



# WATER QUALITY

## 2005

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## Water Quality Report

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## A Consumer Confidence Report

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

This report contains important information about your drinking water.  
Please translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

Demonstrating its commitment to public health protection and the public's right-to-know about local environmental information, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires water suppliers to put annual drinking water quality reports into the hands of its customers. This publication provides detailed 2005 water quality information including source of supply, what it contains and how it compares to state and federal standards.

### Sources:

Carmichael Water District's (District) 40,000 customers receive approximately 75 percent of their water from the American River (surface water) and 25 percent from District ground water wells.

### Testing:

Your water is tested for more than 200 constituents on a daily, weekly, monthly, and/or annual basis. Water samples are subject to the most up-to-date testing methods and then are re-tested for accuracy. Samples are then measured against state and federal standards to ensure quality.

### Water Quality Chart

The Consumer Confidence Report chart identifies only those constituents detected at a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) as determined by state and federal regulations. These constituents are compared to state and federal goals – the Public Health Goal (PHG) and the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). All other tested and regulated constituents meet their respective MCL.

2005 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

**Detected Primary Drinking Water Constituents**

Constituent	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Ground Water	Ground Water Average	Surface Water	Surface Water Average	Typical Sources
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform Bacteria	% of positive samples	5%	(zero)	zero	N/A	zero	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity, percent of time less than .1 NTU (MCL for surface only) (a)	NTU	TT = 95% Of sample < .1	N/S	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	Soil runoff
Turbidity, maximum level found (a)	NTU	TT=1.0 NTU	N/S	1.5	N/A	0.04	N/A	Soil runoff
Constituent	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Ground Water	Ground Water Average	Surface Water Range	Surface Water Average	Typical Sources
<b>Inorganic Constituents</b>								
Arsenic	ppb	50	0.004	N/D-3.2	1.52	N/D	N/D	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Barium	ppm	1	2	0.026-0.16	0.09	0.017	0.017	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	50	(100)	2.2-10	5.12	1.4	1.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	N/D-0.19	0.08	N/D	N/D	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	AL=15	2	N/D-0.93	0.27	N/D	N/D	Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (inorganic)	ppb	2	1.2	N/D-0.42	0.08	N/D	N/D	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from landfills and cropland
Nitrate (as nitrite, NO3)	ppm	45	45	N/D-26	6.71	1.4	1.4	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic Constituents</b>								
Tetrachloroethylene [PCE]	ppb	5	0.06	N/D-1.7	0.49	N/D	N/D	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners and auto shops (metal degreaser)
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (distribution system) (b)	ppb	80	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.7-18.0	8.80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids, HAA5 (distribution system) (b)	ppb	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.7-16.0	8.44	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Detected Secondary Drinking Water Constituents (regulated for aesthetic qualities)</b>								
Color	units	15 units	N/A	0-3	1	N/A	5	Naturally-occurring organic material
Copper	ppm	1	N/A	N/D-0.029	0.01	N/D	N/D	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Iron	ppb	300	N/A	N/D-92	40	N/D	N/D	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Manganese	ppb	50	N/A	N/D-72	27.9	N/D	N/D	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor-Threshold	NTU	3 units	N/A	1.0-3.0	2.2	N/A	1.0	Naturally-occurring organic material
Turbidity	NTU	5 units	N/A	.05-1.5	0.65	.01-.04	0.02	Soil runoff
Zinc	ppm	5	N/A	N/D-.014	0.006	N/D	N/D	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	110-350	208	N/A	53	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	micromhos	1600	N/A	107-506	277	N/A	69	Substances that form ions when in water
Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	2.6-36	13.8	N/A	2.5	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	4.3-26	12.5	N/A	4.3	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
<b>Other Unregulated Constituents of Interest</b>								
Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	6.6-27	12.6	N/A	3.3	Naturally occurring salt in the water
Calcium	ppm	N/A	N/A	10.0-44.0	22	N/A	8.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	ppm	N/A	N/A	8.6-25	12.1	N/A	3.1	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness	ppm	N/A	N/A	49.7-213	105	N/A	33.7	The sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally occurring magnesium and calcium
<b>Lead and Copper (Sampled 2005)</b>								
Constituent	Unit Measurement	AL	PHG	90th Percentile	Number of sites exceeding AL out of		Typical Sources	
Lead	ppb	15	2	N/D	Zero		Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems	
Copper	ppm	1.3	0.17	0.083	Zero		Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems	

(a) Only surface water sources must comply with PDWS for turbidity (b) Based on the maximum running annual average

The information included in this water quality chart is required by law to be provided to every water user.

# 2005 Annual Water Quality Report

The District has taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any constituents. This is a complete list of the constituents that are tested and the actual test results of your drinking water after the treatment process compared with the federal/state contaminant level limits and goals. The intent is to give you an idea of where the District stands with regard to water quality standards set by the California Department of Health Services (DHS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

### How to Read the Table:

1. Identify constituent in the left column.
2. Compare the detection range and average to the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and the Public Health Goal/Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (PHG/MCLG).

#### LEGEND:

N/D = Analyzed; non Detected  
 NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit  
 PPM = Parts per Million  
 PPB = Parts per Billion  
 PPT = Parts per Trillion  
 MF/L = Million Fibers per Liter  
 MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level  
 MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal  
 PCi/L = picoCuries per Liter  
 PHG = Public Health Goal  
 N/S = No Standard

**Total Trihalomethanes =**  
 Sum of results for Chloroform, Bromoform, Dibromochloromethane and Bromochloromethane

**\*\* Fluoride Standard**  
 Depends on Temperature

In addition to the constituents noted above Carmichael Water District has conducted monitoring for 43 additional organic chemicals for which the California DHS has not yet set a standard. Water quality information is based on data collected from 1999 through 2005.

**For additional water quality data, contact:  
 Carmichael Water District at 483-2452**

## 2005 WATER QUALITY REPORT

	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Ground Water Range	Ground Water Average	Surface Water Range	Surface Water Average
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	% of tests positive	5%	N/S	(zero)	N/D	N/D	N/D
3. Turbidity	NTU	TT	N/A	.05-1.5	0.065	0.02-0.04	0.022

### Radioactive Contaminants

4. Gross Beta Activity	pCi/L	50	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
5. Strontium 90	pCi/L	8	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
6. Tritium	pCi/L	20,000	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
7. Gross Alpha Activity	pCi/L	15	0	<3.00	1.09	<3.00	N/A
8. Radium 226 & 228 (total)	pCi/L	5	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
9. Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D

### Inorganic Contaminants

10. Aluminum	ppm	1	0.6	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
11. Antimony	ppb	6	20	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
12. Arsenic	ppb	50	0.004	N/D-3.2	1.52	N/D	N/D
13. Asbestos	MF/L	7	7	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
14. Barium	ppm	1	2	0.026-0.16	0.09	0.017	0.017
15. Beryllium	ppb	4	1	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
16. Cadmium	ppb	5	0.07	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
17. Chromium	ppb	50	100	2.2-10	5.12	1.4	1.4
19. Cyanide	ppb	150	150	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
20. Fluoride	ppm	2	1	N/D-0.19	0.08	N/D	N/D
22. Mercury (inorganic)	ppb	2	1.2	N/D-0.42	0.08	N/D	N/D
23. Nickel	ppb	100	12	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
24. Nitrate (as nitrite, NO3)	ppm	45	45	N/D-26	6.71	1.4	1.4
25. Nitrite (as nitrogen, N)	ppm	1	1	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
27. Selenium	ppb	50	50	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
28. Thallium	ppb	2	0.1	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

29. 2,4-D	ppb	70	70	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
30. 2,4,5-TP	ppb	50	25	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
31. Acrylamide	ppb	TT	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
32. Alachor	ppb	2	4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
33. Atrazine	ppb	1	0.15	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
34. Bentazon	ppb	18	200	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
35. Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH)	ppt	200	4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
36. Carbofuran	ppb	18	1.7	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
37. Chloradane	ppt	100	30	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
38. Dalapon	ppb	200	790	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
39. Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	ppb	400	200	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
40. Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	ppb	4	12	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
41. Dibromochloropropane [DBCP]	ppt	200	1.7	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
42. Dinoseb	ppb	7	14	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
43. Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	ppq	30	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
44. Diquat	ppb	20	15	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
45. Endothal	ppb	100	580	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
46. Endrin	ppb	2	1.8	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
47. Epichlorohydrin	ppb	TT	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
48. Ethylene dibromide [EDB]	ppt	50	10	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
49. Glyphosate	ppb	700	1000	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
50. Heptachlor	ppt	10	8	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
51. Heptachlor epoxide	ppb	10	6	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
52. Hexachlorobenzene	ppb	1	0.03	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
53. Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	ppb	50	50	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
54. Lindane	ppt	200	32	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
55. Methoxychlor	ppb	30	30	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D

	Unit Measurement	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Ground Water Range	Ground Water Average	Surface Water Range	Surface Water Average
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides (Continued)</b>							
56. Molinate [Ordram]	ppb	20	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
57. Oxamyl [Vydate]	ppb	50	50	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
58. PCBs [Polychlorinated biiphenyls]	ppt	500	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
59. Pentachlorophenol	ppb	1	0.4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
60. Picloram	ppb	500	500	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
61. Simazine	ppb	4	4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
62. Thiobencarb	ppb	70	70	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
63. Toxophene	ppb	3	0.03	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Volatile Organic Contaminants				N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
64. Benzene	ppb	1	0.15	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
65. Carbon tetrachloride	ppt	500	100	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
66. 1,2-Dichlorobenzene [o-DCB]	ppb	600	600	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
67. 1,4-Dichlorobenzene [p-DCB]	ppb	5	6	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
68. 1,1-Dichloroethane	ppt	5	3	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
69. 1,2-Dichloroethane	ppb	500	400	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
70. 1,1-Dichloroethylene	ppb	6	10	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
71. cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	ppb	6	70	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
72. trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	ppb	10	100	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
73. Dichloromethane	ppb	5	4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
74. 1,2-Dichloropropane	ppb	5	0.5	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
75. 1,3-Dichloropropane	ppt	500	200	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
76. Ethylbenzene	ppb	300	300	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
77. Methyl-tert-butyl ether	ppb	13	13	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
78. Monochlorobenzene	ppb	70	200	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
79. Styrene	ppb	100	100	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
80. 1,1,2,2-Tetrachlorethane	ppb	1	0.1	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
81. Tetrachloroethylene [PCE]	ppb	5	0.06	N/D-1.7	0.49	N/D	N/D
82. 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	ppb	5	5	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
83. 1,1,1-Trichloroethane	ppb	200	200	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
84. 1,1,2-Trichloroethane	ppb	5	3	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
85. Trichloroethylene [TCE]	ppb	5	0.8	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
87. Toluene	ppb	150	150	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
88. Trichlorofluoromethane	ppb	150	700	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
89. 1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane	ppb	1.2	4	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
90. Vinyl Chloride	ppt	500	50	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
91. Xylenes	ppm	1.75	1.8	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D

#### SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Aluminum	ppb	200	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Color	units	15 units	N/A	0-3	1	N/A	5
Copper	ppm	1	N/A	N/D-.029	0.01	N/D	N/D
Corrosively	---	Non-corrosive	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Foaming Agents [MBAS]	ppb	500	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Iron	ppb	300	N/A	N/D-92	40	N/D	N/D
Manganese	ppb	50	N/A	N/D-72	27.9	N/D	N/D
Methyl-tert-butyl ether [MTBE]	ppb	5	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Odor-Threshold	units	3 units	N/A	1.0-3.0	2.2	N/A	1
Silver	ppb	100	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
thiobencarb	ppb	1	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Turbidity	units	5 units	N/A	.05-1.5	0.65	.01-.04	0.02
Zinc	ppm	5	N/A	N/D-.014	0.006	N/D	N/D
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	110-350	208	N/A	53
Specific Conductance	micromhos	1600	N/A	107-506	277	N/A	69
Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	2.6-36	13.8	N/A	2.5
Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	4.3-26	12.5	N/A	4.3

#### UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS AND CONSTITUENTS OF INTEREST

1, 4 Dioxane	ppb	N/S	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
N-Nitrosodimethylamin (NDMA)	ppb	N/S	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Perchlorate	ppb	6	N/A	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D

#### Water Quality Measurement Units:

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)** – A measure of water's clarity. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**None Established (NE)** – a standard has not yet been established.

**None Detected (N/D)** – a detection of the contaminant was not found at or above the test detection limit in the samples taken.

**Parts per million (PPM)** – a measurement of the concentration of a substance roughly equivalent to 4 drops in 55 gallons or one part in 1,000,000.

**Parts per billion (PPB)** – a measurement of the concentration of a substance roughly equivalent to one drop in one of the largest tanker trucks used to haul gasoline or one part in 1,000,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (PPT)** – a measurement of the concentration of a substance roughly equivalent to one drop in a 12-million-gallon reservoir or 1 part in 1,000,000,000,000.

**picoCurie per Liter (pCi/L)** – A picoCurie is a measure of radioactivity. One picoCurie of radioactivity is equivalent to 0.037 nuclear disintegrations per second.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MF/L)** – million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

## Information You Should Know

### Definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – the highest concentration level of a contaminant that is allowed by the state of California in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the public health goals and maximum contaminant level goals as 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.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)** – maximum contaminant levels for contaminants that affect health.

**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.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)** – maximum contaminant levels for contaminants that affect taste, odor or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with secondary drinking water standards do not affect health at the MCL levels.

**Drinking Water** – 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

**Drinking Water Contaminants** – the sources of drinking water (both tap 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 EPA and 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water (pre-treated 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**, which may come from a variety of source such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Nitrates** in drinking water at levels above 45 ppm are a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 ppm may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

### Special Information for Sensitive Populations

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, people 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. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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> Information you should know continued from inside

### Source Water Assessment Available

The California Department of Health Services requires water providers to conduct a Source Water Assessment to help protect the quality of future water supplies. This assessment describes where a water system's drinking water comes from, the types of polluting activities that may threaten source water quality and an evaluation of the water's vulnerability to those threats.

To meet the DHS requirements and provide our customers with information about our water supply, the District completed its surface source water assessment in May 2003 and its ground water source assessment in July 2003.

The results indicate that our surface water source (the American River) is considered most vulnerable to contamination from sewer system spills, body contact recreation, urban runoff and

discharge of regulated and unregulated contaminants. The contaminants to which the surface water sources are considered most vulnerable include the following:

- Perchlorate, nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) and volatile organic chemicals discharged into the American River by the Aerojet General Corporation. Aerojet is under the joint regulatory oversight of the EPA, California Department of Toxic Substance Control and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The ground water sources are considered most vulnerable to contamination from illegal activities and unauthorized dumping, sewer collection systems, dry cleaners, automobile repair shops, chemical/petroleum pipelines, electrical/electronic manufacturing, underground storage tanks and gas stations.

The contaminants to which ground water sources are considered most vulnerable from contaminants detected in the water supply include the following:

- Liquid rocket fuel (NDMA)
- Rocket fuel propellant (Perchlorate)
- Dry cleaning solvent (PCE)
- Gas stations/gasoline additive (MTBE)

A copy of the complete assessment is available for inspection at the Carmichael Water District office, 7837 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael, CA, 95608. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting General Manager, Steve Nugent at (916)483-2452.