

Key Water Quality Terms

Following are definitions of key terms noted on the adjacent water quality data table. These terms refer to the standards and goals for water quality described below:

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 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 USEPA.

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 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.

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

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

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

Turbidity: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Cryptosporidium is a parasitic microbe found in most surface water. The SFPUC regularly tests for this waterborne pathogen, and found it at very low levels in source water and treated water in 2013. However, current test methods approved by the USEPA do not distinguish between dead organisms and those capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may produce symptoms of nausea, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Drinking Water Source Assessment

In March 2003 a drinking water source assessment was completed, and five of Daly City's six municipal production wells assessed were noted as being highly protected from potential pathways of contamination. Well #4 was noted as being moderately protected. Daly City's municipal wells are considered most vulnerable to automotive repair activities, roadway contaminants and railways.

A copy of the complete assessment is available from the CDPH Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 2nd Floor, Richmond, CA 94804. You may also obtain a summary of the assessment by contacting either CDPH District Engineer Eric Lacy at (510) 620-3453, or Daly City's Director of Water and Wastewater Resources Patrick Sweetland at (650) 991-8200.

Fluoridation Program

Mandated by State law, water fluoridation is a widely accepted practice proven to be safe and effective for preventing and controlling tooth decay. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has fluoridated drinking water for more than fifty years. Since June 2004, Daly City fluoridates the blended well water supply throughout the entire community in keeping with the optimum level established by the CDPH. Our water is optimally fluoridated at 1.0 mg/L. Additional information can be found at CDPH website www.cdph.ca.gov/certificdrinkingwater/pages/fluoridation.aspx

Special Health Needs

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, 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 guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Free Water Conservation Devices and Cash Rebates

To assist our customers in voluntary conservation efforts, the Department of Water and Wastewater Resources offers a variety of free water saving devices, publications, rebates and school programs for residents, commercial users and students. For more information contact Cynthia Royer at (650) 991-8203 or by email at: croyer@dalycity.org.

For additional water conservation information, click on: www.dalycity.org

Water Main Flushing Program

Daly City staff routinely flushes water mains throughout the City in order to maintain water quality and remove sediment from the water distribution system. Sediment and rust can collect in water mains. This can discolor water, cause undesirable tastes and odors, and over time impede the flow of water through the main. The mains are flushed by operating valves in the street and opening hydrants to force the flow of water in one direction to properly flush the water main. The flushed water is dechlorinated and, if possible, directed to a landscaped area. The flushing continues until the water flowing out of the hydrant runs clear. Daly City staff last conducted a system wide flushing program in 2010, and is postponing scheduled system flushing while drought conditions exist.

Indoor Water Use Efficiency and Conservation Ordinance

Daly City Municipal Code 15.66 has been in place since March 10, 2010. The ordinance addresses two critical public policy questions. The first challenge is keeping Daly City within its water supply assurance of 4,292 million gallons a day set by the San Francisco Regional Water System. The second challenge is enacting expanded local ordinances governing water conservation and enforcement of indoor water use efficiency standards consistent with state law. Phase II of the program, effective January 1, 2014, requires that any remodeled property must replace all non-compliant plumbing fixtures with specified water-conserving devices. Additional information regarding Daly City's Water Conservation Program can be obtained from the Department of Water and Wastewater Resources by calling (650) 991-8200.



DROUGHT CONDITIONS ARE REAL! A few easy life-style shifts that save water to address drought conditions:

- Turn off the faucet when you are brushing your teeth or doing dishes;
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running a tap;
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Instead, compost vegetable food waste ... saving gallons every day;
- Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes ... saving up to 1,000 gallons per month;
- Using a broom to clean sidewalks or driveways;
- invest in a rain barrel harvesting system (hooked up to your home gutter system) that can be used to water your garden and lawn;
- Operate your washing machine and dishwasher with full loads;
- Irrigate sparingly and only during early morning and evening hours.
- While you wait for hot water, collect the running water and use it to water plants and more.

Water is precious — please use it wisely!



City of Daly City
Department of Water and
Wastewater Resources
153 Lake Merced Boulevard
Daly City, CA 94015



POSTMASTER: Please deliver by July 1, 2014

Contacts for Your Questions

- For questions regarding:
- Your water bill and starting or stopping service, contact **Utility Billing** at (650) 991-8082.
 - Leaks, service problems, water quality information, technical data or any other water related questions, contact the **Department of Water and Wastewater Resources** at (650) 991-8200.
 - For questions regarding this report, contact Patrick Sweetland, Director of the **Department of Water and Wastewater Resources**, at (650) 991-8200.



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If English is Not Your Primary Language

This report contains important information regarding your health and drinking water. Call the Daly City Water and Wastewater Resources Department (650) 991-8200 should you require assistance in Chinese, Spanish, or Tagalog.

Este reporte contiene información muy importante de su salud y el agua que toma. Llame a Daly City Water and Wastewater Resources Department a (650) 991-8200 si necesita asistencia en Español.

此報告包括有關您的健康和食水的重要資料。如需華語協助，請來電大市水務及廢水資源部，電話 (650) 991-8200。

Ang ulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong kalusugan at sa inumin ninyong tubig. Mangyari po lamang na tawagan ang Daly City Water and Wastewater Resources Department sa numero (650) 991-8200 kung kinakailangan ninyo ng tulong o interpretasyon sa wikang Tagalog.



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2013
Daly City Water Quality Report

To our water customers:

This 2013 Water Quality Report contains required regulatory information about Daly City's water supply and how it complies with State standards. It is your right to know this information and to become an informed customer of your public water system. The City of Daly City is pleased to present this report to you.

2013 Daly City Water Quality Report

Your drinking water undergoes a rigorous monitoring program. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) drinking water health standards. Daly City staff vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again, we are proud to report that your water system is operated to fully achieve all water quality standards. This brochure 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. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Drinking Water Sources

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, oceans, 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. Such substances are called contaminants. 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and CDPH prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's *Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791*.



The Daly City water system is supplied by two sources, surface water supplies managed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and groundwater produced by local Daly City wells. These two sources are blended. Approximately 56.4 percent of Daly City's average daily demand is supplied from SFPUC surface water supplies. The remaining 43.6 percent of Daly City's water supply comes from local groundwater wells. Water is drawn from an average of 300 feet below ground from a large underground aquifer known as the Westside Basin. This

basin serves a large portion of the northern San Mateo Peninsula and extends north to Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. In many ways groundwater is a better protected source than surface water. Due to its closed environment and consistent test results, well water is only required to have disinfectants added prior to it being placed into the drinking water distribution system.

The major source of SFPUC surface water originates from spring snow melt flowing down the Tuolumne River and stored in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir and Watershed, located in Yosemite National Park. This pristine water source meets all federal and state criteria for watershed protection. Because of existing disinfection treatment practice, extensive bacteriological quality monitoring, and high operational standards, the State has granted the Hetch Hetchy water source a filtration exemption.



Hetch Hetchy water is supplemented with surface water from two local Bay Area watersheds. Rainfall and runoff from 35,000 acres in Alameda Watershed spanning Alameda and Santa Clara counties are collected in the Calaveras and San Antonio Reservoirs for filtration and disinfection at the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant. In San Mateo County, rainfall and runoff from 23,000 acres in the Peninsula Watershed are stored in Crystal Springs, San Andreas, and Pilarcitos Reservoirs and are filtered and disinfected at the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant. As in the past, the Hetch Hetchy Watershed provided the majority of our total surface water supply, with the remainder contributed by the two local watersheds in 2013.

How You Can Become Involved

The City welcomes your comments and suggestions on how to improve your municipal water system and better preserve our resources. Daly City conducts City Council meetings beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. These meetings are open to the public and are held in the City Council Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall, 333-90th Street. Important customer information is also available on Daly City's website: www.dalycity.org.

City of Daly City - Water Quality Data for 2013⁽¹⁾

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	Unit	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Range or Level Found	Average or [Max]	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
TURBIDITY ⁽²⁾						
For Unfiltered Hetch Hetchy Water	NTU	5	N/A	0.2 - 0.3 ⁽²⁾	[3.6] ⁽³⁾	Soil runoff
For Filtered Water from Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant (HTWTP)	NTU	1 ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	~	[0.13]	Soil runoff
	-	min 95% of samples ≤0.3 NTU ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	100%	-	Soil runoff
For Filtered Water from Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant (SVWTP)	NTU	1 ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	~	[0.98]	Soil runoff
	-	min 95% of samples ≤0.3 NTU ⁽⁴⁾	N/A	99.9%	-	Soil runoff
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRECURSOR						
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	2.7 - 48.3	[25.9] ⁽⁶⁾	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Halooacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	0 - 56.4	[31.6] ⁽⁶⁾	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon ⁽⁶⁾	ppm	TT	N/A	1 - 3.4	2.2	Various natural and man-made sources
MICROBIOLOGICAL						
Total Coliform	-	NoP ≤5.0% of monthly samples	(0)	-	[0.65%]	Naturally present in the environment
Giardia lamblia	cyst/L	TT	(0)	<0.01 - 0.04	<0.01	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli (Federal Ground Water Rule)	-	0	(0)	ND	ND	Naturally present in the environment
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Fluoride (source water) ⁽⁸⁾	ppm	2.0	1	ND - 0.8	0.4 ⁽⁹⁾	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (as chlorine)	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	1.85 - 2.28	2.03 (10)	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Nitrate (as NO3)	ppm	45	45	ND - 35.0	6.6	Erosion of natural deposits

CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Aluminum ⁽⁷⁾	ppb	200	600	ND - 52	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	<3 - 18	10.2	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Color	unit	15	N/A	<5 - 6	<5	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	N/A	29 - 258	202	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	0.8 - 33	16.6	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	<20 - 109	71	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	5	N/A	0.1 - 0.3	0.1	Soil runoff

LEAD AND COPPER	Unit	AL	PHG	Range	90th Percentile	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppb	1300	300	<0.05 - 0.41 ⁽¹¹⁾	0.055	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	ppb	15	0.2	<0.005 ⁽¹¹⁾	<0.005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS	Unit	ORL	Range	Average
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	N/A	7 - 71	46
Bromide ⁽¹²⁾	ppb	N/A	<3 - 23	13
Calcium (as Ca)	ppm	N/A	3-28	15
Chlorate ⁽¹³⁾	ppb	(800) NL	39 - 690	303
Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	ppm	N/A	7 - 89	53
Magnesium	ppm	N/A	<0.2 - 8.3	5.3
pH	-	N/A	6.5-9.4	8.4
Silica	ppm	N/A	4.8 - 5.2	5
Sodium	ppm	N/A	3 - 18	12
RADIONUCLIDES		MCL	Range	Average or [Max]
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	ND-3.9	ND

Notes:				
(1) All results met State and Federal drinking water health standards. The data is based on Hetch Hetchy water, effluents from both the Sunol Valley and Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plants, and local sources.				
(2) Turbidity is measured every four hours. These are monthly average turbidity values.				
(3) The highest turbidity of the unfiltered water in 2013 was 3.6 NTU.				
(4) There is no MCL for turbidity. The limits are based on the TT requirements in the State drinking water regulations.				
(5) This is the highest running annual average value.				
(6) Total organic carbon is a precursor for disinfection byproduct formation. The TT requirement applies to the filtered water from the SVWTP only.				
(7) Aluminum also has a primary MCL of 1000 ppb.				
(8) The SFPUC adds fluoride to an optimum level of 0.9 ppm to help prevent dental cavities in consumers. The CDPH requires fluoride levels in the treated water to be maintained within a range of 0.8 - 1.5 ppm. Daly City water = 0.99 ppm avg in 2013.				
(9) The natural fluoride level in the Hetchy Hetchy supply was ND. Elevated fluoride levels in SVWTP and HTWTP raw water are attributed to the transfer of fluoridated Hetch Hetchy water into the reservoirs.				
(10) This is the highest running annual average value.				
(11) The most recent Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2013. Zero of the 52 water samples collected at consumer taps had either copper or lead concentrations above the Action Level. Further testing will take place in 2016.				
(12) Bromide was monitored at HTWTP treated water in 2013.				
(13) The detected chlorate in the treated water is a degradation product of sodium hypochlorite used by the SFPUC for water disinfection.				

KEY:

< / ≤ = less than / less than or equal to
µS/cm = microSiemens / centimeter
cyst/L = Cysts / Liter
AL = Action Level
Average = All test results divided by # of tests
Max = Maximum
Min = Minimum
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
N/A = Not Available
ND = Non-Detect
NL = Notification Level
NoP = Number of Coliform-Positive Samples
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
ORL = Other Regulatory Level
PHG = Public Health Goal
ppb = parts per billion
SMCL = Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level
TT = Treatment Technique

Additional water quality data may be obtained by calling the Daly City Department of Water and Wastewater Resources at (650) 991-8200



The table to the left lists drinking water contaminants detected in 2013. Contaminants below federally established detection limits, such as arsenic, perchlorate, MTBE, and others, are not listed. The table contains the name of each contaminant, the applicable drinking water standards or regulatory action levels, the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the typical contaminant sources

and footnotes explaining the findings. The State allows the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because their concentrations do not change. For certain other contaminants that were absent in the water, based on many years of monitoring, the SFPUC received a monitoring waiver from the State.

Results from nitrate testing at one of Daly City's six wells (Well #4) showed amounts in excess of the maximum contaminant level of 45 parts per million; however, the 2013 blended average in the distribution system was 6.6 parts per million. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 parts per million is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can reduce the capacity of an infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 parts per million may affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen for other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant or pregnant, you should seek advice from your health care provider. Additionally, nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time due to rainfall or agricultural activity.

In May 2012, USEPA published the third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) that lists the total of 28 chemical contaminants and two viruses for monitoring by some public water systems between 2013 and 2015. USEPA uses the UCMR to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water to help determine if drinking water standards need to be developed in the future. Daly City is required to monitor the 28 chemical contaminants, and

Water Quality Data

complete the four quarters of the UCMR3 by November 2014. SFPUC has completed their monitoring of the surface water supply and have only 5 of the 28 contaminants shown below were detected at very low levels. In the absence of identifiable industrial sources

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

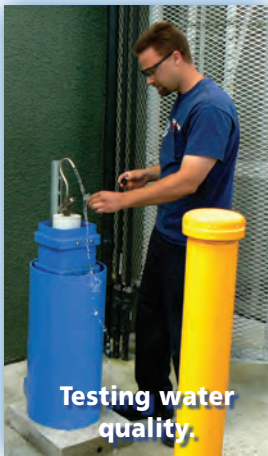
- Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems; and
- Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



<http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/index.cfm>

Reducing Lead from Plumbing Fixtures

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. There are no known lead service lines in your water distribution system. The City is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water (please see water quality footnote 11 in the adjacent Water Quality Data table), but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can further 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 levels in your water, you may wish to test your water with a home test kit. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791*, or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3)						
Sampling Results for the First Quarter						
DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	Unit	MCL ¹	PHG or (MCLG)	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorate	ppb	800 (NL)	n/a	71-92	78.8	Degradation of disinfectant
Chromium-total ²	ppb	50	(100)	<0.2-11	2.62	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial discharges
Chromium-6 ³	ppb	10	0.02	<0.2-7.8	1.89	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial discharges
Strontium	ppb	n/a	n/a	15-140	63.6	Erosion of natural and pipe deposits
Vanadium	ppb	50 (NL)	n/a	<0.2-5.5	1.5	Erosion of natural and pipe deposits

1. For definitions of these water quality terms, please see the contaminants listing above.
2. This MCL was established by CDPH. USEPA has a MCL of 100 ppb.
3. CDPH has proposed a MCL of 10 ppb for chromium-6.