



**We are here to help you. For more information, please contact us.**

**18966 Ferretti Road  
P.O. Box 350  
Groveland, California, 95321**

**Phone: (209) 962-7161  
Fax: (209) 962-6286**

## 2012 Water Quality Report



### Water Conservation

#### Did You Know?

On November 10, 2009 then California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill No. 7 (SB-7), which requires “the State to achieve a 20% reduction in urban per capita water use in California by December 31, 2020.” This bill requires water suppliers to report water usage on an annual basis, and those that do not meet the 20% reduction requirement in the allotted time frame will not be eligible for state water loans or grants. A good mnemonic to remember this important date is: 20 by 20.



#### Did you also know?

A typical shower head uses about 4 gallons of water per minute. So a nice hot 30 minute shower (a typical time frame for many teens) uses 120 gallons of water! If your teen takes only one shower per day, over a year’s time he or she will have used 43,800 gallons of water. Multiply that by the number of persons in your household. But, if you spent about \$20 dollars for a nice low flow showerhead at the local hardware store you could reduce your water usage by 50%. That could amount to some great water savings, especially if you have a large family. Your teen’s water usage could be cut in half, or to about 21,900 gallons per year instead of 43,800 gallons.

### Community Participation



GCSD also has the ability to produce safe drinking water from Pine Mountain Lake by utilizing the mobile Alternative Water Supply (AWS) water treatment plant. The AWS uses a uniquely designed hollow fiber microfiltration module to remove turbidity, bacteria, cysts, and particles from the lake water, and is capable of producing up to 6000 gallons per minute.



Here are a few more water conservation tips:

Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you could save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.

### Sampling Results

The District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with federal and state laws. The results contained in this report are for the monitoring period of January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012.

This report contains results from laboratory testing, excluding contaminants that were not detected, or that were detected at a level below the state’s detection level for the purposes of reporting (DLR). This information has been compiled in the tables on the back of this pamphlet to show the level of these contaminants.

content of this water is lower than most bottled water, and the bacterial counts approach zero. Because of the high quality of our source water, the District obtained a Filtration Avoidance permit (no filtration process required) on April 22, 1998, and during 2007 and 2008 began using disinfection-by-chloramination and ultraviolet disinfection to kill any pathogens, including *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*, that may be present in its surface water supply.



The water originates in Yosemite National Park as snow melt from a large pristine watershed in the High Sierra. With controlled human contact and granite-type geology, the mineral content of this water is lower than most bottled water, and the bacterial counts approach zero. Because of the high quality of our source water, the District obtained a Filtration Avoidance permit (no filtration process required) on April 22, 1998, and during 2007 and 2008 began using disinfection-by-chloramination and ultraviolet disinfection to kill any pathogens, including *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*, that may be present in its surface water supply.

### Where Your Water Comes From

GCSD obtains the majority of its water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Hetch Hetchy Reservoir by pumping from a deep conveyance tunnel southeast of town, known as the Mountain Tunnel. The water originates in Yosemite National Park as snow melt from a large pristine watershed in the High Sierra. With controlled human contact and granite-type geology, the mineral content of this water is lower than most bottled water, and the bacterial counts approach zero. Because of the high quality of our source water, the District obtained a Filtration Avoidance permit (no filtration process required) on April 22, 1998, and during 2007 and 2008 began using disinfection-by-chloramination and ultraviolet disinfection to kill any pathogens, including *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*, that may be present in its surface water supply.

### 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.

**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.

**NID (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.

**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 of substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

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

**2012 WATER QUALITY DATA**

**Groveland Community Services District, Groveland, California**

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

**PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS**

Substance or Parameter	Unit	MCL/MRDL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
------------------------	------	----------	-----	-------	---------	-----------------------------------

**CLARITY**

Turbidity – Raw Source Water	NTU	5	NS	0.01 - 1.64	0.267	Primarily related to soil runoff (erosion) which is made up of suspended matter that interferes with light
Turbidity – Finished Water	NTU	5	NS	0.05 – 1.19	0.254	Primarily related to soil runoff (erosion) which is made up of suspended matter that interferes with light

**MICROBIOLOGICAL**

Total Coliform – Raw Water	#	(a)	0	<2 - 170	6	Naturally present in the environment from decomposition of organic matter; may be an indication of fecal waste
Fecal Coliform – Raw Water	#	(b)	0	<2 - 4	<2	Related to human and animal fecal waste

**DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS**

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	80	NS	9.9 – 18.3*	14.7	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine, upgrades to the treatment process have reduced TTHMs to below MCL's
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	ppb	60	NS	17.0 – 44.8*	28.9	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine, upgrades to the treatment process have reduced HAAs to below MCL's
Chlorine (Raw water)	ppm	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	4.0	1.05 – 3.29*	2.49	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chloramines (Finish water)	ppm	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	4.0	0.40 – 1.98*	1.27	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

**SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS**

Substance or Parameter	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Color	unit	15	NS	No Range	3.5	From naturally occurring organic materials such as leaves, pine needles, and wood
Odor	unit	3	NS	No Range	1	From naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	NS	NS	No Range	28	From naturally occurring dissolved solids that form ions in water; an indication of the dissolved mineral content of water
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	1,000	NS	No Range	16	From runoff and leaching from natural deposits (soil and rocks)
Sulfate	mg/L	205	NS	No Range	2.43	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

**OTHER**

Substance or Parameter	Unit	MCL/SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	NS	NS	No Range	6	From natural sources and dissolved minerals
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	mg/L	NS	NS	No Range	5.4	From naturally occurring dissolved substances (Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Sr <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>2+</sup> , Mn <sup>2+</sup> ) that come in contact with water
Sodium	mg/L	NS	NS	No Range	ND	From natural sources and dissolved minerals
Calcium	mg/L	NS	NS	No Range	2.15	From natural sources and dissolved minerals
Potassium	mg/L	NS	NS	No Range	ND	From natural sources and dissolved minerals
pH	unit	NS	NS	No Range	5.35	Affected by alkaline sources, atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> , organic matter, and acidity from mineral sources – distilled water has 7.0 pH
Aluminum	mg/L	1	0.6	No Range	ND	From the erosion of natural deposits, residue from some surface water treatment systems

The tables above list all of the drinking water substances and parameters that were detected in 2011.

Terms and Abbreviations Used Above:

MCL's for Total and Fecal Coliform<sup>†</sup>

Water Hardness Classification

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

(a) – For 40 samples/month: No more than 5.0% of monthly samples may be positive; for <40 samples/month: no more than 1 positive sample

0 – 75 mg/L = Soft

NS = No Standard

(b) – A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive

75 – 150 mg/L = Moderately hard

ppb = parts per billion, or ppm = parts per million

<sup>†</sup> Results for total and fecal coliform are for raw water sources; they do not represent the drinking water concentrations of these substances

150 – 300 mg/L = Hard

MCLG = MCL Goal (set by the California EPA)

>300 mg/L = Very hard

PHG = Public Health Goal (set by the California EPA)

SMCL = Secondary MCL

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

\*Results for TTHM and HAA samples are averaged over four quarters. Results indicate levels well below the MCL during 2012. Some people who use water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing HAAs in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

†Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort or anemia.

\*Some people who use water containing chloramines well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chloramines well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort or anemia. ‡ 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. GCS&D is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but 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 it 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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). 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). For information specifically related to the GCS&D please call Aaron Randi at 209 962-7161, ext. 30.