Meeting the Challenge

Once again we are proud to present our annual drinking water report, covering all drinking water testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2015. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to your homes and businesses. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

Please remember that we are always available to assist you should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment was conducted on our wells in 2002. If you would like more information about the assessment results, please contact the District Engineer at (805) 566-5339.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 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 or at www.epa.gov/lead.

Substances That Could Be 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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 must provide the same protection for public health. 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.

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 can 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;
- **Radioactive Contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.
Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Fillmore Water customers are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant water supply from 3 groundwater wells. Wells 5, 7, and 8, located along the Sespe River, supply the City of Fillmore with potable water. We do not sell or buy any water to or from outside sources. The City of Fillmore produces and treats all of its own water supply.

Water Treatment Process

The City of Fillmore draws all its water from underground aquifers. Chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.)

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our City Council Meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 250 Central Avenue, Fillmore, CA 93015.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call David Smallwood, Public Works Supervisor, at (805) 524-3701.
Is tap water cheaper than soda?
Yes! You can refill an 8 oz. glass of tap water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost as a six-pack of soda pop. And, water has no sugar or caffeine.

How long can a person go without water?
Although a person can live without food for more than a month, a person can only live without water for approximately one week.

When was drinking water first regulated?
The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) of 1974 represents the first time that public drinking water supplies were protected on a federal (national) level in the U.S. Amendments were made to the SDWA in 1986 and 1996.

Seventy-one percent of Earth is covered in water: how much is drinkable?
Oceans hold about 96.5 percent of all Earth’s water. Only three percent of the earth’s water can be used as drinking water. Seventy-five percent of the world’s fresh water is frozen in the polar ice caps.

How much water do we use every day?
The average person in the U.S. uses 80 to 100 gallons of water each day. (During medieval times a person used only 5 gallons per day.) It takes 2 gallons to brush your teeth, 2 to 7 gallons to flush a toilet, and 25 to 50 gallons to take a shower.

When was chlorine first used in the U.S.?
In 1908, Jersey City, New Jersey and Chicago, Illinois were the first water supplies to be chlorinated in the U.S.

How much water is in our atmosphere?
Forty trillion gallons of water are carried in the atmosphere across the U.S. each day.
During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Contact us for more information on this program.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>MCL (MRDL)</th>
<th>PHG (MCLG)</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED</th>
<th>RANGE LOW-HIGH</th>
<th>VIOLATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fluoride (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.6–0.8</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>6.33</td>
<td>2.62–11.3</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ND–3.9</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nitrate + Nitrite as N (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>1.4–4.9</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selenium (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7–16</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.6–10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Uranium (pCi/L)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>6.39</td>
<td>2.17–10.9</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>PHG (MCLG)</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% T ILE)</th>
<th>SITES ABOVE AL / TOTAL SITES</th>
<th>VIOLATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copper (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0/30</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>0/30</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>SMCL</th>
<th>PHG (MCLG)</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED</th>
<th>RANGE LOW-HIGH</th>
<th>EXCEEDANCE</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chloride (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>51–67</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iron (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND–110</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manganese (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND–30</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Leaching from natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specific Conductance (µS/cm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>1,517</td>
<td>1,170–1,900</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sulfate (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>310–710</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>1,143</td>
<td>810–1,510</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Runoff/leaching from natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turbidity (Units)</strong></td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND–0.3</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Soil runoff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Definitions**

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

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

PHG (Public Health Goal): 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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

---

**UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED</th>
<th>RANGE LOW-HIGH</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boron (ppm)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7–1.5</td>
<td>Health effects: The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardness (ppm)</td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>486–992</td>
<td>Naturally occurring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium (ppm)</td>
<td>2013–2014</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>73–113</td>
<td>Naturally occurring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Secondary contaminants are regulated to protect the aesthetics of drinking water like taste, appearance, and odor. Exceedances of SMCLs do not pose a risk to public health.*

*Notification level = 1 ppm*