

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

*Water testing performed in 2006*



*Proudly Presented By:*

CALAVERAS COUNTY  
WATER DISTRICT

PWS ID#: 0510005

## Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2006. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Fred Burnett, Regulatory Affairs Manager, at (209) 754-3543, ext. 35.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

## Where Does My Water Come From?

Calaveras County Water District customers are fortunate because they enjoy an abundant water supply from three sources. CCWD has rights to the water on the three major rivers that flow through our county—Calaveras, Mokelumne and Stanislaus. Our five water systems draw from one of these surface water sources. The source for our Copper Cove system is the Stanislaus River at Lake Tulloch. The source for the Ebbetts Pass system is the Stanislaus River at McKay's Reservoir. The source for our Jenny Lind system is the Calaveras River below Hogan Dam. The source for our Sheep Ranch System is San Antonio Creek below White Pines Reservoir—a tributary to the Calaveras River. The source for our West Point system is the Bear Creek tributary to the Middle Fork of the Mokelumne River.

All three river watersheds have been surveyed for potential contaminants and the watersheds were determined to be pristine. No manmade organic constituents have ever been detected. These survey reports are available for viewing at the district office in San Andreas. To learn more about our watershed on the Internet, go to U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed Web site at [www.epa.gov/surf](http://www.epa.gov/surf).

### Summary of Source Water Assessments

An assessment of the drinking water sources for all CCWD water systems was completed in 2002-2003. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities:

• Gas stations (present and historic)	JL, CC, EP, SR, WP
• Chemical/petroleum processing/storage	JL, CC, SR
• Dry cleaners	JL, CC, EP
• Metal plating/finishing/fabrication	JL, CC
• Airports—maintenance/fueling areas	JL, CC
• Septic tanks—high density (>1/acre)	JL, CC, SR
• Septic tanks—low density (<1/acre)	WP
• Wastewater treatment plants	JL, CC, SR
• Managed forests	JL, CC, WP
• Historic dumps/landfills and mining operation	JL, CC, SR, WP
• Automotive repair/body shops/machine shops	SR
• Recreation area—(off-road vehicle trails)	SR, WP
• Grazing (>5 large animals or equivalent per acre)	SR
• Sewer collection systems	SR
• Managed and clearcut harvested forests (<30 years)	SR
• NPDES/WDR permitted discharges (high turbidity, microbiological contaminants and chemicals in the permitted discharges)	SR
• Recent (<10 years) burn areas	SR, WP

#### KEY

JL: Jenny Lind  
 CC: Copper Cove  
 EP: Ebbetts Pass  
 SR: Sheep Ranch  
 WP: West Point

A copy of the complete assessment of each system may be viewed at the Department of Health Services Water Field Operations Branch, Stockton District Office, 31 E. Channel Street, Room 270, Stockton, California 95202. You may also request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Mr. Joseph O. Spano, District Engineer, at (209) 948-7696.

## Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES				Copper Cove		Ebbetts Pass		Jenny Lind		Sheep Ranch		West Point-Bear Creek			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppm)	2006	1	0.6	0.028	NA	0.040	NA	0.057	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Antimony (ppb)	2006	6	20	NA	NA	5	NA	NA	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Beryllium (ppb)	2006	4	1	NA	NA	2.5	NA	NA	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Discharge from metal refineries, coal-burning factories, and electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Chlorine (ppm)	2006	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	1.39	0.98–1.97	1.26	1.04–1.55	1.63	1.25–2.06	1.15	0.86–1.44	1.25	1.01–1.57	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Control of DBP precursors [TOC] (ppm)	2006	TT	NA	1.54	1.2–2.4	1.48	1.00–2.8	2.0	1.6–2.4	0.78	0.5–1.1	1.03	0.8–1.3	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2003	15	(0)	ND	NA	NA	NA	1.2	NA	ND	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2006	60	NA	19	15–54	32	25–42	48	40–58	20	NA	22.5	12–28	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm)	2006	45	45	0.2	NA	NA	NA	1.3	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sew-age; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2006	80	NA	28	15–42	30	21–48	50	38–68	22	NA	23	18–29	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity <sup>1</sup> (NTU)	2006	TT	NA	0.09	0.03–0.09	0.14	0.04–0.14	0.09	0.017–0.09	0.11	0.04–0.11	0.08	0.04–0.08	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2006	TT	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff
Tap water samples were collected from sample sites throughout the communities (Lead was not detected at the 90th percentile)															
				Copper Cove		Ebbetts Pass		Jenny Lind		Sheep Ranch		West Point-Bear Creek			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2006	1.3	0.17	0.86	0/20	0.12 <sup>2</sup>	0/21 <sup>2</sup>	0.86	0/20	ND <sup>2</sup>	0/5 <sup>3</sup>	0.2 <sup>3</sup>	0/10 <sup>3</sup>	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES				Copper Cove		Ebbetts Pass		Jenny Lind		Sheep Ranch		West Point-Bear Creek			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Chloride</b> (ppm)	2006	500	NS	5.0	NA	2.3	NA	10	NA	4.1	NA	3.9	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
<b>Color</b> (Units)	2006	15	NS	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	ND-34	ND	ND-4	ND	ND-4.0	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
<b>Corrosivity</b> (Units)	2006	Non-corrosive	NS	-2.02	NA	-2.49	NA	-0.93	NA	-2.14	NA	-2.38	NA	No	Natural or industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water; affected by temperature and other factors
<b>Specific Conductance</b> (µS/cm)	2006	1,600	NS	99	NA	36	NA	203	NA	58	NA	58	NA	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
<b>Sulfate</b> (ppm)	2006	500	NS	ND	NA	0.50	NA	14	NA	0.94	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
<b>Total Dissolved Solids</b> (ppm)	2006	1,000	NS	58	NA	70	NA	148	NA	81	NA	59	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
<b>Zinc</b> (ppm)	2006	5.0	NS	0.09	NA	0.12	NA	0.060	NA	0.044	NA	0.170	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

OTHER UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES														
		Copper Cove		Ebbetts Pass		Jenny Lind		Sheep Ranch		West Point-Bear Creek				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Bromodichloromethane</b> (ppb)	2006	1.8	1.3-2.5	1.3	0.9-1.7	1.8	1.3-2.5	2.5	NA	2.3	1.5-3.1	2.3	1.5-3.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Calcium</b> (ppm)	2006	6.8	NA	4.0	NA	17	NA	4.8	NA	4.8	NA	4.8	NA	Naturally occurring
<b>Chlorodibromomethane</b> (ppb)	2006	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	ND-1.0	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Chloroform</b> (ppb)	2006	24	14-39	34	21-47	24	14-39	19	NA	21	16-26	21	16-26	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Hardness</b> (ppm)	2006	35	NA	12	NA	73	NA	17	NA	19	NA	19	NA	Hardness in drinking water is caused by two naturally occurring chemicals, calcium and magnesium.
<b>Magnesium</b> (ppm)	2006	4.4	NA	ND	NA	7.4	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	Naturally occurring
<b>Sodium</b> (ppm)	2006	5.3	NA	2.7	NA	9.2	NA	4.4	NA	5.0	NA	5.0	NA	Sodium refers to the naturally occurring salt present in the water.

<sup>1</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

<sup>2</sup> Sampled in 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Sampled in 2005.

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 9 a.m. at

the Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) Board Room, 423 East St. Charles Street, San Andreas, CA. You may also visit the CCWD on the Internet at [www.ccwd.org](http://www.ccwd.org), or contact CCWD staff directly by phone at (209) 754-3543.

## Substances That Might Be in Drinking Water

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. 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.

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 salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or can result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Table Definitions

**Action Level (Regulatory Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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 (SMCLs) 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. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

**$\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  (microsiemens per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the 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. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS:** No standard

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard):** MCLs and MRDLs 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. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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