

POINT REYES AREA ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Published April, 2007

This brochure is a snapshot of water quality monitoring performed in 2006. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state standards. If you have any questions regarding this Water Quality Report, contact **Pablo Ramudo**, Water Quality Supervisor, (415) 897-4133 or (800) 464-6693. This report is also available on our website at www.nmwd.com.

*Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.
Para más información, llame al (415) 897-4133.*

Frequently-Asked Questions

- **Is my water fluoridated?** Your water is not fluoridated. Consult your dentist or pediatrician about your children's fluoride needs.
- **What is the hardness of my water?** Your water is considered moderately hard. Some appliance manuals refer to hardness in grains per gallon. Your water hardness ranges from 4.1 to 5.3 grains per gallon (hard water exceeds 8.8 grains per gallon).
- **Where does Point Reyes' water come from?** Point Reyes' water is pumped from two wells located in Point Reyes Station near Lagunitas Creek. Testing shows that the quality of the well water is excellent. Iron and manganese are the principal contaminants found in this water, which can affect the color of the water and result in staining. For this reason, we treat and filter the water to remove both of these metals. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant.

Source Water Assessment

An assessment of watershed activities, which may affect the Point Reyes source of supply, was completed in July 2002 as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The activities identified with the highest potential for contamination of the Point Reyes groundwater supply are salt water intrusion and activities associated with the operation of the US Coast Guard housing wastewater system and maintenance facility area. These activities increase the potential to introduce chemical and microbial contaminants into the local groundwater. The Point Reyes groundwater is routinely monitored by NMWD. No contaminants have been detected with the exception of occasional increases in salt concentrations. Water produced at the Point Reyes water treatment plant meets federal and state water quality requirements.

A copy of the complete assessment is on file at the North Marin Water District office at 999 Rush Creek Place, Novato.

Board of Directors

Stephen Petterle, President
Rick Frites, Vice President
Jack Baker
Dennis Rodoni
John C. Schoonover

The Board of Directors meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at NMWD Administrative office, 999 Rush Creek Place, Novato, CA 94945.

On **July 3, 2007**, the Board will meet at **7:30 p.m.** in Point Reyes Station to review the Point Reyes budget and Point Reyes water issues.



Your Tap Water is Safe to Drink!

North Marin Water District is committed to supplying safe water that meets or surpasses state and federal standards and achieves the highest standards of customer satisfaction. Our chemists monitor water quality on a daily basis.

Your tap water met all primary (health-related) drinking water standards for 2006.

Our engineers, treatment plant operators and scientists are always working to bring you the best quality water we can provide. Fine-tuning of the treatment process and improvements in infrastructure have improved water quality. In 2006, additional treated water storage provided by new tanks made it possible to avoid saltwater intrusion to our wells during extreme high tide events.

The California Department of Health Services requires that a report of water quality be made to all customers each year.

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North Marin Water District — Point Reyes Water Service Area

Report of Detected Constituents of Concern

CHEMICAL	UNITS	PHG / [MRDLG] (MCLG)	MCL / [MRDL] (PDWS)	POINT REYES TREATMENT PLANT	POINT REYES DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CHEMICAL
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/l	n/a	80 ¹	n/a	Annual average = 36 Range = 14 — 56	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	µg/l	n/a	60 ¹	n/a	Annual average = 9.2 Range = 4.7— 12	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead ² (2005 data)	µg/l	2	(Action level 15)	ND	90th percentile = ND None of 10 samples above Action Level	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper ² (2005 data)	µg/l	170	(Action level 1300)	ND	90th percentile = 860 None of 10 samples above Action Level	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	mg/l	1.0	2.0	Average = 0.12 Range = ND — 0.18	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine, free	mg/l	[4.0]	[4.0]	n/a	Average = 0.51 Range = ND — 0.88	Drinking water disinfectant

¹ MCL is based on annual average of distribution samples.

² Regulations require sampling every 3 years.

Legend

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 Environmental Protection Agency.

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. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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 (**SMCL**) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water. MCLs are set by the California and/or USEPA.

PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard): MCLs (or MRDLs), for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

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

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

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

90th Percentile = Compliance based on highest value after eliminating the highest 10% of values.

Abbreviations

mg/l = milligrams per liter (parts per million)

µg/l = micrograms per liter (parts per billion)

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units, a measure of suspended material in water

pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

n/a = not applicable

ND = Not Detected at testing limit

µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter

**North Marin Water District — Point Reyes Water Service Area
Report on Constituents of Interest**

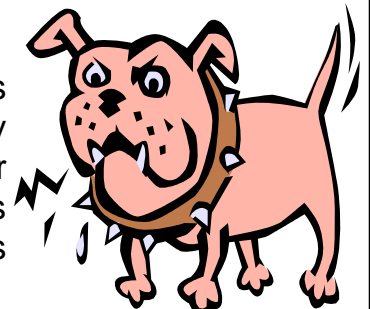
CONSTITUENT	UNITS	MCL or (SMCL)	POINT REYES AVERAGE	POINT REYES RANGE	TYPICAL SOURCES
Chloride	mg/l	(500)	32	15 — 50	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	units	(15)	<2.5	<2.5 — 2.5	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Hardness	mg/l	n/a	80	70 — 91	Generally found in ground and surface water
Manganese	µg/l	(50)	ND	ND — 20	Leaching from natural deposits
Radon (Test date 1999)	pCi/l	n/a	225	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific Conductance	µmhos/cm	(1600)	300	270 — 370	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
pH	mg/l	8.5	7.21	7.16 — 7.23	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	(1000)	190	180 — 200	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	5	0.06	0.05 — 0.09	Soil runoff
Sodium	mg/l	n/a	36	32 — 39	Generally found in ground and surface water; seawater influence

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The West Marin Water System has seen continued progress on the Long-Range Improvement Project Plan. Projects recently completed include installation of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore Master Meter, installation of water quality sampling stations, PRE Tank No. 1 Chlorine Booster System Upgrade and PRE Tank No. 2 Retaining Wall Repair. In addition, significant ongoing projects include Pt. Reyes Treatment Plant Chemical Feed Line Replacement/Contact Tank Addition and the Inverness Park Pump Station Upgrade.

BEWARE OF THE DOG!

Attacks by dogs are the single-most preventable cause of serious injuries to utility workers today. Please help us work safely by keeping your dog confined or on a leash away from your water meter. If you require assistance with your water service, let us know you own a dog and please keep it under control at all times when we respond.



Message from the United States Environmental Protection Agency

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.

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 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications and septic systems;
- Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

Radon in Air

Radon is a radioactive gas that can move from decomposed granite soils into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Because the Point Reyes peninsula has decomposed granite soils, radon may be a concern to residents. Radon can also get into indoor air when running tap water for showering and other household activities. In most cases, radon from tap water is a small source of radon in air. Point Reyes water was tested and radon was found at low levels. There are no federal regulations for radon levels in drinking water.

Radon is a known human carcinogen. It can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer.

If you are concerned about radon in your home, **test the air in your home!** Testing is inexpensive and easy to perform. For additional information, call California's Radon Hotline (800-745-7236) or call USEPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

2006 Statistics

Source

Two wells adjacent to Lagunitas Creek (Coast Guard site)

2006 Production

111 million gallons (MG)

Month of Lowest Usage

March (5.9 MG)

Month of Highest Usage

July (15.5 MG)

Storage

13 storage tanks, holding a total of 1,028,000 gallons