

2017 Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report)

Water System Name: Sonoma State University (PWS #4910027) Report Date: 6/28/2018

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2017 and may include earlier monitoring data.

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

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater

Name & general location of source(s): Three active wells (#2A, #3, and #4) are located at the northwest corner of campus. Water from these wells is pumped to an on-campus chlorination facility as a means of inactivating target pathogenic microorganisms that may be present. NSF-certified chlorine is currently the only chemical added to SSU's drinking water supply.

Drinking Water Source Assessment information:

A source water assessment was conducted in 2002. Wells #3 and #4 were identified as being vulnerable to contamination from sewage collection systems. Well #4 was identified as being vulnerable to photo processing & printing operations. While no contaminants were detected during the assessment, well #2A was brought on-line in response to these identified vulnerabilities. While a small number of contaminants have been detected, all detections fall below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA research has determined that drinking water is safe to consume where contaminant levels fall below the MCL.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation:

Please contact Risk and Safety Services for additional information.

For more information, contact: Craig Dawson Phone: (707) 664-2932

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

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 (U.S. EPA).

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): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

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

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

Variations and Exemptions: State Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if

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

possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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.

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 byproducts 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In a mo.)	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year)	0	a routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year)	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) *	8/20/2014	30	<5	0	15	0.2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) *	8/20/2014	30	0.88	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	1/17/2017	19	18 - 20	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	1/17/2017	209	205 - 212	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	1/17/2017	1.9	0 - 3.6	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (as N)	1/2017-10/2017	4.2	2.3 – 6.3	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha particle activity (pCi/L)	7/8/2015	0.738	0.654 - 0.821	15	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1/17/2017	0.12	---	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from

						fertilizer and aluminum factories (<u>Sonoma State does not fluoridate our water supply</u>)
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TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	1/17/2017	24	22 - 26	500 mg/L	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1/17/2017	437	430 -4 40	1,600 µS/cm	none	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	1/17/2017	16	16 - 17	500 mg/L	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1/17/2017	313	310 - 320	1,000 mg/L	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Color (Units)	1/17/2017	6	0 - 9	15 Units	none	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron (µg/L)	1/17/2017	75	0 -150	300 µg/L	none	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity (mg/L)	1/17/2017	0.6	0.24 - 1.1	5 units	none	Soil runoff

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	1/24/17	1.8	1.6 – 2.0	There is currently no MCL for hexavalent chromium. The previous MCL of 10 ppb was withdrawn on 9/11/2017.	Some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer

Additional General Information on 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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. U.S. EPA/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 (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language for Community Water 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. Sonoma State University 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. [Optional: If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.] 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 (1-800-426-4701) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

**Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT,
or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
Failure to meet treatment monitoring requirements.	On 5/25/2017 Sonoma State did not perform daily monitoring of chlorine residual, temperature, flow rate, and clear well level at the entry point to the distribution system.	1 day	The system was maintaining all necessary controls. It was fully evaluated by a third-party contractor and no problems were identified. The system continues to monitor our drinking water in accordance with our State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) approved monitoring plan.	N/A
*Failure to collect and analyze (30) Lead and Copper samples by the compliance deadline of 9/2017.	We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During June- September 2017, we did not complete all monitoring for lead and copper, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water at that time. Per the SWRCB, Lead and Copper results reported in this years' water quality report reflect sample values collected and analyzed in 2014.	Ongoing	Citation NO. 02_18_18C_011 was issued by the SWRCB for failing to meet the compliance deadline for this monitoring requirement. Per the citation, Sonoma State has collected (30) Lead and Copper Samples across campus in June 2018. By regulation, this citation must be reported to consumers and results of the samples collected in June 2018 will be reported by July 1, 2019 (the following years' drinking water quality report)	Health effects unknown