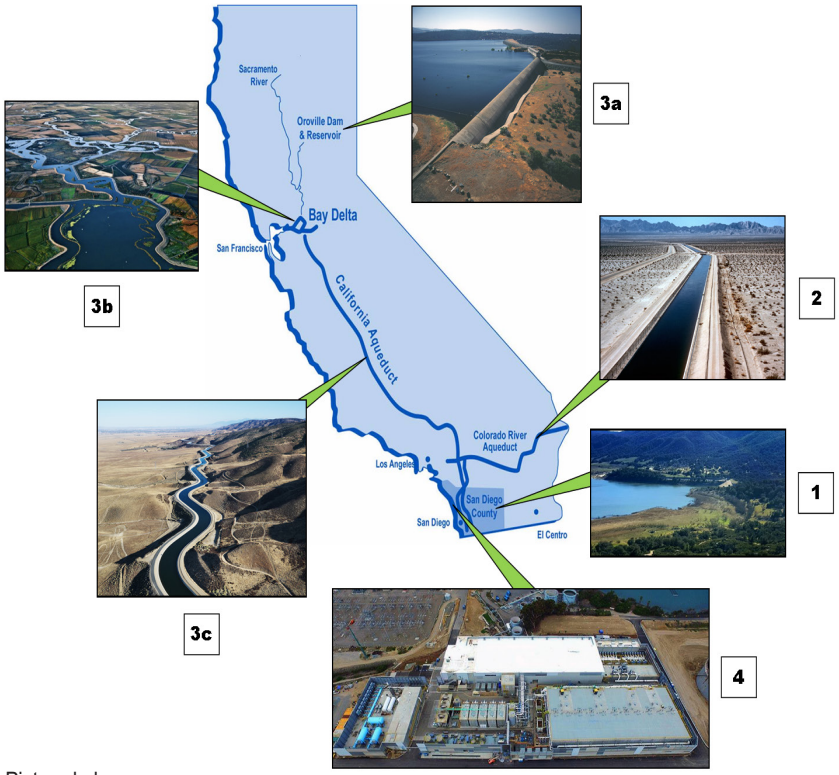
Celebrating a Century of Service and Stewardship

1923 2023

VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Vista Irrigation District tests the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.



Pictured above:

California Water Infrastructure Map

1. Local Water Source - Lake Henshaw;
2. Imported Water Source - Colorado River Aqueduct;
3. Imported Water Sources: 3a. Oroville Dam & Reservoir, 3b. Bay Delta, 3c. California Aqueduct;
4. Desalinated Seawater - Carlsbad Desalination Plant

What's This Report About?

Vista Irrigation District (District) is pleased to present its annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as the Water Quality Report. The District takes all steps necessary to safeguard your water supply, conducting more than 12,000 tests for over 75 drinking water constituents. This report provides a snapshot of the quality of water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best customers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information presented in this report, please contact Dean Farris, Water Distribution Supervisor, at (760) 597-3143. This report is available on our website at www.vidwater.org.

LAST YEAR, YOUR WATER MET ALL FEDERAL AND STATE SAFE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Vista Irrigation District (District) uses four sources for your drinking water. The first one is local water, which originates from the watershed and well fields located near Lake Henshaw. The District owns the 43,000-acre Warner Ranch which encompasses the lake and monitors activities that could contaminate it. Water from Lake Henshaw is transferred to Lake Wohlford via a canal originally constructed in the 1890s. Once the water reaches the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant (EVWTP), it is treated and disinfected to protect you against microbial contaminants. The second water source is the Colorado River. The third source is from Northern California. The latter two, called imported water, are delivered to San Diego County and ultimately to the District via the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority). Imported water may be treated at EVWTP, Water Authority's Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant in San Marcos, Oceanside's Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant, or MWD's Skinner Treatment Plant in Riverside County. The fourth source is desalinated seawater from the Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant.

Esté informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Communiquése con Vista Irrigation District para obtener una copia de éste reportaje en Español. Llame al (760) 597-3100.

What Were the Findings of the Local and Imported Source Water Assessments?

Local Water Sources

In December 2021, Vista Irrigation District (District), in conjunction with the City of Escondido, prepared a sanitary survey of the local watershed. This survey assesses activities within the watershed that have the potential to influence the quality of water delivered from Lake Henshaw, Dixon Lake and Lake Wohlford. While the survey identifies a number of activities that have the potential to adversely affect water quality, including residential septic facilities, highway run-off, and agricultural and recreational activities, no contaminants from these activities were detected in the local water supply in 2021. A copy of the Watershed Sanitary Survey, which contains a Source Water Assessment Program, is available for review at the District office located at 1391 Engineer Street in Vista.

Imported Water Sources

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) completed its source water assessment of its Colorado River and California State Water Project supplies in December 2002. Colorado River supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to contamination from recreation, urban/storm water runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed and wastewater. State Water Project supplies are considered most vulnerable to contamination from urban/storm water runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation and wastewater.

MWD updates its source water assessment through watershed sanitary surveys every five years. The most recent watershed sanitary surveys of its source water supplies from the Colorado River was updated in 2020 and the State Water Project was updated in 2021. Watershed sanitary surveys examine potential sources of contamination, summarize and evaluate water quality data and compliance with regulations, and recommend actions to better protect and improve source water quality.

Why Is There Anything In My 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.

The following contaminants may potentially be present in our water sources:

- 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, which 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 application and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Do I Need To Take Precautions?

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Keeping You INFORMED

What Are PFAS?

Perfluorooctanoate (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS) are fluorinated organic chemicals that are part of a larger group of man-made chemicals referred to as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are used to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. PFOS and PFOA are two of the most well-known chemicals and have been phased out in the United States, however these chemicals are still produced internationally and are imported into the US in consumer goods such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, food packaging, cosmetics, fire-fighting foams, and other materials designed to be heat-resistant, waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick - such as cookware.

PFAS are often called forever-chemicals because they do not break down easily and can linger in the environment for years. People can be exposed to PFAS in a variety of ways, including through consumer products that contain the chemicals, food exposed to the chemicals, and drinking water that has been impacted by the chemicals. The presence of PFAS in drinking water is complex and often due to widespread use and environmental persistence. PFAS are resistant to heat, water and oil and have been used for decades in hundreds of industrial applications and consumer products. PFAS have been found both in the environment and in blood samples of the general U.S. population. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has also detected PFAS chemicals in the U.S. food supply.

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

VID HAS NOT HAD ANY VIOLATIONS OF THESE REGULATIONS!

The EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that once every five years the EPA issue a list of unregulated contaminants that must be monitored and reported by public water systems (PWSs) such as Vista Irrigation District. The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5), published on December 27, 2021, requires sample collection for 30 chemical contaminants (29 PFAS and lithium) between 2023 and 2025 using analytical methods developed by EPA and consensus organizations. This action provides EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the national occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water. Consistent with EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap, UCMR 5 will provide new data that is critically needed to improve EPA's understanding of the frequency that 29 PFAS (and lithium) are found in the nation's drinking water systems and at what levels. Vista Irrigation District has already started its 2023 sampling of the PFAS (and lithium). The sample results will be posted in next year's Consumer Confidence Report (2024 CCR).

Vista Irrigation District takes any risks to your water quality seriously and continues to take all steps necessary to safeguard your water supply. To learn more about Vista Irrigation District's drinking water quality visit www.vidwater.org/water-quality or contact our water quality staff at (760) 597-3143 with any questions.

WHAT ARE THESE TABLES?

The data tables shown on this page and the following page list all of the drinking water constituents that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these constituents in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requires Vista Irrigation District to monitor for certain constituents less than once per year because the concentrations are not expected to vary signifcantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. The terms used in these data tables can be found listed at the bottom of the table on the following page.

Some of the following tables show water from two sources - local water from Lake Henshaw, which is treated at the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant (EVWTP) and imported water, which is treated at the San Diego County Water Authority's Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Skinner Treatment Plant, Robert A. Weese Filtration Plant, and at the EVWTP.

2022 WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

Parameter	Units	Federal or State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range ---------- Average	Treatment Plant Effluents: Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant	Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant	Skinner Treatment Plant	Weese Filtration Plant	Carlsbad Desalination Plant	DLR	Typical Source/ Comments
Primary Standards											
Clarity (Turbidity)											
Combined Filter Effluent Turbidity*	NTU	TT=1	NA	Range	0.02 - 0.11	0.01 - 0.03	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	NA	Soil Runoff
				Average	0.04	0.02	NR	NR	NR		
				Highest	0.11	0.03	0.05	0.18	0.05		
	%	TT=95% of samples ≤ 0.3%	NA	Percentage	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	NA	Soil Runoff
** Turbidity 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.*											
Inorganic Constituents											
Arsenic (As)	ug/L	10	0.004	Range	ND - ND	2.3 - 2.3	ND - ND	NA - NA	ND - ND	2	Erosion of natural deposits; glass and electronics production waste
				Average	ND	2.3	ND	0.6	ND		
Fluoride (F-) Treatment Related	mg/L	2.0	1.0	Range	0.48 - 0.69	0.50 - 0.70	0.60 - 0.80	0.20 - 0.40	ND - 0.80	0.1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive for dental health
				Average	0.61	0.60	0.70	0.30	0.67		
Nitrate (N)	mg/L	10	10	Range	ND - ND	ND - 0.40	ND - ND	0.18 - 0.20	ND - ND	0.4	Runoff/leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
				Average	ND	ND	ND	0.20	ND		
Radionuclides Analyzed Every Four Years for Four Consecutive Quarters											
Gross Alpha Activity	pCi/L	15	0	Range	ND - 3.3	ND - 4.0	ND - 3.0	ND - ND	ND - ND	3	Erosion of natural deposits
				Average	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND		
Gross Beta Activity	pCi/L	50	0	Range	ND - 4.6	4.9 - 5.1	5.0 - 8.0	NA - NA	ND - ND	4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
				Average	ND	5.0	7.0	NA	ND		
Uranium (U)	pCi/L	20	0.43	Range	2.1 - 2.1	ND - ND	ND - 2.0	NA - NA	ND - ND	1	Erosion of natural deposits
				Average	2.1	ND	2.0	1.1	ND		
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts in Treatment Plant Effluent											
Effluent Total Chlorine Residual	mg/L	[4]	[4]	Range	2.7 - 3.4	2.6 - 3.5	0.4 - 2.9	NR - NR	3.0 - 3.6	-	Addition of chlorine and ammonia as combined disinfectant chloramines.
				Average	3.0	3.1	2.5	NR	3.2		
Effluent Total Trihalomethanes	ug/L	80	NS	Range	17 - 31	21 - 40	14 - 29	NR - NR	ND - ND	1	By-products of drinking water chlorination
				Average	25	NR	20	NR	ND		
Effluent Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ug/L	60	NS	Range	3 - 8	ND - 6	6 - 13	NR - NR	ND - ND	1	By-products of drinking water chlorination
				Average	6	NR	9	NR	ND		
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts in VID Distribution System											
Total Chlorine Residual	mg/L	[4]	[4]	Range	0.2 - 3.9					NS	Addition of chlorine and ammonia as combined disinfectant chloramines.
				Average	2.5						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ug/L	80	NS	Range	5.7 - 35.7					NS	By-products of drinking water chlorination
				Highest LRAA	27.0						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ug/L	60	NS	Range	2.1 - 14.5					NS	By-products of drinking water chlorination
				Highest LRAA	9.8						
Microbiological Constituents in VID Distribution System											
Total Coliform Bacteria (monthly positives)	%	5	(0)	Range	0% - 0%					-	Naturally present in the environment
				Monthly Highest	0%						
Fecal Coliform/ E.Coli	%	*	(0)	Range	0% - 0%					-	Naturally present in the environment
				Average	0%						

***Fecal Coliform/E.Coli MCLs:** The occurrence of two consecutive total coliform positive samples, one of which contains fecal coliform/E.Coli, constitutes an acute MCL violation. **The MCL was not violated during this reporting period.**

Secondary Standards (Aesthetic Standards)											
Aluminum (Al)	ug/L	200	NS	Range	ND - ND	ND - 220	ND - 230	21 - 89	ND - ND	50	Residue from water treatment process; natural deposits; erosion
				Average	ND	74	113	46	ND		
Color	units	15	NS	Range	1 - 1	ND - ND	1 - 2	ND - ND	ND - ND	-	Decaying vegetation or other naturally occurring organic materials
				Average	1	ND	2	ND	ND		
Chloride (Cl-)	mg/L	500	NS	Range	97 - 110	110 - 110	98 - 106	89 - 100	20 - 119	-	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
				Average	107	110	102	95	90		
Iron (Fe)	mg/L	0.3	NS	Range	ND - ND	ND - ND	ND - ND	NR - NR	ND - ND	0.1	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
				Average	ND	ND	ND	NR	ND		
Sulfate $(SO_4)^{2-}$	mg/L	500	NS	Range	190 - 230	210 - 220	206 - 229	170 - 230	13 - 15	0.5	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
				Average	210	217	218	206	14		
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	NS	Range	500 - 720	610 - 610	591 - 651	NA - NA	138 - 285	-	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
				Average	630	610	621	480	211		
Specific Conductance	umho/ cm	1600	NS	Range	908 - 1067	980 - 980	944 - 1030	NR - NR	345 - 485	-	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
				Average	1007	980	987	NR	401		
Additional Analyzed											
Chlorite (ClO_2-)	mg/L	1.0	0.05	Range	0.07 - 0.48	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	0.02	By-product of drinking water chlorination
				Average	0.27	NR	NR	NR	NR		
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	mg/L	TT	NS	Range	1.7 - 3.4	1.3 - 3.3	2.3 - 2.6	NA - NA	NA - NA	0.3	Naturally occurring organic material
				Average	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	NA		
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	130 - 140	130 - 130	119 - 128	112 - 137	46 - 87	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	135	130	124	128	61		
Bicarbonate (HCO3)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	159 - 171	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	165	NR	NR	NR	NR		
Hardness as CaCO3	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	230 - 280	270 - 270	263 - 282	210 - 310	42 - 76	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	205	270	272	273	52		

2022 WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS *(continued)*

Parameter	Units	Federal or State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range ---------- Average	Treatment Plant Effluents: Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant	Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant	Skinner Treatment Plant	Weese Filtration Plant	Carlsbad Desalination Plant	DLR	Typical Source/Comments
Additional Analyzed cont'd											
Calcium (Ca)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	57 - 70	67 - 68	63 - 71	54 - 79	17 - 30	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	66	68	67	69	21		
Magnesium (Mg)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	21 - 25	25 - 25	24 - 26	19 - 27	1 - 2	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	24	25	25	24	1		
Sodium (Na)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	100 - 110	98 - 98	96 - 103	NA - NA	53 - 65	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	103	98	100	82	59		
pH	units	NA	NS	Range	8.0 - 8.2	8.0 - 8.7	8.1 - 8.2	7.9 - 8.4	8.3 - 8.7	-	Measurement of acidity/alkalinity
				Average	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.5		
Potassium (K)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	4.7 - 5.2	4.7 - 4.8	4.4 - 4.8	NR - NR	0.0 - 31.0	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	4.9	4.8	4.6	NR	6.8		
Chlorate	ug/L	NL=800	NS	Range	180 - 530	250 - 440	75 - 75	NR - NR	NA - NA	20	By-product of drinking water chlorination
				Average	340	336	75	NR	NA		
Silica (SiO2)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range	5.0 - 7.9	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	NR - NR	-	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching
				Average	6.8	NR	NR	NR	NR		
Unregulated											
Boron (B)	mg/L	NL=1	NS	Range	0.13 - 0.15	0.13 - 0.13	0.13 - 0.13	NA - NA	0.47 - 0.91	0.1	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
				Average	0.14	0.13	0.13	NA	0.62		

Parameter	Units	Action Level	PHG (MCLG)	VID Service Area Number of Samples	VID Service Area 90th Percentile	VID Service Area Action Levels Exceeded	DLR	Typical Source/Comments
Inorganic Constituents - Copper/Lead in Residential Taps (Sampled in 2021)								
Copper (Cu)	mg/L	1.3	0.3	58	0.56	0	0.05	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (Pb)	ug/L	15	0.2	58	1.8	0	5	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Detection Limit for Reporting (DLR): A detected contaminant is any contaminant detected at or above its detection level for purposes of reporting.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

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): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs, set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), are not regulatory standards, not enforceable and are not required to be met by public water systems.

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 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the water treatment process and distribution system.

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

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs, set by the California Environmental Protection Agency, are not regulatory standards, not enforceable and are not required to be met by public water systems.

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

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

mg/L: Milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm) = 1 drop in 10 gallon aquarium
ug/L: Micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb) = 1 drop in residential size pool
pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
umho/cm: Micromho per centimeter; measurement of conductivity
NA: Not Applicable
NC: Not Collected
ND: Not Detectable at testing limit
NR: Not Reported
NS: No Standard
>: More than
<: Less than
≤: Less than or equal to

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What affects the taste of my water?

A. The taste of drinking water is affected by its mineral content as well as the presence of chlorine, which is used to protect against potential bacterial contamination. Sometimes plumbing can cause a metallic flavor, especially if the water has been sitting in pipes for many hours. Taste, however, does not indicate a higher or lower degree of water quality.

Q. What causes bad odors?

A. Musty or fishy odors can be caused by harmless algae in the water, especially during the hot summer months. Even after chlorine has been added to disinfect the water, these odors may persist. Also, many people mistakenly confuse odors from their sink drain with the smell of their tap water. Check for tap water odors by filling a glass with fresh tap water and smelling it away from the sink.

Q. What causes hardness in water?

A. A water's "hardness" is a measure of the amount of certain minerals that are dissolved in the water. Depending on varying sources and system flows, the hardness of Vista Irrigation District water ranged from 42 - 310 mg/L in 2022. These values translate to 2.5 - 18.1 grains per gallon (gpg). These numbers may be of interest because some household appliances (such as dishwashers or water treatment devices) have settings that need to be adjusted based on the hardness of the water.

The minerals in water may leave white spots on glasses, coffeepots, shower heads or shower doors. These spots are chiefly calcium deposits and are not harmful to health. Putting vinegar in a coffeepot and allowing it to sit overnight will usually remove the spots. Make sure to rinse well before using. There are also some store products you can use to avoid spotting when glasses are washed and allowed to dry.

Q. What causes cloudy water?

A. Cloudy or milky-looking water is usually caused by trapped air picked up from an air pocket in the water main or internal plumbing. Unusual surges or flows within the aqueduct can also trap air, similar to a waterfall. If the water is allowed to sit in a glass or pitcher for a few minutes, the air will dissipate and the water will become clear.

Q. What is Geosmin?

A. Geosmin is a non-harmful, naturally occurring compound produced by bacteria in soil and algae found in surface water. Geosmin is common throughout the United States; in southern California, it is most noticeable during warmer months and when Vista Irrigation District's water supply is sourced from open surface reservoirs. Geosmin typically produces an earthy or musty odor similar to the odor of damp soil and is detectable by many people at concentrations of 5 to 10 parts per trillion (that's five to ten drops in 16 Olympic size pools). Chilling water, adding ice cubes, a slice of lemon or cucumber, or a few drops of lemon juice will improve the taste and odor.

Q. Why am I required to have a backflow device?

A. When customers' private pipes intersect with water system pipelines, a cross-connection is created. Without necessary protections, contamination can result from backflow, or reverse flow, due to changes in water pressure in the distribution system; a backflow device prevents the flow of potentially contaminated water from a customer's pipelines into the water distribution system. In compliance with state law, Vista Irrigation District requires an approved backflow device on commercial, industrial, agricultural and multi-family accounts as well as properties with wells. Backflow protection may also be required on accounts considered "high risk", such as chemical processing, medical and dental facilities, flower growers, and recreational vehicle dump stations.

Lead and Copper

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Lead and Copper Rule requires Vista Irrigation District (District) to collect special samples of lead and copper every three years; the last samples were collected in 2021. Lead was not detected at reporting levels in either the source water or private households. Copper was not detected at reporting levels in the source water but was detected in low levels in private households; the source of copper comes from the leaching of copper used in household plumbing fixtures.

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 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. The ideal lead and copper sampling volunteer would fall into the category of a single family home that has copper plumbing and was built before 1989. If you would like to volunteer for the next round of lead and copper testing, please contact our water quality staff at (760) 597-3143. 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.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

San Diego County Water Authority
(858) 522-6600
www.sdcwa.org

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management
(619) 525-4159 – Southern California
Drinking Water Field Operations Branch
www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Safe Drinking Water Hotline
(800) 426-4791
www.epa.gov/ccr

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
(213) 217-6000
www.mwdh2o.com

UPDATE YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION WITH US

Please take a moment and provide us with a telephone number (or telephone numbers) where you can be reached in case of an emergency. Having updated information allows us to contact you quicker during a situation that affects your water supply. You can update your emergency contact number(s) by emailing info@vidwater.org or calling Customer Service at (760) 597-3120. When providing your updated telephone number(s) via email, please include your name and address or account number. Feel free to give us your work, home and cell phone numbers. Thank you for helping us keep you informed.

Vista Irrigation District's board meetings are generally held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the District's facilities.

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