWA Water is Safe, Healthy

The Placer County Water Agency is proud to supply good, safe and healthy water.

We are pleased to report this year - as we have reported each year since 1991 - that the drinking water supplied to you meets or exceeds state and federal public health standards for drinking water quality and safety.

California water retailers, including PCWA, are required by law to inform customers about the quality of their drinking water. The results of PCWA's testing and monitoring programs of 2005 are reported in this newsletter.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact the PCWA Customer Service Center at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030.



Bianchi Estates Service Area

The Source of Your Water Supply

Your water originates in the Sierra snowpack. Surface water runoff flows from the American River watershed, reaching from I-80 on the north and west, the Sierra Crest in the east and the ridges east and south of Highway 50. It then enters the North, Middle and South forks of the American River and flows into Folsom Lake. It is supplemented with water from the Yuba and Bear river watersheds which passes through Lake Spaulding and then flows through the PG&E system to Folsom Lake. The water is treated in the Roseville treatment plant and delivered through the Roseville system to Bianchi Estates. PCWA and Roseville have completed a Sanitary Survey and Source Water Assessment of the American River watershed and PCWA has completed one for the Yuba and Bear river watersheds. It was found the watersheds were vulnerable to contaminants from highways, roadways and railroads near rivers and canals, septic tanks, utility pipelines crossing canals, upstream recreation, historic and active mining operations, utility operations, and timber harvest. Contaminants associated with these activities that could post a threat to source water include but are not limited to sediment, bacteria, viruses, parasites, pesticides, herbicides and trace metals. Historically, contaminant levels have been very low in the watersheds. Full details of the Source Water Assessments may be seen at the Placer County Water Agency Business Center in Auburn.

Placer County Water Agency

Consumer Confidence Report for 2005 (Reported in 2006)

BIANCHI ESTATES Water System

Primary Drinking Water Standards

Constituent	Units	State MCL (or MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (or MRDLG)	Level (Range)	Average	Typical Source of Contaminant
Turbidity						
<i>Highest yearly value:</i>	NTU	TT=1	None	0.36		Soil Runoff
<i>Percentage of samples <0.3</i>	NTU	TT=<0.3	None	99.95%		Soil Runoff
<i>Turbidity is a measurement of clarity or the level of suspended matter in the water. In reporting turbidity, the highest single measurement and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits are specified.</i>						
Fluoride	mg/L	2	1	0.77-0.83	0.80	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
<i>Fluoride is added to help prevent dental caries. The optimal fluoride level is 0.8 mg/L</i>						
Total Trihalomethanes	ug/L	80	None	32-56.5	47	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids	ug/L	60	None	16-39	25	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	mg/L	{4}	{4}	0.46-0.79	0.63	Drinking water disinfectant
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	TT=RAL<2	None	1.4-1.6	1.4	Various natural and manmade sources

Secondary Drinking Water Standards

Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	None	56	-	Runoff, leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	umho/cm	600	None	52	-	Substances that form ions when in water
Chloride	mg/L	500	None	2.9	-	Runoff, leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	mg/L	500	None	5.7	-	Runoff, leaching from natural deposits
Silver	ug/L	100	None	ND-33	ND	Industrial discharge
Odor	Units	3	None	1	-	Naturally occurring organic materials

DEFINITIONS: Understanding Your Water Quality Report

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCL's are set as close to the PHG's (or MCLG's) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCL's are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at a consumer's tap.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's are set by the USEPA.

Primary Drinking Water Standard. MCL's for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

PHG: Public Health Goal. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

RAL: Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

TT: Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

mg/L: milligrams per liter.

ug/L: parts per billion

pCi/L: picocuries per liter. A measure of radiation.

umho/cm: Micromhoes per centimeter. Measurement of water's ability to conduct electrical current.

<: Less Than

ND: Non-Detected

NA: Non-Applicable

Monitoring of Unregulated Substances

Constituent	Units	State MCL (or MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (or MRDLG)	Level (Range)	Average	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	mg/L	None	None	3.6	-	Runoff, leaching from natural deposits
Hardness	mg/L	None	None	27.5	-	Runoff, leaching from natural deposits

About Drinking Water

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's [Safe Drinking Water Hotline \(1-800-426-4791\)](tel:1-800-426-4791).

Ensuring Your Safety

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the state Department of Health Services prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Note to At-Risk Water Users

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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

Environmental Influences on Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

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 salt and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides or herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Bianchi Estates System Note on Turbidity

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in most surface waters. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. The City of Roseville tests for Cryptosporidium in the untreated water from Folsom Lake once a month. During 2005, Cryptosporidium was detected during January monitoring at a level of 0.09 Cryptosporidium per Liter and during August monitoring at a level of 0.1 Cryptosporidium per Liter. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause an abdominal infection. Symptoms include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at a greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.



**PLACER COUNTY
WATER AGENCY**

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**Annual Water Quality Report to
PCWA Customers**

**Bianchi Estates
Treated Water System**

2005 Testing Results

Measurements reported here were collected in 2005 (*unless otherwise noted*). In accordance with federal regulations, data is from the most recent tests. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Public Meetings

The Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors meets regularly the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2 p.m. in the Placer County Board of Supervisors chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, in Auburn. The public is welcome.

www.pcwa.net

This newsletter is published as a public service of the
**PLACER COUNTY
WATER AGENCY**

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FOR INFORMATION on water quality or questions about this report, PCWA customers are invited to contact the PCWA Customer Service Center at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030.