

# BELLA VISTA WATER DISTRICT – 2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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

The District is pleased to present this year's Consumer Confidence Report. Our constant goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts that we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

## WHERE OUR WATER COMES FROM

Our water sources include surface water from the Sacramento River, groundwater from five wells, and emergency intertie connections with the City of Redding, and the City of Shasta Lake.

In 2008, surface water from the Sacramento River made up 96.4% of the treated water supply, or approximately 5.27 billion gallons (compared to 98.8% of the treated water supply and 4.92 billion gallons in 2007). With the improvements at the Wintu Pumping Plant and the Water Treatment Plant the District can now pump up to 52.5 million gallons per day (mgd) through its treatment facilities. The maximum daily flow through the Water Treatment Plant in 2008 was 33.3 million gallons on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

The District's wells draw from the Redding groundwater basin. In late November 2008, in order to take the District's 4 Million Gallon Tank out of service for repairs and recoating of the tank, the Water Treatment Plant was taken off line and the District relied entirely on its wells and intertie water from the Cities of Redding and Shasta Lake through the middle of February 2009. Due to this additional running of the District's wells groundwater made up 3.3% of the total supply, or approximately 178 million gallons in 2008 (compared to 1.2% of the treated water supply and 58.5 million gallons in 2007). The treatment process at each of the five wells consists of oxidation of iron and manganese using chlorine, followed by absorption of the iron and manganese oxides in pressure filters. A chlorine residual is carried through the entire process to aid in maintaining a chlorine residual in the distribution system. No iron or manganese was detected in any of the treated well water samples collected in 2008. Well water is warmer than the treated surface water and has a different taste due to its higher mineral content. At times, mixing of chlorinated well water with treated river water in the distribution system generates a more noticeable taste due to the different physical and chemical properties of the waters. To ensure the safety of the water the same microbiological testing is completed weekly at sites in the water distribution system, regardless of the source.

The District received less than 0.24% of its total supply or approximately 12.7 million gallons of water, through its interties during all of 2008. Most of this amount was required to meet peak daily flows while the 4 Million Gallon Tank was out of service during November and December.

Source water assessments were performed by the Department of Public Health between January 2002 and April 2003. The District's Sacramento River source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: 1) metal plating/finishing/fabricating, 2) wood/ pulp/paper processing and mills, and 3) drinking water treatment plants. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: 1) concentrated aquatic animal production facilities, 2) historic waste dumps/landfills, 3) landfills/dumps, 4) historic mining operations, and 5) wastewater treatment plants and disposal facilities (above Shasta Dam). The District's well sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: 1) lumber processing and manufacturing, 2) septic systems - low density, 3) sewer collection systems, 4) historic waste dumps/landfills, 5) automobile - gas stations, and 6) utility stations - maintenance areas.

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at Bella Vista Water District, 11368 E. Stillwater Way, Redding, CA 96003. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting the District Secretary @ (530) 241-1085, ext. 105.

In 1989 the Federal Surface Water Treatment Rule set forth specific regulations requiring proper treatment of surface waters, as well as specific license requirements for water treatment operators. Although the regulations have changed dramatically, the overall process has not. Currently the District's staff includes 11 individuals with state certification as water treatment operators and 17 with certification as water distribution operators (including 10 individuals with certification as both) who operate and maintain the District's facilities 365 days per year.

## CONTAMINANTS IN WATER

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.

## STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S; Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

The tables in this report list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The Department of Public Health allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of our water quality, are more than one year old.

All 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## A NOTE TO THE IMMUNO-COMPROMISED FROM THE UNITED STATES EPA

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. USEPA/Center 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) or on their website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

## ARSENIC IN THE DISTRICT'S WELL WATER

Analysis of the District's well water has shown that it contains low levels of arsenic (less than 10 parts per billion). While this source of a small portion of your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

## ABOUT THE WATER QUALITY TABLES

Bella Vista Water District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The tables in this report show the results of our monitoring for the period through December 31, 2008. Where contaminants are monitored less than once per year, the values included in the report tables represent the results of the most recent analyses. All drinking water, including some bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, the following definitions are provided:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not detectable at current testing limits.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in 1.9 years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 1,900 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Microsiemens per centimeter ( $\mu\text{S/cm}$ )* is a unit for reporting the specific electrical conductance of the water.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)* - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - 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.

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

*Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)* - MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect health at the MCL levels.

*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 (USEPA).

*Public Health Goal or 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.

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

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## YOUR VIEWS ARE WELCOME

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Don Groundwater, your District Engineer, at (530) 241-1085, ext. 114. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water district. If you want to learn more, please visit the District's web site: [www.bvwd.org](http://www.bvwd.org) or attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings. The meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the District office, located at 11368 E. Stillwater Way, Redding, CA 96003.

## RESULTS OF WATER QUALITY ANALYSES

### Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Contaminant	MCL	Unit of Measurement	PHG (MCLG)	Highest Number of Detections	
				Treated Surface Water	Treated Well Water
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in more than one sample per month	presence/absence	0	None	None
2. Fecal coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	presence/absence	0	None	None

### Sampling Results Showing Treatment of Surface Water Source (Sacramento River)

Contaminant	Performance Standard / MCL (Treatment Technique)	Unit of Measurement	Level Found	Range	Violations
3. Turbidity	(1) Shall at no time exceed 1 NTU	Based on measurements made at 4 hour intervals while the plant is in operation	Less than 1 NTU at all times	0.022 NTU to 0.304 NTU	None
	(2) Less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month	Lowest Monthly % of measurements meeting the standard	99.5	99.5 to 100	None
	(3) Reduction in turbidity of 80% or more	Average monthly percentage reduction in turbidity	98.7	98.3 - 99.5	None

*Note: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.*

### Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Contaminants With a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Contaminant	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Unit of Measurement	Sacramento River		Well Water	
				Average Value	Range	Average Value*	Range*
4. Gross Alpha	15	(0)	pCi/L	ND	-	0.42	ND - 2.1
5. Aluminum	1	0.6	ppm	ND	-	ND	All ND
6. Arsenic	10	4	ppb	ND	-	3.4	2 - 6.1
7. Barium	1	2	ppm	ND	-	0.164	ND - 0.311
8. Chromium	50	(100)	ppb	ND	-	2.4	ND - 4
9. Fluoride	2.0	1	ppm	ND	-	0.18	0.07 - 0.40
<b>Sacramento River and Well Water</b>							
				Highest Running Annual Average		Range	
10. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	80	N/A	ppb	41.7		31.0 - 53.8	
11. HAA5- Haloacetic acids	60	N/A	ppb	33.3		19.0 - 64.0	

\* Values shown include the latest data for each of the wells. Not all of the results are from samples collected in 2008.

*Note: TTHM and HAA5 results are from samples collected from the Distribution System which may include water from both the river and wells.*

### Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Contaminants With a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

(Aesthetic standards, established by the California Department of Public Health - Division of Drinking Water)

Contaminant or Analyte	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Unit of Measurement	Sacramento River		Well Water	
				Average Level Detected	Range	Average Level Detected*	Range*
12. Foaming Agents (MBAS)	500	N/A	ppb	20	-	8	ND - 30
13. Total dissolved solids	1,000	N/A	ppm	78	-	203	167 - 234
14. Specific conductance	1,600	N/A	µS/cm	123	-	318	252 - 399
15. Chloride	500	N/A	ppm	3.0	-	35.3	9.9 - 56.1
16. Sulfate	500	N/A	ppm	3.2	-	2.2	0.7 - 5.1

### Sampling Results for Unregulated Contaminants

(Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the USEPA and the California Department of Public Health to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.)

17. Boron	Action Level = 1000 ppb	N/A	ppb	ND	-	498	208 - 996
18. Vanadium	Action Level = 50 ppb	N/A	ppb	4	-	0.4	ND - 1

### Sampling Results for Sodium, Hardness and pH

19. Sodium	N/A	N/A	ppm	6	-	40	18 - 60
20. Hardness	N/A	N/A	ppm	50	-	57	40 - 75
21. pH	6.5 - 8.5	N/A	pH units	7.7	-	7.7	7.5 - 7.9

\* Values shown include the latest data for each of the wells. Not all of the results are from samples collected in 2008.

### Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Contaminant	PHG (MCLG)	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. of samples collected	No. Sites exceeding AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2	15	ND	31	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	170	1300	202	31	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

*Note: The District is required to conduct lead and copper sampling every three years. These results are from the most recent round of sampling conducted in 2007.*

## Disinfectant Residuals found in the Distribution System

Contam- inant	MCL [MRDL]	Unit of Measure- ment	PHG (MRDLG)	Average Value	Range	Major Sources in Drinking Water	Health Effects
Chlorine	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	mg/L	4	0.83	0.10 to 1.46	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.)

MRDLG = The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## TYPICAL SOURCES OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Typical Source of Contaminant
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	Naturally present in the environment
2. Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	Human and animal fecal waste
3. Turbidity	Soil runoff
4. Gross Alpha	Erosion of natural deposits
5. Aluminum	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
6. Arsenic	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
7. Barium	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
8. Chromium	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
9. Fluoride	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
10. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	By-products of drinking water chlorination
11. Haloacetic Acids	By-products of drinking water chlorination
12. Foaming Agents (MBAS)	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
13. Total dissolved solids	Runoff/ leaching from natural deposits
14. Specific conductance	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
15. Chloride	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
16. Sulfate	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
17. Boron	Laundry products, sewage, agricultural chemicals and fertilizers, coal combustion mining and glass and ceramics manufacturing
18. Vanadium	Natural sources and from the burning of fuel oils

## OTHER TEST RESULTS OF INTEREST

Constituent	Description and Source Information
19. Sodium	Refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally-occurring
20. Hardness	Is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. These cations are generally naturally-occurring.
21 . pH	The pH of a water is a measure of its hydrogen ion activity or acidity. By definition the pH of pure water is 7.0. The pH range of most natural waters is about 6.0 to 8.5.

Bella Vista Water District is an Equal Opportunity Provider