

# 2008 Water Quality Report

for

## The City of Weed

Some of the best water in the country is enjoyed right here in Northern California! With this in mind, we strive to provide you with a safe and dependable drinking water supply. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources.

We test out drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This "Consumer Confidence Report" fulfills the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. As always, we are happy to be able to provide your family with clean, fresh water again this year.

Our drinking water is supplied by two wells (Gazelle (standby) and Mazzei) as well as **Beaughan Springs**.

All three sources were evaluated by the state in September 2002, to determine if there were possible contaminating activities that might compromise the quality of the water. At the time, aluminum in nitrate in the Gazelle Well were thought to have been the result of nearby septic and sewer collection systems. In addition, the sources were considered vulnerable to irrigated crops, managed forests, gas stations and transportation corridors (highways, railroads) in the area. Copies of the complete reports are available upon request. The report summaries may be viewed online

<http://swap.ice.ucdavis.edu/TSinfo/TSintro.asp>

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 USEPA and the state Department of Health Services (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.

Please note that 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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/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 (1-800-4264791).

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (1-800426-4791).

### 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) or Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by USEPA PHGs are set by the California EPA.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumers tap.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring, reporting 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 the health at the MCL.

**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:** Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

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

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

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

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

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

For questions or concerns about your drinking water you may attend our next City Council meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

or please contact Dave Toms

phone: 530-938-5020

Prepared by Basic Laboratory, Inc. (2009)

These tables show all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The Department of Health Services 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 MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked and explained below.

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(in a month) 0	none	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(in the year) 0	none	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 02/20/08	10	ND	none	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 02/20/08	10	1.307*	2*	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

\* Last summer we sampled ten homes around the community for "first draw" lead and copper. These were representative samples of water that had been sitting in the homes' pipes, unused for at least six hours. Two of the ten homes had copper results above the Action Level (AL). While copper is an essential nutrient, some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctors.

Additionally, 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. The City of Weed 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. 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	02/20/08	9		none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water
Hardness (ppm)	02/20/08	28		none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	02/20/08	0.2		2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sulfate (ppm)	02/20/08	1.3		500	none	Runoff from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance or EC ( $\mu$ S/cm)	02/20/08	97		1600	none	Substance that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Total Dissolved Solids or TDS (ppm)	02/20/08	100		1000	none	Runoff/ leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	02/20/08	0.7		5	none	Soil runoff

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Notification Level	Health Effects Language