



*Annual*  
**WATER**  
**QUALITY**  
**REPORT**

*Reporting Year 2012*



*Presented By* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Calaveras County*  
*Water District*

PWS ID#: 0510005

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

## Maintaining High Standards

We are pleased to once again present to you our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2012. As in prior years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to maintain our high standards in an effort to continue delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. We remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with high-quality drinking water.

Please remember that we are always available to assist you should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

## 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. Each of our five water systems draws 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 man-made 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 the U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed at [www.epa.gov/surf](http://www.epa.gov/surf).

## Substances That Could Be in 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 California Department of Public Health (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, 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 can 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;

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

**Radioactive Contaminants**, that 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.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## 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 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

## 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. Our new office address is 120 Toma Ct., San Andreas, CA. You may also visit CCWD on the Internet at [www.ccwd.org](http://www.ccwd.org), or contact CCWD staff directly by phone at (209) 754-3543.

## Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is now available at our office. This plan is an assessment of the delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources.

According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, our water system had a susceptibility rating of "medium." If you would like to review the Source Water Assessment Plan, please feel free to contact our office during regular office hours.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Teresa Tanaka, Regulatory Programs Manager, at (209) 754-3306.

## 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 tables show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less often 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
<b>Bromate</b> (ppb)	2012	10	0.1	0.004	ND–0.004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Chlorine</b> (ppm)	2012	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	1.32	1.1–1.58	1.19	0.87–1.43	1.78	1.51–2.20	1.09	0.52–1.86	1.10	0.87–1.33	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
<b>Control of DBP Precursors [TOC]</b> (Units)	2012	TT	NA	1.07	0.96–2.04	1.38	NA	1.89	1.53–2.20	0.64	0.39–0.95	0.86	0.86–1.10	No	Various natural and man-made sources
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	2012	2.0	1	ND	NA	ND	NA	0.14	NA	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b> (ppb)	2012	60	NA	23	15–48	33	22–48	42.19	31–61	22	NA	20.25	16–23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Nitrate [as nitrate]</b> (ppm)	2012	45	45	0.13	NA	ND	NA	0.49	NA	0.052	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]</b> (ppb)	2012	80	NA	26	12–38	31	20–49	34.45	25.8–56.8	26	NA	25	18–35	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Turbidity</b> (NTU)	2012	TT	NA	0.059	0.29–0.059	0.12	0.04–0.12	0.111	0.027–0.111	0.16	0.07–0.16	0.08	0.05–0.08	No	Soil runoff
<b>Turbidity</b> (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2012	TT	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

				Copper Cove		Ebbetts Pass		Jenny Lind		Sheep Ranch		West Point-Bear Creek			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (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
<b>Copper</b> (ppm)	2012	1.3	0.3	0.21	0/30	0.21	0/30	0.7	0/30	ND	0/5	0.44	0/10	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
<b>Lead</b> (ppb)	2012	15	0.2	7.4	0/30	7.4	1/30	ND	0/30	ND	0/5	ND	0/10	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

## 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)	2012	500	NS	4.5	NA	2.8	NA	7.1	NA	4.8	NA	2.06	1.1–3.7	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
<b>Color</b> (Units)	2012	15	NS	ND	ND–4	3.08	ND–4	ND	ND–4.0	4	ND–15	ND	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
<b>Corrosivity</b> (Units)	2012	Noncorrosive	NS	-2.75	NA	-2.74	NA	-0.58	NA	-1.78	NA	-2.03	NA	No	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen in the water; affected by temperature and other factors
<b>Manganese</b> (ppb)	2012	50	NS	ND	NA	ND	NA	11.5	ND–47	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
<b>Odor–Threshold</b> (Units)	2012	3	NS	1.0	1.0–1.0	1.0	1.0–1.0	1.0	1.0–1.0	1.0	NA	1.0	1.0–1.0	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
<b>Specific Conductance</b> (µS/cm)	2012	1,600	NS	93.9	NA	39.1	NA	181	NA	69.5	NA	58.5	54.3–64.4	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
<b>Sulfate</b> (ppm)	2012	500	NS	4.7	NA	0.54	NA	11	NA	1.1	NA	0.62	0.52–0.77	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
<b>Total Dissolved Solids</b> (ppm)	2012	1,000	NS	68	NA	58	NA	115	NA	51	NA	71.7	65–78	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
<b>Turbidity</b> (NTU)	2012	5	NS	NA	NA	0.08	0.04–0.12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
<b>Zinc</b> (ppb)	2012	5,000	NS	53	NA	NA	NA	70	NA	65	NA	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

## UNREGULATED AND OTHER 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	TYPICAL SOURCE	
<b>Bromodichloromethane</b> (ppb)	2012	1.45	1.2–1.6	0.95	0.50–1.40	5.04	3.9–7.8	1.3	NA	1.58	1.1–2.0	By-produce of drinking water disinfection	
<b>Chloroform</b> (ppb)	2012	25	19–29	30	19–48	36.25	25.5–53.5	24	NA	22.25	16–30	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
<b>Hardness<sup>3</sup></b> (ppm)	2012	34	NA	20	NA	75	NA	28	NA	25	22–28	Hardness in drinking water is caused by two naturally occurring substances: calcium and magnesium	
<b>Magnesium</b> (ppm)	2012	3.7	NA	0.71	NA	6.9	NA	1.7	NA	1.6	NA	Naturally occurring	
<b>Sodium</b> (ppm)	2012	5.5	NA	3.4	NA	7.8	NA	5.3	NA	3.90	3.1–5.3	Sodium refers to the naturally occurring salt present in the water	

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

<sup>2</sup>To find out if your water is soft, medium, or hard: Divide the amount detected by 17.1. Results: 0-3=Soft, 3-7=Medium, 7-10=Medium Hard, and >10=Hard.

## Definitions

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

**µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**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.