# San Lorenzo Valley Water District
# Consumer Confidence Report
# Southern Distribution System

WATER QUALITY 2011 JULY 2012

## Your Water Passes All Tests

Once again, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District is pleased to report that our water quality met or surpassed all State and Federal criteria for public health protection. For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's Director of Operations, Rick Rogers, at (831) 430-4624 or e-mail to rrogers@slvwd.com.

## Sources of Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 including radioactive material and other substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

## Where Does Your Water Come From?

All water comes in the form of precipitation. Surface water accumulates mainly as a result of direct runoff from precipitation in the form of streams. Part of the precipitation that falls infiltrates the soil. Water drains downward (percolates) below the soil surface reaching a level at which all of the openings or voids in the ground are filled with water. This zone of saturation is referred to as groundwater. The District utilizes groundwater sources located from within the Southern Distribution system. All wells conform to State construction standards.

## Public Involvement

The Board of Directors of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District invites you to attend its meetings to express your views and opinions. The Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. at the District's Operations Building, 13057 Highway 9, Boulder Creek. Agenda information for the Board of Director's meetings can be obtained from the District by calling 831-430-4636 or our website www.slvwd.com.

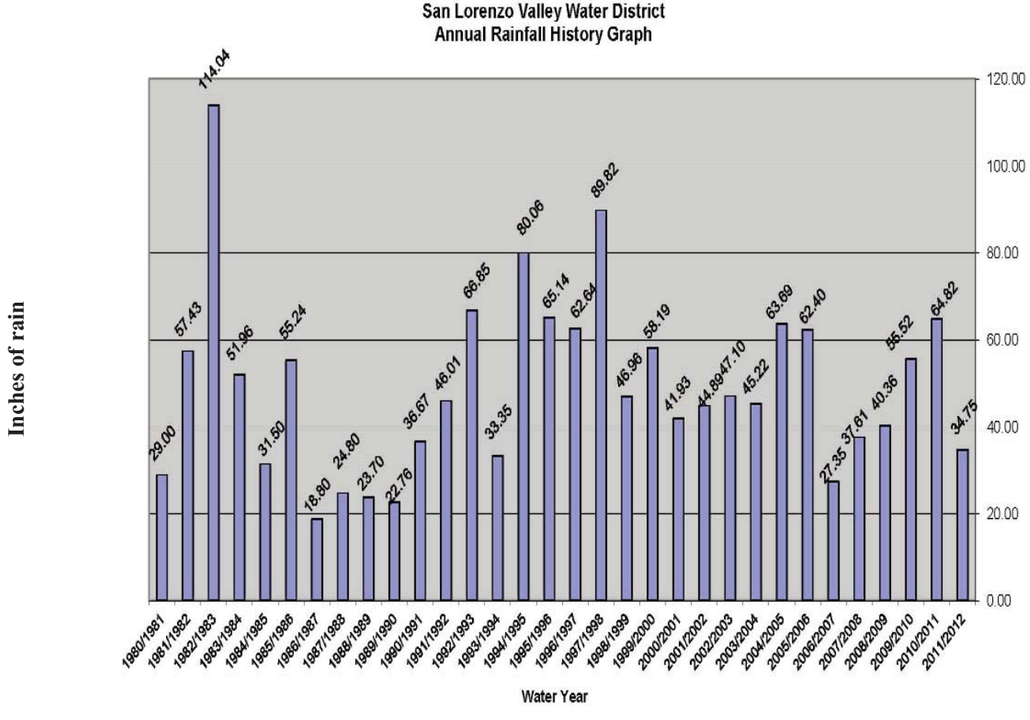
## Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or on the web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

**In an effort to provide this report to everyone, the District encourages landlords to provide a copy of this report to their tenants.**






Este reporte contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER WWW.SLVWD.COM 831-338-2153 SOUTH SYSTEM

San Lorenzo Valley Water District
13060 Highway 9
Boulder Creek, CA. 95006-9119

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## SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
## WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS FOR 2011
## Southern Distribution System - Scotts Valley

**GROUNDWATER**

| PRIMARY STANDARDS | Meas. | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | SLVWD Range of Detection | SLVWD Water Average | Sample Date | Notes | Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arsenic | ppb | 10 | N/A | 1.0 - 9.9 | 4.8 | 2011 | | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Fluoride | ppb | 2000 | 1000 | 60 - 71 | 66 | 2009 | (1) | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Nitrate | ppm | 45 | 45 | < 0.5 - 0.62 | 0.62 | 2011 | | Runoff / leaching from natural deposits. |
| **SECONDARY STANDARDS** | Meas. | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | SLVWD Range of Detection | SLVWD Water Average | Sample Date | | Source |
| Chloride | ppm | 500 | N/A | 7.8 - 8.1 | 7.9 | 2009 | (1) | Runoff / leaching from natural deposits. |
| Color | CU | 15 | N/A | < 3.0 - 7.0 | 5.0 | 2009 | (1) | Natural occuring organic material. |
| Iron | ppb | 300 | N/A | 300 - 450 | 358 | 2011 | (2) | Leaching from natural deposits. |
| Manganese | ppb | 50 | N/A | 11 - 30 | 21 | 2009 | (1) | Leaching from natural deposits. |
| Sulfate | ppm | 500 | N/A | 7.5 - 28 | 18 | 2009 | (1) | Runoff / leaching from natural deposits. |
| Total Dissolved Solids | ppm | 1000 | N/A | 120 - 150 | 135 | 2009 | (1) | Runoff / leaching from natural deposits. |
| Turbidity | NTU | 5 | N/A | 0.43 - 0.79 | 0.54 | 2011 | | Soil runoff. |
| **ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED** | | | | | | | | |
| Radium 228 | pCi/L | 5 | 0 | N.D. - 2.4 | 0.54 | 2006 | (1) | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Sodium | ppm | N/A | N/A | 15 - 16 | 15.5 | 2009 | (1) | Refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring. |
| Ph | Ph Scale | N/A | N/A | 7.0 - 7.6 | 7.2 | 2011 | | A measure of the acidity or alkalinity. |
| Total Hardness | ppm | N/A | N/A | 30 - 50 | 44 | 2009 | (1) | Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring. |
| Total Phosphate | ppm | N/A | N/A | 0.81 - 5.7 | 4.1 | 2011 | (2) | Treatment additive. |
| **DISINFECTION RESIDUAL** | Meas. | MRDL | MRDLG | SLVWD Range of Detection | SLVWD Water Average | Sample Date | | Source |
| Chlorine | ppm | 4 | 4 | 0.41 - 0.9 | 0.67 | 2011 | | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment. |
| **DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS** | Meas. | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | SLVWD Range of Detection | SLVWD Water Average | Sample Date | | Source |
| TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) | ppb | 80 | N/A | 2.6 - 4.7 | 3.9 | 2011 | | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| **PRIMARY STANDARDS REGULATED AT TAP** | Meas. | AL | PHG (MCLG) | Number of Samples Collected | Tap Water 90th Percentile Results | Sample Date | | Source |
| Lead | ppb | 15 | 0.2 | 4 | 90th Percentile = N.D.<br>Number of sites above AL = 0 | 2011 | | Corrosion of household plumbing, discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper | ppb | 1300 | 170 | 4 | 90th Percentile = 210<br>Number of sites above AL = 0 | 2011 | | Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives. |

**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 disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's are set by the U.S. 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. MCLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCL's and MRDL's are for contaminants that effect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCL's are set as close to the PHG's or (MCLG's) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCL's are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

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

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**N.D.:** Not Detectable at testing limit **ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter

**ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter **NTU:** Nephlometric Turbidity Units

**CU:** Color Units **P/A:** Presence /Absence **N/A:** Not Applicable **pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter

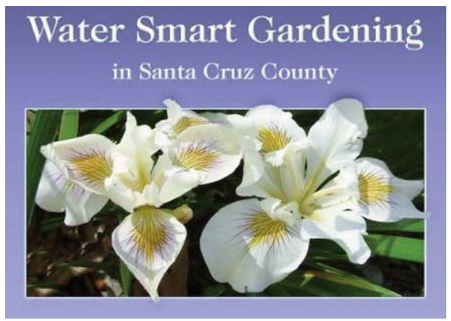
**Notes: 1)** The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. 2) District Pasatiempo Well 6 periodically exceed the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Iron. Secondary MCL's are set for asthetic reasons only, and do not cause adverse health effects. Iron can cause discolored water and staining. To offset this effect, the District adds phosphate, which acts to keep the Iron in solution and help prevent problems associated with this mineral.

**San Lorenzo Valley Water District 13060 Highway 9 Boulder Creek, CA 95006 (831) 338-2153**
**www.slvwd.com**

### New Customer Service Programs
### Programs to Aid You in Paying Your Water Bill and Customer Notification System

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District has introduced two new customer service programs. The first "bill pay" allows a customer to access their accounts on line and make payments from your bank account or credit card. Customers can also set up "auto bill pay" which automatically deducts your payment from your bank account and providing paperless bills.
The second program "Customer Notification System" will provide personalized communication to the District's customers by phone (voice and/or text) email regarding payment reminders to help avoid late fees and for emergency notifications.
You can find more information and how to register for Bill Pay or Customer Notification System on the Districts web site at www.slvwd.com or call 831-338-2153.

The District invites all of our customers to visit the District's web site. The web site provides a great deal of information regarding water quality, customer service, drought, historical rainfall, watershed management, fiscal budgets, and the District's Water Master Plan. Visit the web site at www.slvwd.com



## Is the Water Safe for Everyone to Drink?

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 from their health care providers about drinking water. 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 800-426-4791or on the web at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.

## Possible Contaminants

Contaminants that may be in the water prior to treatment
may 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 agricultural, 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 application, and septic systems.

## Source Water Assessments

In 2002 the District completed source water assessments of its Lompico Sandstone Aquifer. A source water assessment lists possible contaminating activities and the susceptibility of identified contamination threats that might affect the quality of our drinking waster supplies.

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the Lompico Sandstone Aquifer to water-quality degradation include: a strong downward vertical gradient between the upper, unconfined Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer and the deeper Lompico Sandstone Aquifer, residential leachfields, sewer lines, fuel storage and potential spills associated with area roadways.

## State Standards and Monitoring

Individual water suppliers do not arbitrarily decide what constitutes “safe” drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California State Department of Public Health require all public water suppliers to meet stringent quality standards. Compliance is mandatory for public water utilities.

In California, drinking water standards (also called Maximum Contaminant Levels, or MCLs) are established for two categories. Primary Standards are set for the protection of public health. Secondary Standards are set only for aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and color, but do not represent any threat to health.

The District maintains a monitoring program to sample and test all water sources in accordance with State and Federal standards. Should the District fail to monitor, or the District’s water exceed the MCLs allowable in the Primary Standards, it is required by law to notify all customers of the nature of the problem and any possible health effects. Some contaminants that are routinely monitored by the District are bacteria, turbidity, inorganic chemicals, metals, general minerals, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs), disinfection by-products (THMs), and radiation.

The table on the next page shows our test results for 2011. Once again, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District is pleased to report that our water quality met or surpassed all State and Federal criteria for public health protection. For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the San Lorenzo Valley Water District at (831) 338-2153.



## How to Read Your Water Meter

One of your best conservation tools is your water meter. It is normally located on the road shoulder in front of your home, housed in a concrete box. If you have trouble locating your water meter contact the District for a better location of your meter. Reading the meter is similar to reading a car odometer. The meter measures volume of water in cubic feet. The first digit on the right represents one cubic foot, the second from the right represents 10 cubic feet, the third from the right represents 100 cubic feet, and so forth. The sweep hand registers fractions of a cubic foot. One cubic foot is equal to 7.48 gallons of water. Your water bill is based on how many hundred cubic feet you use over a one- or two-month billing period. One hundred cubic feet (also referred to as a billing "unit" or "ccf") equals 748 gallons.


## Using Your Water Meter to Check for Leaks

1. It's good preventive maintenance to conduct a leak check of your house periodically.
2. Start by firmly turning off all water devices inside and outside the house.
3. Next, go outside to the meter and mark down the reading, including the red flow detection indicator.
4. Wait 15 minutes and then check the meter again.

If the meter has not moved, your house is leak free. If the meter has moved, you have a leak to hunt down. The most likely cause is a leaking toilet. Most meters also have a triangular low-flow indicator, which should not be spinning unless a leak is present. To avoid receiving a surprisingly high water bill caused by an undetected leak, we suggest you check your meter regularly.

## Lead in Your Water

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. San Lorenzo Valley Water District 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District monitors for lead and copper at the customers tap throughout the District on a regular basis in accordance with the USEPA’s Lead and Copper Rule regulations. The rule requires public water systems to sample at customer’s homes that meet specific criteria where elevated levels of lead and copper are more likely to be found. Since 1993 samples have shown levels of lead and copper in District homes to be well below the action levels set by the USEPA. See the enclosed water quality table for test results from the latest round of sampling.

## Notice About Arsenic

Arsenic above 5ppb up through 10 ppb: While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The California Department of Public Health 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. Arsenic above 10 ppb up through 50 ppb: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.