

YOUR CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Otay Water District is pleased to provide you with your annual consumer confidence report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards.

The information included in this water quality report represents only a small fraction of what we do to ensure high-quality drinking water. Using one or more state-certified laboratories, we routinely scrutinize the water supply for an entire range of elements that have the potential to degrade the quality of your water. Only compounds detected in water sources are included in this report.

As in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and state of California drinking water health standards. The Otay Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never exceeded a health-related maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

ABOUT THE OTAY WATER DISTRICT

Otay Water District is a California Special District established by the State Legislature in 1956 as a public water service provider.

Today the District delivers potable water to more than 217,000 residents residing within a 125.5 square mile service territory that includes the communities of Spring Valley, La Presa, Rancho San Diego, and Jamul, as well as communities in the city of Chula Vista and the city of San Diego on Otay Mesa.



Otay Water District imports an average of 87 percent of its water. Imported water is a blend of Colorado River water and State Water Project water. The District purchases treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's R.A. Skinner Treatment Plant (Skinner Plant), the County Water Authority's Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant (Twin Oaks Plant), the Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant (Carlsbad Desal Plant) and from the Helix Water District's R.M. Levy Treatment Plant (Helix Plant).



Consumer Confidence Report

2016





SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENTS

The sources of water delivered by the Otay Water District include the Colorado River, the State Water Project, and local supplies. The agencies that supply treated drinking water to the Otay Water District, including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, San Diego County Water Authority, and the Helix Water District, are required to perform Source Water Assessments on their raw water supplies. If you would like copies of the Source Water Assessments, please contact Mr. Jake Vaclavek System Operations Manager, at 619-670-2230.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Otay Water District encourages public participation from the customers we serve. The board of directors generally meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at District headquarters, 2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd., Spring Valley, 91978. We encourage the public to attend these meetings.

For directions, agendas or for further information, call 619-670-2222 or visit our website at www.otaywater.gov.

Otay Water District Board of Directors

<i>Mitch Thompson, President</i>	<i>Division 2</i>
<i>Jose Lopez, Vice President</i>	<i>Division 4</i>
<i>Tim Smith, Treasurer</i>	<i>Division 1</i>
<i>Gary Croucher, Director</i>	<i>Division 3</i>
<i>Mark Robak, Director</i>	<i>Division 5</i>

www.otaywater.gov

SAFETY

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. SWRCB 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>.

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 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include the oceans, 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Otay Water District appreciates your comments and active participation. If you have questions about the information contained in this report or testing processes, please contact Jake Vaclavek, System Operations Manager, at 619-670-2230 or visit our website at www.otaywater.gov. You can also find helpful information by contacting the following agencies:

State Water Resources Control Board

P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100
916-449-5577
www.waterboards.ca.gov



United States Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Water (4101 M)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
1-800-426-4791
<http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>



Otay Water District

2254 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.
Spring Valley, CA 91978-2004
619-670-2222
opinion_form@otaywater.gov
www.otaywater.gov





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 application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN HOME PLUMBING SYSTEMS:

- 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. The Otay Water District 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 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

CONCERNS OVER LEAD IN THE WATER SUPPLY

Lead in the water supply in Flint, Michigan has been in the news and is the subject of recent Congressional hearings. You might be wondering, "Could what happened in Flint happen in the Otay Water District?"

In Flint, there are an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 homes with lead service lines that carry water from Flint's drinking water system to homes and businesses. Lead service lines were the primary source of high lead levels in Flint's water supply.

None of Otay's 730 miles of water mains or service lines are made of lead. In addition, Otay is required by the USEPA to collect water samples from select homes and to test that water under the USEPA's Lead and Copper Rule. In Otay's service area, lead levels are well below USEPA standards and 90 percent of water samples showed lead levels below the detection limit of five part per billion.

If you would like to learn more about lead in drinking water, visit the USEPA's website for basic information about lead in drinking water: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TAP WATER

Beliefs: Surveys have found that most consumers who drink bottled water do so because they enjoy its taste or its portable convenience. Others drink bottled water because they believe it to be more pure or safer than their tap water.

The Truth: Did you know that the average bottle of water can cost up to 1,000 times more than tap water? Despite what its higher cost would lead us to believe, estimates are that 25-40 percent of the bottled water on the market is simply repackaged tap water.

Tap water is regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Safe Drinking Water Act, while bottled water is considered a food and is thus regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Though some bottlers may voluntarily exceed FDA standards, both bottled water and public water supplies in the United States must meet similar standards for safe drinking water. For more information, visit www.DrinkTap.org.

Your Options: It's important to know that you have other, more affordable, options to bottled water.



Chill a pitcher of tap water in your refrigerator.

Using the chilled water pitcher with refillable water bottles or thermoses is environmentally friendly and allows for an inexpensive way to achieve refreshing portability.



Residential water treatment devices.

Another possibility is to install a home water filter system. The systems are convenient, easy to use, and enhance the taste of water. These systems achieve the same desired results, while still costing a fraction of the price of bottled water.

For more information about California state-certified residential water treatment devices, visit the State Water Resources Control Board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/device/watertreatmentdevices.shtml.

2015 WATER QUALITY DATA

PARAMETER	UNITS	STATE OR FEDERAL MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	STATE DLR	RANGE AVERAGE	TWIN OAKS PLANT	CARLSBAD DESAL PLANT	HELIX PLANT	SKINNER PLANT	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
PRIMARY STANDARDS — Mandatory Health-Related Standards										
CLARITY										
Combined Filter	NTU	0.3	NA	0.1	Highest	0.02	0.04	0.8	0.10	
Effluent Turbidity	%	95 (a)	NA	0.1	% < 0.3	100	100	100	100	Soil runoff
MICROBIOLOGICAL										
Total Coliform Bacteria (b)	%	5.0	(0)	NA	Distribution System-wide: Otay Distribution System=0%					Naturally present in the environment
<i>E. coli</i>	(c)	(c)	(0)	NA	Distribution System-wide: Otay Distribution System=0%					Human and animal fecal waste
INORGANIC CHEMICALS										
Aluminum (d)	ppb	1000	600	50	Range	ND	ND	160 - 430	ND	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
					Average	ND	ND	278	ND	
Arsenic	ppb	10	0.004	2	Range	NA	ND	ND	ND	Natural deposits erosion, glass and electronics production wastes
					Average	3	ND	ND	ND	
Barium	ppb	1000	2000	100	Range	NA	ND	ND - 120	124	Oil and metal refineries discharge; natural deposits erosion
					Average	120	ND	113	124	
Fluoride Treatment-related	ppm	2.0	1	0.1	Control Range	0.6 - 1.2	0.6 - 1.2	0.6 - 1.2	0.6 - 1.2	Water additive
					Optimal Level	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	
					Otay Distribution System Range: 0.5 - 0.8					
					Otay Distribution System Average: 0.7					
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	0.4	Range	ND	0.7 - 0.9	ND	ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; septic tank and sewage; natural deposits erosion
					Average	ND	0.8	ND	ND	
ORGANIC CHEMICALS										
Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride)	ppb	5	4	0.5	Range	ND - 0.5	ND	ND	ND	Discharge from pharmaceuticals and chemical factories
					Average	ND	ND	ND	ND	
RADIOLOGICALS										
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	(0)	3	Range	ND	ND	ND	ND - 5	Erosion of natural deposits
					Average	ND	ND	ND	ND	
Gross Beta Particle Activity (e)	pCi/L	50	(0)	4	Range	ND	ND	ND	5	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
					Average	ND	ND	ND	5	
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	1	Range	1.7 - 2.3	ND	ND	1 - 2	Erosion of natural deposits
					Average	2.0	ND	ND	2	
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS, DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS PRECURSORS										
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	Distribution System-wide:			Otay Distribution System Range = 18 - 41					By-product of drinking water chlorination
		80 (f)	NA	1 (h)	Highest LRAA = 33					
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)	ppb	Distribution System-wide:			Otay Distribution System Range = 2.8 - 14					By-product of drinking water chlorination
		60 (f)	NA	1 (h)	Highest LRAA = 12					
Total Chlorine Residual	ppm	Distribution System-wide:			Otay Distribution System Range = ND - 3.6					Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
		[4.0] (g)	[4.0]	NA	Highest RAA = 2.4					
Bromate	ppb	10 (g)	0.1	5.0	Range	1.8 - 10	NA	ND - 9.8	1.1 - 9.9	By-product of drinking water ozonation
					Average	4.2	NA	ND	4.3	
DBP Precursors Control (TOC)	ppm	TT	NA	0.30	Range	2.0 - 2.4	ND - 1.2	2.1 - 3.6	2.0 - 2.6	Various natural and man-made sources
					Average	2.2	ND	2.6	2.3	
PRIMARY STANDARDS — LEAD AND COPPER RULE — SAMPLED AT HOME TAPS IN 2014										
Copper (k)	ppm	AL=1.3	0.3	0.05	0 sites above AL out of 73 sampled					Internal corrosion of household pipes; erosion of natural deposits
					90th percentile = 0.3					
Lead (k)	ppb	AL=15	0.2	5	0 sites above AL out of 73 sampled					Internal corrosion of household pipes; erosion of natural deposits
					90th percentile = ND					

ABBREVIATIONS

AI Aggressiveness Index	MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	NR Not Reported	TOC Total Organic Carbon
AL Action Level	MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	pCi/L picoCuries per Liter	TON Threshold Odor Number
DBP Disinfection By-Products	N Nitrogen	PHG Public Health Goal	TT Treatment Technique
DLR Detection Limits for purposes of Reporting	NA Not Applicable	ppb parts per billion or milligrams per liter (µg/L)	UCMR Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule
LRAA Locational Running Annual Average	ND Not Detected	ppm parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	µS/cm microSiemen per centimeter
MCL Maximum Contaminant Level	NL Notification Level	ppt parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)	
MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units	RAA Running Annual Average	

DEFINITIONS

- 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.
- 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** 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.
- Notification Levels:** Notification Levels are health-based advisory levels established by SWRCB for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain requirements and recommendations apply.
- Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking 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.

2015 WATER QUALITY DATA (CONTINUED)

PARAMETER	UNITS	STATE OR FEDERAL MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	STATE DLR	RANGE AVERAGE	TWIN OAKS PLANT	CARLSBAD DESAL PLANT	HELIX PLANT	SKINNER PLANT	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
SECONDARY STANDARDS — AESTHETIC STANDARDS										
Aluminum (d)	ppb	200	NA	50	Range	ND	ND	160 - 430	ND	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
					Average	ND	ND	278	ND	
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	NA	Range	NA	44 - 54	89 - 100	102 - 105	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
					Average	110	44	95	104	
Color	Units	15	NA	NA	Range	ND	ND	1	1	Naturally occurring organic materials
					Average	ND	ND	1	1	
Odor Threshold	TON	3	NA	1	Range	NA	ND	ND - 2	2	Naturally-occurring organic materials
					Average	2	ND	ND	2	
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	NA	NA	Range	NA	281 - 318	1000	1000 - 1050	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
					Average	1000	296	1000	1020	
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	0.5	Range	NA	15 - 18	240 - 260	237 - 249	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
					Average	250	17	250	243	
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1000	NA	NA	Range	NA	120 - 218	640	639 - 655	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
					Average	690	194	640	647	
Turbidity	NTU	5	NA	0.1	Otay Distribution System Range: 0.05 - 0.50				Soil runoff	
					Otay Distribution System Average: 0.06					
FEDERAL UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS MONITORING RULE (UCMR3 List 1 and List 2)										
Bromochloromethane	ppt	NA	NA	NA	Otay Distribution System Range: 62 - 140				By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes	
					Otay Distribution System Average: 98					
Chlorate	ppb	NL = 800	NA	20	Otay Distribution System Range: 20 - 430				By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes	
					Otay Distribution System Average: 178					
Molybdenum	ppb	NA	NA	NA	Otay Distribution System Range: ND - 4.4				Naturally present in the environment; industrial processes	
					Otay Distribution System Average: 4.0					
Strontium	ppb	NA	NA	NA	Otay Distribution System Range: 140 - 990				Naturally present in the environment; industrial processes	
					Otay Distribution System Average: 840					
OTHER PARAMETERS - Chemical										
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	45 - 56	120 - 130	125 - 130	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	120	50	125	128	
Boron	ppb	NL = 1000	NA	100	Range	NA	ND	100	130	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
					Average	140	ND	100	130	
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	15 - 23	61 - 74	75 - 78	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	77	20	69	77	
Chlorate	ppb	NL = 800	NA	20	Range	130 - 320	NA	NA	97	By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes
					Average	220	NA	NA	97	
Corrosivity (i) (as Aggressiveness Index)	AI	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	11.3 - 12.1	13	12.5	Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors
					Average	13	11.8	13	12.5	
Hardness (j)	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	40 - 60	290 - 300	290 - 307	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	310	50	295	299	
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	0.3 - 0.6	23 - 27	25 - 27	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	28	0.4	26	26	
pH	pH Units	NA	NA	NA	Range	7.7 - 8.3	8.0 - 8.7	8.0 - 8.1	8.1 - 8.2	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	8.1	8.5	8.1	8.1	
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	1.0 - 1.6	4.3 - 4.7	4.7 - 5.1	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	4.9	1.4	4.5	4.9	
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	NA	Range	NA	32 - 94	82 - 94	96 - 103	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
					Average	120	40	90	100	

FOOTNOTES

- (a) The turbidity performance standards regulated by a Treatment Technique shall be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is an indicator of treatment performance.
- (b) Total coliform MCLs: No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be total coliform-positive.
- (c) *E. coli* MCL: The occurrence of two consecutive total coliform-positive samples, one of which contains *E. coli*, constitutes an acute MCL violation. The MCL was not violated.
- (d) Aluminum has both primary and secondary standards.
- (e) The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirem/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ. SWRCB considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
- (f) Compliance based on locational running annual average (LRAA)
- (g) Compliance based on running annual average (RAA)
- (h) TTHM and HAA5 are combinations of several disinfection by-product compounds. The State DLRs are for the individual compounds.
- (i) AI <10.0 = Highly aggressive and very corrosive water
AI > 12.0 = Non-aggressive water
AI (10.0 - 11.9) = Moderately aggressive water
- (j) Hardness can also be reported in grains per gallon. The distribution system range is 2.3-18.1 grains per gallon of hardness.
- (k) Lead and copper are regulated as a Treatment Technique under the Lead and Copper Rule. It requires systems to take water samples at the consumers' tap. The action levels, which trigger water systems into taking treatment steps if exceeded in more than 10% of the tap water samples, are 1.3 ppm for copper and 15 ppb for lead.

INFORME DE CONFIANZA AL CONSUMIDOR

El Distrito de Agua de Otay se enorgullece en presentar el Informe de Confianza al Consumidor. Este informe describe detalladamente la calidad del agua del año pasado incluyendo el origen del agua; su contenido; y una comparación con los estándares del estado. La información incluida en este informe de la calidad del agua representa una pequeña fracción de lo que hacemos para asegurar que usted reciba agua potable de la más alta calidad. Hacemos revisiones exhaustivas del agua, en uno o más laboratorios certificados por el Estado de California, que incluyen un amplio rango de elementos que tienen el potencial de degradar la calidad del agua. Únicamente los compuestos detectados en los suministros de agua fueron incluidos en este informe. Se concluyó, como en años anteriores, que el agua potable cumple con todos los estándares de salud de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (USEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) y los estándares para el agua potable del Estado de California. El Distrito de Agua de Otay siempre está vigilante salvaguardando los suministros de agua, y una vez más, estamos orgullosos de informar que nuestro sistema nunca ha excedido el nivel máximo de contaminantes o ningún otro estándar de la calidad del agua que pudiera impactar su salud.

ACERCA DEL DISTRITO DE AGUA DE OTAY

El Distrito de Agua de Otay es un Distrito especial establecido en 1956 por la Legislatura del Estado de California como proveedor público de servicios de agua. En la actualidad, el distrito provee de agua potable a más de 217,000 residentes que viven dentro de un territorio de 125.5 millas cuadradas que incluye las comunidades de Spring Valley, La Presa, Rancho San Diego y Jamul, así como las comunidades del este de la ciudad de Chula Vista y la ciudad de San Diego en Otay Mesa. El Distrito de Agua de Otay importa un promedio de 87 por ciento de su agua. El agua importada incluye agua del Río Colorado y el Proyecto Estatal de Agua de California. El distrito compra agua tratada al Distrito Metropolitano de Agua a través de la Planta de Tratamiento R.A. Skinner del Sur de California (Planta Skinner); la Planta de Tratamiento de Agua Twin Oaks Valley de la Autoridad de Agua del Condado (Planta Twin Oaks); la Planta Desalinizadora Claude "Bud" Lewis en Carlsbad; y la Planta de Tratamiento de Agua R.M. Levy del Distrito de Agua de Helix (Planta Helix).

UNA PLÁTICA DIRECTA SOBRE EL AGUA

Todos tienen interés en la calidad del agua y algunas personas se preguntarán, ¿puedo sentirme seguro bebiendo agua de la llave? En el Condado de San Diego, la respuesta es sí. Algunos sistemas públicos de agua, tales como los que operan el Distrito de Agua de Otay, deben cumplir con altos estándares para agua potable impuestos por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de Estados Unidos (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés). El agua de la llave es regulada más rigurosamente que el agua embotellada y debe cumplir con todos los estándares de calidad de agua, tanto federales como estatales. Estas regulaciones incluyen los límites numéricos en las concentraciones, o cantidades de ciertos contaminantes en el agua. Para poder cumplir con estas regulaciones, los suministros de agua deben proporcionar un tratamiento específico, como desinfección y filtración, para asegurar que el agua sea potable. Si todavía está preocupado o prefiere beber agua con un sabor diferente, puede comprar agua embotellada, sin embargo, puede costarle hasta mil veces más que el agua de la llave. Además, existen otras opciones más económicas que comprar agua embotellada. Algunas opciones incluyen sistemas de filtración para la casa que son prácticos, mejoran el sabor, y cuestan únicamente una fracción del precio del agua embotellada. Los consumidores que decidan comprar una unidad de tratamiento de agua para sus casas deben leer cuidadosamente la información del producto para que comprendan lo que están adquiriendo. También, deben seguir cuidadosamente las instrucciones de manufactura para la operación y mantenimiento del sistema, y recordar cambiar el filtro con regularidad.



EVALUACIONES DE LAS FUENTES DE AGUA

Las fuentes de suministro de agua del Distrito de Agua de Otay incluyen el Río Colorado, el Proyecto Estatal de Agua de California, y suministros locales. Las agencias que proveen de agua potable al Distrito de Agua de Otay, incluyendo el Distrito Metropolitano de Agua del Sur de California, la Autoridad de Agua del Condado de San Diego y el Distrito de Agua de Helix, realizan evaluaciones obligatorias y rigurosas de sus fuentes de agua bruta. Si desea obtener las evaluaciones del agua, por favor comuníquese con Jake Vaclavek, gerente de Sistemas de Operación del Distrito de Agua de Otay al 619-670-2230. Para mayor información acerca de cómo minimizar el riesgo de infección por causa del Cryptosporidium u otros microorganismos contaminantes comuníquese a la Línea Directa de Agua Potable al 1-800-426-4791.

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito

Chi tiết này thật quan trọng. Xin nhờ người dịch

”هذا التقرير يحتوي على معلومات مهمة تتعلق بمياه الشفة (أو للشرب).
ترجم التقرير، أو تكلم مع شخص يستطيع أن يفهم التقرير.“



CONTAMINANTES QUE SE PUEDEN PRESENTAR EN LOS SUMINISTROS DE AGUA

- Contaminantes microbianos como virus y bacterias que pueden provenir de plantas de tratamiento de aguas residuales, sistemas sépticos, actividades agrícolas o ganaderas y la fauna silvestre.
- Contaminantes inorgánicos tales como sales y metales que pueden surgir naturalmente o como resultado de la escorrentía de aguas pluviales; descargas de desechos industriales o domésticos; producción de aceite y gas; minería o agricultura.
- Los pesticidas o herbicidas que se pueden originar de la agricultura, escorrentía de aguas pluviales y usos residenciales.
- Contaminantes químicos orgánicos incluyendo los químicos sintéticos y orgánicos volátiles que son productos derivados de procesos industriales y la producción de petróleo por lo que también pueden provenir de estaciones de servicio; escorrentía de aguas pluviales en zonas urbanas; aplicación agrícola; y sistemas sépticos.
- Los contaminantes radioactivos que pueden surgir naturalmente o ser resultado de la producción de aceite y gas, así como actividades mineras.

CONTAMINANTES QUE PUEDEN ESTAR PRESENTES EN LOS SISTEMAS DE PLOMERÍA DEL HOGAR

- El plomo, si está presente, puede causar serios problemas de salud, especialmente en las mujeres embarazadas y niños pequeños. El plomo en el agua potable proviene principalmente de materiales y componentes asociados con las líneas de servicio y la plomería del hogar. El Distrito de Agua de Otay es responsable de proporcionar agua potable de alta calidad pero no puede controlar la variedad de materiales que se utilizan en los componentes del sistema de plomería. Cuando el agua ha estado asentada durante varias horas, usted puede minimizar el potencial de exposición al plomo abriendo la llave del agua de 30 segundos a 2 minutos antes de utilizar el agua para beber o cocinar. Si usted está preocupado acerca del plomo en su agua, tal vez le interesaría analizar su agua. Para más información acerca del plomo en el agua potable, métodos de análisis y pasos para minimizar la exposición comuníquese a la Línea Directa del Agua Potable Segura al 1-800-426-4791 o visite <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

PREOCUPACIONES SOBRE EL PLOMO EN EL SUMINISTRO DE AGUA

El plomo en el suministro de agua en Flint, Michigan ha estado en las noticias y ha sido objeto de varias comparecencias en el congreso. Usted se preguntará si lo sucedido en Flint podría pasar en el Distrito de Agua de Otay. En Flint existen aproximadamente 15,000 a 20,000 hogares con líneas de servicio hechas de plomo que transportan agua del sistema de agua potable de Flint a los hogares y negocios. Las líneas de servicio hechas de plomo fueron la fuente principal de los altos niveles de plomo en el suministro de agua de Flint. Ninguna de las 730 millas de redes de distribución o líneas de servicio de agua de Otay están hechas de plomo. Además, Otay está obligado por la USEPA a recoger muestras de agua en hogares seleccionados y examinar esa agua bajo la Norma de Plomo y Cobre de USEPA. En el área de servicio de Otay, los niveles de plomo están muy por debajo de los estándares de USEPA y el 90 por ciento de las muestras de agua arrojaron niveles de plomo mucho menores al límite de detección de cinco partes por mil millones. Si desea aprender más acerca del plomo en el agua potable por favor visite la página de Internet de la USEPA: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

LA VERDAD SOBRE EL AGUA DEL GRIFO

Creencias: Los estudios muestran que la mayoría de los consumidores que beben agua embotellada lo hacen porque disfrutan su sabor o portabilidad. Otras personas beben agua embotellada porque creen que es más pura o más segura que el agua del grifo.

Verdad: ¿Sabía usted que una botella de agua promedio puede costar hasta 1,000 veces más que el agua del grifo? A pesar de lo que su alto costo nos hace creer, se calcula que el 25 al 40 por ciento del agua embotellada en el mercado es simplemente agua del grifo envasada.

El agua del grifo está regulada por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos bajo la Ley de Agua Potable Segura mientras que el agua embotellada está considerada como alimento, por lo tanto, está regulada por la Administración de Medicamentos y Alimentos (FDA, por sus siglas en inglés). Si bien algunos embotelladores podrían exceder los estándares de la FDA, tanto el agua embotellada como los suministros de agua pública en los Estados Unidos deben cumplir con estándares similares para el agua potable segura. Para más información visite www.DrinkTap.org.

Usted tiene opciones: Es muy importante saber que usted tiene otra opción más económica que el agua embotellada.



Ponga a enfriar una jarra de agua del grifo en su refrigerador

Las jarras de agua fría, botellas reutilizables o termos son amigables con el medio ambiente y le ofrecen portabilidad a muy bajo costo.



Aparatos de tratamiento de agua del hogar

Otra posibilidad es la instalación de un sistema de filtración de agua en el hogar. Estos sistemas son prácticos, fáciles de usar y mejoran el sabor del agua. Estos aparatos logran los mismos resultados deseados a una fracción del costo del precio del agua embotellada.

Para más información acerca de los aparatos de tratamiento de agua del hogar certificados por el estado de California visite la página de Internet del Consejo Estatal de Control de Recursos de Agua http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/device/Documents/aparatos_para_tratar_el_agua.pdf.