

# San Lorenzo Valley Water District Consumer Confidence Report

WATER QUALITY 2016

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**JULY 2017** 

### **Your Water Passes All Tests**

Once again, 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. SLVWD operates four (4) independent water systems, each of which has its own source water supply. The four water systems are: North System, South System, Felton System and Manana Woods Systems. For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's Water Treatment and System Supervisor, Nate Gillespie, at (831) 338-2153 or e-mail to ngillespie@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.

#### **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 3rd Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 5:00 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 the District website 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 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 800-426-4791 or on the internet at http://www.epa.gov/safewater

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throught the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarentee 100 percent removal. Our 2016 monitoring indicates the presence of these organisims in our surface water for the SLVWD North System. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nauses, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may spread through means other than drinking water.



# Where Does Your Water Come From?

All water comes in the form of precipitation. Surface water accumulates mainly 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 operates four independent water systems. All four of these independent water systems have interconnections that enable the District to exchange water between these systems for emergency situations. The characteristics of thes four water systems are described as follows:

# San Lorenzo Valley Water District; North System

Services the areas of North Boulder Creek, Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Quail Hollow, Glen Arbor, and Zayante. Water supply in these areas primary uses surface water sources from November to May. During these months, surface water may provide up to 100% of all drinking water. Streams utilized by the District contain water from granite formations with very low mineral content. This results in very soft, pleasant tasting water. Collection points for these streams are in remote areas high within the District's protected watershed, away from human contamination. During the summer months from June-November the District blends surface water with groundwater sources (wells) located in the Ben Lomond and Zayante areas. All wells conform to state construction standards. These wells with the exception of Olympia 2 and 3 in the Zayante area produce very soft water with quality similar to the District's surface water. Olympia Wells 2 and 3 have a higher mineral content, primarily iron, manganese and carbonate hardness. These minerals are harmless when consumed in water, but affect the aesthetic qualities of the water such as taste, odor, and color. Dissolved gases present in groundwater may also affect taste. Consumers in the Hihn Road and Zayante areas, from time to time, may experience periods of discolored water caused by iron and manganese. As water comes in contact with chlorine at the well head and with oxygen during the trip through the mainline distribution piping, the iron and manganese precipitate deposits in the water mains. The District adds a polyphosphate chemical to slow down this process. However, this is not totally effective and some deposition still occurs. Occasionally, during higher flows, the deposits become dislodged resulting in discolored water. During this time, water is safe to use; however, you may want to avoid washing laundry as staining may occur. If you experience periods of discolored water, please contact the District at (831) 338-2153.

An interconnection exists between the SLVWD North and SLVWD South System. The SLVWD North received about 0.7% of its total supply, or approximately 3.0 million gallons of water through this interconnection in 2016.

# San Lorenzo Valley Water District; Mañana **Woods System**

Services the general areas of La Cuesta Drive, El Sereno Drive, Miraflores Drive, and Canepa Drive.

The water supply for Mañana Woods comes from a groundwater aguifer located near Kings Village Shopping Center in Scotts Valley. In 1989 gasoline contaminates were detected in the Mañana Woods groundwater supply aguifer. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) concluded that gasoline stations located at the intersection of Scotts Valley Drive and Mt. Hermon Road are the most likely source of these contaminates. The area has been a RWQCB cleanup site since 1989. The most common contaminates in the source water are petroleum hydrocarbons and gasoline additives. Benzene, methyl-tert-butyl ether (MtBE) and tert-butyl alcohol (tBA) have been detected in the Mañana Woods water supply well. Levels of these contaminates in the source water (before treatment) range between 1-2 parts per billion (ppb) for benzene, 2-13 ppb for MtBE and ND-1.0 ppb for tBA. In previous years, the levels of these contaminates were higher. However, the levels of these contaminates has been trending downward, which may indicate that contaminates concentrations in the groundwater aquifer are decreasing. Benzene and MtBE are chemicals regulated in drinking water by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) The CDPH has established a Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) of 1.0 ppb for benzene and 13 ppb for MtBE. The established MCL is the maximum permissible level of a contaminate in water which is delivered to any customer. For comparison purposes, one (1) ppb is equal to one (1) second in 32 yrs. Contaminate levels detectable below a MCL are not known or anticipated to cause adverse human health effects. A public notification level of 12 ppb has been established for tBA. To evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment process the District routinely samples and monitors water leaving the treatment plant for benzene, MtBE, tBA and other chemicals. The District has an established goal to operate the Mañana Woods Treatment Plant to remove all detectible gasoline contaminates prior to distribution to our customers.

An interconnection exists between the SLVWD Manana Woods System and the SLVWD South System. The SLVWD Manana Woods System received 100% of its total supply, or approximately 8.4 million gallons through this interconnection in 2016.

#### San Lorenzo Valley Water District; Felton System

Services the areas of the town of Felton, Highway 9 South to Big Trees, San Lorenzo Avenue, Felton Empire Grade, Felton Grove, and El Solyo Heights. District customers in the Felton Water System are supply water from the Bennett Spring, Bull Springs and Fall Creek. Drinking water treatment technologies used in your water system include conventional treatment (coagulation, filtration, and disinfection). An interconnection exists between SLVWD North and Felton. The SLVWD Felton System received about 0.3% of its total supply, or approximately 0.4 million gallons through this interconnection in 2016. Please consult the SLVWD System water quality data table for water quality results representative of water supplied through this interconnection in 2016.

# San Lorenzo Valley Water District; South System (Pasatiempo Pines, Scotts Valley)

Includes the service areas of Whispering Pines Drive, Lockwood Lane, Hidden Glen, Estrella Drive, Twin Pines Drive, Brookdale Assisted Living Facility, Spring Lakes and Vista Del Lago Mobile Home Parks. District customers in the South System area are primarily supplied water through groundwater sources located within the South System distribution system, which were constructed to State standards. In addition, the South system is supplied water through an interconnection with the SLVWD North System. Water supplied through this interconnection is a combination of ground and surface water. The SLVWD South system received about 20% of its total supply, or approximately 20 million gallons through this interconnection in 2016.

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

# **Water Quality**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board 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. 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 (1-800-426-4791) or on the web at 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.

# **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 Water Resources Control Board 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 in this report shows our test results for 2016. 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.

PRIMARY HEALTH STANDARDS Not	s MCL or [MRDL]	SAN LORENZO VALEY WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT 2016				Zayante, Manana W 21 - 22 and 3	SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT 2016		
		PHG or [MRDLG]	GROUND WATER  Sample Year* Range of Detection   Average Amount			SURFACE WATER  Sample Year*  Range of Detection  Average Amount			MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Inorganic Constiuents Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	2015	< 0 - 0.5	< 0.05	2016	< 0.05 - 1.10	< 0.05	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Arsenic (ppb) 1	10	0.004	2016	< 1 - 8.8	4.8	2016	< 1 - 1.8	<1	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppb) 1	2000	1000	2015	140 - 480	240	2016	< 100	< 100	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	2016	< 0.4 - 1.6	< 0.4	2016	< 0.4	< 0.4	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Radioactive Constituents Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	15	0	2012	< 3.0 - 3.2	< 3.0	2012	< 3.0	< 3.0	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity [Nephlometric Turbidity Units] (NTU's)	(TT) = 95% of Samples ≤ 0.2 NTU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2016	<pre>&lt; or = to 0.2 in 99.5% of     samples</pre>	Highest Measurement = 0.23	Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
SECONDARY STANDARDS	Secondary MCL	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*	Range of Detection	Average Amount	Sample Year*	Range of Detection	Average Amount	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Chloride (ppm) 1	500	N/A	2015	5.7 - 8.8	7.3	2016	4.4 - 5.9	5.1	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Iron (ppb) 1,	300	**	2016	210 - 850	615	2016	< 100 - 1200	< 100	Leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese (ppb) 3	50	**	2016	110 - 250	148	2016	< 20 - 57	< 20	Leaching from natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) 1	500	**	2015	8 - 200	89	2016	2.6 - 4.2	3.2	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm) 1	1000	**	2015	120 - 550	308	2016	90 - 120	106	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
				Range of Detection Average Amount					
Turbidity [Nephlometric Turbidity Units] (NTU's) 5 N/A		2015 0.45 - 12			2.57			Soil runoff.	
				GROUND WATER			SURFACE WA	ATER	
ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*	Range of Detection	Average Amount	Sample Year*	Range of Detection	Average Amount	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	2015	10 - 14	12	2016	6.7 - 9.5	7.9	Refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Total Hardness (ppm)	N/A	N/A	2015	46 - 400	204	2016	44 - 72	58	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring.
Phosphate PO <sub>4</sub> (ppm)	N/A	N/A	2016	< 0.3 - 4.4	2.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	Treatment additive.
	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM								
PRIMARY HEALTH STANDARDS	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*	Year* Range of Detection Average Amount				ount	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Disinfection By-products/Residuals* TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	80	N/A	2016	6 - 58			50		By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	60	N/A	2016	< 2	24			By-product of drinking water disinfection.	
Chlorine (ppm)	[4.0]	[4.0]	2016	< 0.02	0.85			Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.	
MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS  Total Coliform Bacteria  (Total Coliform Rule) (P/A)	No more than 5% Positive Samples in any one month.		2016	0 Pos	0 Positive			Naturally present in the environment	
E. Coli	0	0	2016	0 Pos	0 Positive			E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes	

			Во	oulder Creek, Brook	TD SYSTEM kdale, Ben Lomond, Zayante, cotts Valley		MANANA WOOD	OS SYSTEM	
PRIMARY STANDARDS REGULATED AT TAP	Action Level (AL)	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year	Number of Samples	Tap Water	Sample Year	Number of Samples	Tap Water	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	2014	29	90th Percentile = < 5.0 Sites Above (AL) = 0	2014	10	90th Percentile = < 5.0 Sites Above (AL) = 0	Corrosion of household plumbing, discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppb)	1300	300	2014	29	90th Percentile = 460 Sites Above (AL) = 0	2014	10	90th Percentile = 840 Sites Above (AL) = 0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.

SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT 2016					CPOUND	Routes N	N SYSTEM No. 23 - 29		SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT 2016	
PRIMARY HEALTH STANDARDS	Notes	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Vear*	GROUND WATER  Sample Year* Range of Detection Average Amount		Sample Year*	Sample Range of Detection Average Amount		MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Inorganic Constiuents Aluminum (ppm)	1	1	0.6	2015	Single Samp	le < 0.05	2016	< 0.05 - 0.21	0.06	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Arsenic (ppb)	1	10	0.004	2015	Single Samp	le < 1	2016	< 1.0 - 1.5	<1	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppb)	1	2000	1000	2015	Single Samp	le 100	2016	< 100 - 110	< 100	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)		10	10	2016	Single Samp	le < 0.4	2016	< 0.4	< 0.4	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Radioactive Constituents Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	1	15	0	2014	Single Samp	le < 3	2014	< 3.0 - 4.3	< 3.0	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity [Nephlometric Turbidity Units] (NTU's)		(TT) = 95% of Samples ≤ 0.2 NTU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2016	< or = to 0.2 in 99.5% of samples	Highest Measurement = 0.29	Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
SECONDARY STANDARDS		Secondary MCL	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*	Range of Detec	tion Average Amount	Sample Year*	Range of Detection	Average Amou	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Chloride (ppm)	1	500	N/A	2016	Single Samp	le 6.8	2016	6.8 - 9.0	8.2	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Iron (ppb)	1, 3	300	**	2015	Single Samp	le < 100	2016	< 100 - 240	< 100	Leaching from natural deposits.
Manganese (ppb)	3	50	**	2015	Single Samp	le < 20	2016	< 20	< 20	Leaching from natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm)	1	500	**	2016	Single Samp	le 16	2016	8.6 - 9.6	9.1	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	1	1000	**	2015	Single Samp	le 280	2016	140 - 350	257	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
					Ran	ge of Detection		Average Amo	ount	
Turbidity [Nephlometric Turbidity Units] (NTU's)		5	N/A	2016 Single Sample GROUND WATER				0.23 SURFACE WA	ATER	Soil runoff.
ADDITIONAL CONSTITUENTS ANALYZED		MCL or [MRDL]	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*	Range of Detection Average Amounts		Sample Year*	Range of Detection		MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Sodium (ppm)		N/A	N/A	2015	Single Samp	le 6.7	2016	8.5 - 10	9.2	Refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Total Hardness (ppm)		N/A	N/A	2015	Single Samp	le 220	2016	92 - 300	204	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium. The cations are usually naturally occurring.
Phosphate PO <sub>4</sub> (ppm)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Treatment additive.
Vanadium (ppb)		Notification Level =	= 50	2008	< 3 - 4.6	< 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
					DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM					
PRIMARY HEALTH STANDARDS		MCL or [MRDL]	PHG or [MRDLG]	Sample Year*				Average Amo	ount	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Disinfection By-products/Residuals* TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)		80	N/A	2016	22 - 32			30		By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)		60	N/A	2016	10 - 27			18		By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine (ppm)		[4.0]	[4.0]	2016	0.30 - 1.25			0.68		Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS  Total Coliform Bacteria  (Total Coliform Rule) (P/A)		No more than 5% Positive Samples in any one month.	0	2016		0 Positive		0 Positive	·	Naturally present in the environment
E. Coli		0	0	2016	0 Positive			0 Positive	:	E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes
	FELTON SYSTEM									
PRIMARY STANDARDS REGULATED AT TAP	Action L	evel (AL) PHG on	r [MRDLG]	Sample Year Number of Samples				Tap Water		MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Lead (ppb)	1	5	0.2	20	2014 21			90th Percentile = < Sites Above (AL)		rrosion of household plumbing, discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural posits.
Copper (ppb)	13	500	300	20	2014 21			90th Percentile = 3 Sites Above (AL)		rrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.

# Terms and Definitions used in table: (Previous Page)

**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 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.

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

NTU: Nephlometric Turbidity Units. ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter CU: Color Units ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter. P/A: Presence /Absence N/A.: Not Applicable

**N.D.:** Not Detectable at testing limit. \* Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. \*\* There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of asthetics.

**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.

**Notes: 2)** Surface Water Treatment Technique (Type of Approved Filtration Technology); Microfloc package plant with upflow clarification and gravity filtration.

**Notes: 3)** District Wells Olympia 2 and 3 and Pasatiempo 6, periodically exceed the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) for Iron and Manganese. SMCL's are set for aesthetic reasons only, and do not cause adverse health effects. Iron and Manganese can cause discolored water and staining. To offset this effect, the District adds phosphate, which acts to keep Iron and Manganese in solution and help prevent problems associated with this mineral.

#### 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 http://www.epa.gov/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 customers' 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**

Consuming drinking water with arsenic above 5 ppb, but below or equal to 10 ppb: While 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.

# **Protecting Our Watershed**

Many common household products are hazardous if carelessly handled or stored. Chemicals poured on the ground or down the drain or toilet can pollute our drinking water. Of particular concern are volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). VOCs are chemicals commonly found in paints, thinners, solvents, degreasers, and automotive products. SOCs are found in herbicides and pesticides. These products should never be poured down the sink, toilet or drain. The County of Santa Cruz receives household hazardous waste at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station. The District strongly encourages consumers to make use of this convenient program and to dispose of household hazardous waste in a proper and responsible manner. For more information on disposal and receiving times, you may call the County at (831) 454-2606. You can help protect our drinking water from sources of pollution. It is extremely important to help protect our drinking water from possible sources of pollution by exercising care with all household chemicals. A little pollution can go a long way!

# **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.

#### Source Water Assessments

In 2002 and 2004 the District completed source water assessments of its deep water well aquifers and surface water watershed in Ben Lomond, Zayante and Boulder Creek. A source water assessment lists possible contaminating activities and the susceptibility of identified contamination threats that might affect the quality of our drinking water supplies.

# **Quail Hollow Well Field Aquifer**

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the District's Quail Hollow Wells include: the high percolation capacity of the Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer and associated Zayante soils, the absence of a confining zone above the aquifer, residential septic tank systems, and unused production wells.

# Olympia Well Field Aquifer

Factors contributing to the potential water-quality vulnerability of the District's Olympia wells include: the high percolation capacity of the Santa Margarita Sandstone Aquifer, residential septic tank systems, and equestrian activities.

# Foreman, Peavine, Clear, and Sweetwater Creeks Watershed

Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the District's surface water include: managed forests, septic systems, recreational, government or institutional facilities. Copies of the Source Water Assessments for each water source are available at the District Office.

#### **Mañana Woods**

In 2002 the County of Santa Cruz completed source water assessments of the Mañana Woods Well. A source water assessment lists possible contaminating activities, and the susceptibility of identified contamination threats that might affect the quality of the drinking water supply. Factors contributing to the potential vulnerability of the Mañana Woods Well to water-quality degradation include: dry cleaners, historic gas stations, historic waste dumps/land-fills, known contaminant plumes, and underground storage tanks with confirmed leakage.

#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to provide our customers and all future generations with reliable, safe and high quality water at an equitable price; to create and maintain outstanding customer service; to manage and protect the environmental health of the aquifers and watersheds; and, to ensure the fiscal vitality of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District."

ENLIKE SASLEM

831-338-2153

WWW.SLVWD.COM

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Standard Rate U.S.
Postage Paid
Boulder Creek, CA
95006
Permit No. 55

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

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, Board Meetings, local weather, drought status, historical rainfall, watershed management, water conservation, fiscal budgets, and the District's Water Master Plan. Visit the web site www.slvwd.com



**SLVWD Operates Four (4) independent water systems**, each of which has its own source water supply.

The four water systems are: North System, South System, Felton System and Manana Woods Systems.

You can determine which system provides you water service by reviewing the "Route Number" on your water bill.

The route number denotes the water system as follows:

Route No, 11 - 13 denotes South Water System (Pasatiempo Pines, Scotts Valley).

Route No. 14 denotes Manana Woods System.

Route No. 23 - 29 denotes Felton Water System.

Route No. 21 - 22 and 30 - 97 denotes North Water System (San Lorenzo Valley, Olympia, Zayante)