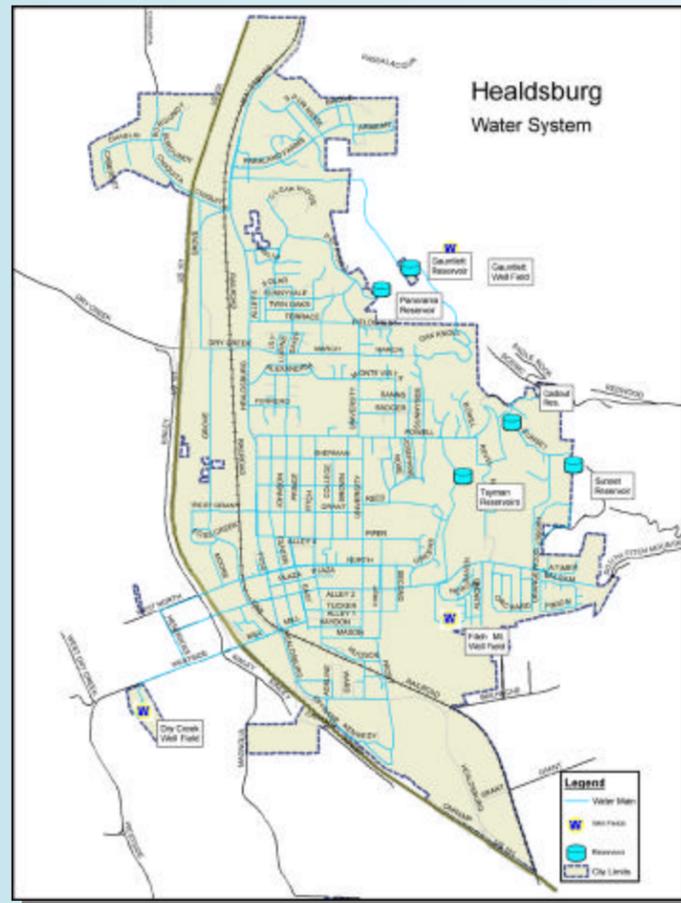


Healdsburg's Drinking Water Sources



Healdsburg delivers treated water to its customers from two well fields located along the Russian River and one located along Dry Creek. The sources of drinking water (both tap water & 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 other matter, and in some cases radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may typically be present in untreated source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from agricultural livestock operations, wildlife, septic systems, and sewage treatment plants.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts, and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and

Capital Improvement Projects

Gauntlett Well Field: Because the City's Gauntlett Well Field will be operated year-round once the new Gauntlett/Fitch Water Treatment facility is finished (see page 1), several projects are also under way to modernize the electrical equipment, pumps and wells:

Electrical equipment upgrade - This project will replace the motor controls that runs the well pumps. These are essentially large and fairly sophisticated switches that control the large electrical surges that occur when high-power motors start and stop. The existing motor controls are antiquated, and parts are difficult or impossible to find. The old equipment is being replaced with new computer-controlled motor starters. In addition, a large standby generator will be permanently installed and connected to switches that will automatically start the generator during a power outage, keeping water flowing to the new treatment plant.

Well rehabilitation - Three of the four wells at the Gauntlett Well Field are being cleaned to remove accumulated deposits on the well screens, which will restore the wells to near their original capacities. In addition, the pumps and motors for these wells are either being rebuilt or replaced.

Chlorine disinfection system replacement: Until recently, the City disinfected water from its two Russian River well fields with chlorine gas. The chlorine gas was kept in small buildings located at the Fitch Well Field next to Badger Park and the community garden; and near the Gauntlett tanks at the end of March Avenue. Chlorine gas is very effective at disinfecting water. Although the City has used it for years without incident, the potential damage from a chlorine gas leak is high, especially when located next to residential neighborhoods.

To eliminate this risk, the City recently converted the chlorine gas systems at both locations to a "liquid hypochlorite" system. Liquid hypochlorite is essentially the same as household bleach. The systems being installed are on-site generation systems, which use salt to generate hypochlorite at the site, so that no chemicals need to be transported to or from the site. Because hypochlorite is in a liquid form, and because only minimal amounts are stored on-site, the potential hazard is greatly reduced.

volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (DHS) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants present in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

2003 WATER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR THE CITY OF HEALDSBURG



Healdsburg's Drinking Water Continues to Meet All Health Standards

We are pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Confidence Report. In 2003, the City tested hundreds of water samples from our source water wells and sample stations situated throughout the City. Independent, certified laboratories analyzed samples for more than 100 water quality constituents and characteristics. Those tests show that **Healdsburg's drinking water meets all State and Federal health standards.** We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we deliver to you. We are committed to providing our customers with a safe, palatable and dependable supply of drinking water.

Included in this report is a summary of results from water quality tests as well as an explanation of where our water comes from and information on how to interpret the data. This "Consumer Confidence Report" is required by law. We're proud to share our results with you. Please read them carefully. For more information about this report contact Jim Flugum or Bill Robertson of the Public Works Department at 431-3346.

New Water Treatment Facility Planned



The City will begin construction in mid-June on the new Gauntlett/Fitch Water Treatment Facility Project, located at the end of Sunnyvale Drive. The treatment facilities will be housed in a new 4,900 square-foot building just above the City's Panorama Reservoir. The project will be one of the largest and most technically complex projects the City has undertaken, and will use relatively new microfiltration technology to screen out particles even smaller than bacteria. Once completed, this treatment facility will allow the City to use its Gauntlett and Fitch well fields on the Russian River year-round. At present, these well fields can only be used in the dry season because of inadequate filtration through the streambed gravel during winter floods. Restoring the year-round use of these wells will fix a potential production shortfall during parts of the year. In addition to the capacity

problem, the treatment will insure that the City can meet pending water quality regulations.

Special Information Available

Some people may be more vulnerable to constituents in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as individuals 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). More

En Español

Este reporte contiene información importante acerca de el sistema de agua de la Ciudad de Healdsburg y la seguridad de su agua potable. Usted podría solicitar una copia de este 431-3322. Horas de Oficina son de las 8:30 a.m. a las 5:00 p.m., lunes a viernes, o deje un mensaje con su domicilio y una copia del reporte será mandada por correo.

research for this information can be found on the EPA website at www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html. California action levels are available on the Department of Health Services website at www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/index.htm.

TREATED WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

Listed below are 21 substances or water quality characteristics detected in Healdsburg's drinking water. There are nearly 100 organic and inorganic substances that the City tested for but did not detect.

The State allows the City to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year because their concentrations do not change frequently.

SUBSTANCE	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED (EPA'S MCL, MCLG & MRDL)	AVERAGE LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS (MCLG) or (MRDLG)	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED
REGULATED AT THE CUSTOMERS' TAP						
COPPER	1300 PPB	571 PPB	ND - 1100 PPB	< 1300 PPB	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems. (Results are from testing done in 2002)	1100 PPB
REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	80 PPB	11.05 PPB	8.9 - 15.8 PPB	n/a	Disinfection by-products	15.8 PPB
HALOACETIC ACIDS	60 PPB	1.65 PPB	ND - 2.7 PPB	n/a	Disinfection by-products	2.7 PPB
CHLORINE	4 PPM	0.68PPM	0.10 - 1.68 PPM	4 PPM	Disinfectant added for drinking water treatment	1.68 PPM
REGULATED DURING TREATMENT						
FLUORIDE	2 PPM	0.60 PPM	0.08 - 1.16 PPM	1 PPM	Leaching from natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth.	1.16 PPM
NITRATE (as NO3)	45 PPM	4.27 PPM	ND - 6.6 PPM	< 45 PPM	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use, septic tanks, and natural deposits	6.6 PPM
GROSS ALPHA EMITTERS	15 pCi/L	0.47 pCi/L	0.08 - 0.75 pCi/L	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits. (Results are from testing done in 2002)	0.75 pCi/L
SECONDARY STANDARDS AND ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED TO GIVE AN IDEA OF QUALITY.						
CHLORIDE	500 PPM	6.3 PPM	5.1 - 9.3 PPM	< 500 PPM	Runoff / Leaching from natural deposits.	9.3 PPM
MANGANESE	50 PPB	113 PPB	ND -250 PPB	< 50 PPB	Leaching from natural deposits	250 PPB
SULFATE	500 PPM	10.5 PPM	8.5 - 14 PPM	< 500 PPM	Runoff / Leaching from natural deposits.	14 PPM
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	1000 PPM	165 PPM	100 - 310 PPM	< 1000 PPM	Runoff / Leaching from natural deposits.	310 PPM
ALKALINITY	NS	129 PPM	80 - 240 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	240 PPM
BICARBONATE	NS	147 PPM	98 - 240 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	240 PPM
CALCIUM	NS	23 PPM	15 - 48 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	48 PPM
HARDNESS	NS	112.67 PPM	73 -167 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	167 PPM
MAGNESIUM	NS	15 PPM	9 - 27 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	27 PPM
POTASSIUM	NS	1.2 PPM	ND -1.4 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	1.4 PPM
SODIUM	NS	8.38 PPM	7 - 9.7 PPM	Not regulated	Natural geology	9.7 PPM
BARIUM	2000 PPB	129 PPB	ND - 240 PPB	<2000 PPB	Natural geology	240 PPB
pH units	6.5 to 8.5 pH units	6.7 pH units	6.4 - 7.0 pH units	6.5 to 8.5 pH units	A measure of the acidity of water	7.0 pH Units
SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE	1600 umho/cm	260 umho/cm	180 -360 uhmo/cm	< 1600 umho/cm	A measure of substances that form ions when in water.	360 umho/cm

TURBIDITY			
Water Production Site	Performance Standard (Treatment Technique)	Highest Single Measurement (NTU)	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limits
Dry Creek Well Field (ground water)	Not to exceed 5.0 NTU at any time. Not to exceed 1.0 NTU for more than 4 hours	0.61	100%
Gauntlett Well Field Fitch Mountain Well Field (under surface water influence)	0.5 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month, and shall not exceed 5.0 NTU at any time	0.77 0.45	88.9%* 100%

* This figure is representative of Well G-3 that was in production for only 9 sampling periods (8 of 9 samples were below 0.5)

Definitions

Copper - The governing regulation to determine whether copper is present above or below the standard is based on the 90th percentile value for the most recent testing. The 90th percentile is the ninth highest value measured of ten test results. The 90th percentile value for the 2002 testing performed in Healdsburg was 840 ppb. The maximum contaminant level, or action level for copper is 1300 ppb. None of the 30 Healdsburg test sites exceeded the action level.

Fluoridation - Water is dosed with fluoride for dental benefit. The water is dosed to a concentration of 0.8 mg/L per Health Department regulation. Knowing that the water is fluoridated could potentially affect decisions for you and your family regarding fluoride supplements and treatments.

Manganese - The concentration in some production wells exceeds the secondary MCL. Manganese in excess of the MCL can chemically react with the chlorine added to disinfect the water and form a dark colored precipitate. The precipitate can stain plumbing fixtures such as sinks and toilet bowls, and may cause staining of light colored laundry. The City avoids using these wells whenever possible.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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 are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDL's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - A turbidity unit is a measurement of the clarity of the water.

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

Public Health Goal (PHG) - 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.

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

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

Turbidity - A measure of the clarity of water. A higher turbidity value indicates more particles in the water. The particles in themselves are not usually a health concern, but they may shield microorganisms from the effects of disinfection (chlorination). Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. In 2002, the turbidity measured at the City's groundwater wells was less than the MCL standard in all 4429 report periods. The turbidity measured at the City's surface water influenced wells was less than the MCL standard in 3324 of 3331, or 99.8% of the report periods.

Umho/cm - micro mhos per centimeter is a unit of measure of the ability of water to conduct electricity.

Customer Views Welcome

If you are interested in learning more about your water utility or water quality, you can direct your questions, concerns or comments to the Public Works Department at (707) 431-3346.

Citizens may also address comments directly to the Healdsburg City Council, which meets the first and third Mondays of each month, 7:00 pm at 401 Grove Street. City Council meetings are open to the public.