CARMICHAEL WATER DISTRICT
2013 Consumer Confidence Report

This report contains important information about your drinking water.

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

A copy of the complete Source Water Assessment is available for inspection at the Carmichael Water District (CWD) office, 7837 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael, CA, 95608. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by calling District’s Public Information Officer Chris Nelson at (916)483-2452.

Public Meetings
The Carmichael Water District Board of Directors typically meets at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of each month at the Carmichael Water District office. Meeting dates are posted at our website. The public is welcome to attend.

High Quality Drinking Water is Carmichael Water District’s Top Priority
Demonstrating its commitment to public health protection and the public’s right-to-know about local environmental information, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) require water suppliers to provide annual drinking water quality reports to its customers. This publication summarizes the most recent testing and includes a comparison of detectable constituents in your drinking water against established federal and state standards.

This year’s report concludes that, once again, your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards.

About This Report
In 2013, as in years past, Carmichael Water District (District) met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. CWD routinely tests for over 138 contaminants to ensure safe and healthy drinking water for our customers. Once again, we are proud to report that our system has not violated any maximum contaminant level (mcl) or any other water quality standards. This brochure is a snapshot of the District’s 2013 water quality. Also included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

While the District is required to list only those constituents detected at a threshold level as determined by state and federal regulations in this report, a complete listing of all tested constituents is available in the District’s Annual Water Quality Report. The 2013 Annual Water Quality Report is available on our website at, www.carmichaelwd.org or at our main office.

Water Efficiency Tips
Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Visit our website at www.carmichaelwd.org for more information on our conservation programs.

Where Does Our Water Come From?
The District’s approximately 38,354 customers receive on average approximately 84 percent of their water from the American River (surface water) and 16 percent from District groundwater wells. Since the expansion of the water treatment plant in 2008, the District has reduced the number of groundwater sources to three primary wells. The wells are operated seasonally, May through September. The water is tested for more than 138 constituents on a regular 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.

The CDPH 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.

Groundwater and Surface Water Assessment
To meet the CDPH requirements and provide our customers with information about our water supply, the District completed the American River Watershed Sanitary Survey in 2013.

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

The groundwater 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 groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable include the following: liquid rocket fuel (NDMA), rocket fuel propellant (perchlorate), dry cleaning solvent (PCE), and gasoline additive (MTBE).
Sodium and Hardness:
Sodium is a naturally occurring chemical element that is present in our source water. The level of sodium measured during 2013 was 6.4 ppm from our surface water source and an average of 0.6 ppm from our source water from groundwater. Hardness of the water in our system depends on your location within the District and the season due to the source of supply. The level of hardness measured during fall and winter of 2013 was 25 ppm classifying the water in the "soft" category based on water quality standards. During spring and summer of 2013 when water is supplemented with groundwater, the hardness ranges from 76 to 110 ppm depending on your location within the District. Any increase in groundwater will classify the water between "soft" and "hard".

How to Read the Table:
1. Identify constituent in the left column.
2. Compare the detection range and averages to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) and the Public Health Goal/Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (PHG/MCLG).

Table Definitions:
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. 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 the drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Disinfection Level (MCDL) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCDLs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
- Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.
- Primary Drinking Water Standards (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 USEPA and 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).
- Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS) – MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWS do not affect health at the MCL levels.
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Not Applicable (N/A)
- Undetected (ND) – Analyzed, not detectable at testing limit.
- Water Quality Measurement Units:
  - Microhoms – A measure of the ability of water to conduct electricity.
  - NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) – A measure of water's clarity. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.