



# CITY OF GUSTINE

## Consumer Confidence Report

### Calendar Year 2013

Created May 2014

\*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable cone alguien que lo entienda bien.

\*Este informações importantes sobre a sua água potável. Traduza-lo, ou falar com alguém que understands-lo.

As a consumer you have right to know the quality of your drinking water. *In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink the, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.* This report is produced by the City providing information on sources and quality of water, regulations that protect your health, and the treatment of your water to ensure your drinking water meet or surpass all federal and state water quality standards.

#### Community Participation/ Questions

*For more information about this report or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Kathryn Reyes, Public Works, at 209-854-6183. The City Council meets every first and third Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm, located at 352 Fifth Street. The public is encouraged to attend Council meetings to express any comments.*

#### About the Source

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 and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick-up substances resulting from the presences of animals or from human activity.

#### City of Gustine's Sources

The City's water is supplied from four deep ground water wells located throughout the city. The system is maintained by State certified operators who have numerous years of experience with water systems.

A Source Water Assessment was completed in March 2003. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminates detected in the water supply: animal feeding operations, lagoons/liquid waste, fertilizers/herbicides/pesticides applications, and sewer collection systems. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to: automobile – gas stations, dry cleaners, known contaminated plumes, and leaking underground storage tanks. Copies of the complete assessment are available at the California Department of Public Health field office (559) 447-3300 or [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov).

The City's water supply is disinfected using chlorine in the form of sodium hypochlorite at an average chlorine residual of **.31 mg/L** (parts per million).

The City monitors current research and regulations on drinking water and enforces the Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connections Program to ensure safe drinking water.

#### *How to Reduce your Bill?*

*There are many tricks to lowering your water consumption which can reduce your bill.*

- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for about 15 minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. Fix it and you may be able to save 200 gallons a day or more.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter, after two (2) hours check it again. If it has moved then you have a leak.

*<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>*

## **Lead & Nitrate Specific Information**

*\* If **lead** is present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Gustine 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 two (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 Water Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.wpa.gov/safewater/lead>*

*\* **Nitrate** in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant or you are pregnant you should ask advice from your health care provider.*

## **Important Health Information**

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections; these people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)*

## **What Could Be in Water?**

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agriculture applications, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

*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 at (1-800-426-4791).*

**The following tables list all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituents. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department of Public Health requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.**

Primary Drinking Water Standard						
Constituent	Year	Range of Detection	Average	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	2013	n/a	.1	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilities and aluminum factories
Nickel (ppb)	2007-2008	<5-5	5	100	12	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2013	7.9-35.5	22.8	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2011	n/a	3.05	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum(ppm)	2011	n/a	.05	1	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2011	n/a	2	10	.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass ad electronics production waste
Total Chromium (ppb)	2011	n/a	18	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2011	n/a	2.64	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	2013	n/a	1.4	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine(ppm)	2013	<0.05-.1.73	.31	4	4	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

Secondary Drinking Water Standard						
Constituent	Year	Range of Detection	Average	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	2011	n/a	78.8	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
<b>*Iron (ug/L)</b>	2011	n/a	703	300	n/a	Leaching form natural deposits; industrial waste
Sulfate (ppm)	2013	n/a	110.4	500	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
*Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2013	n/a	972	1600	n/a	Substance that form ions when in water; seawater influences
*Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2011	876-1170	1023	1000	n/a	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
*Turbidity (Units)	2011	n/a	7	5	n/a	Soil Runoff; Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.
Color (Units)	2011	n/a	10	15	n/a	Naturally-occurring organic materials

**\*\*Iron was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 300 ug/L. The iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high iron levels are due to leaching of natural deposits.\*\***

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Small changes can make a big difference-try one and soon it will become second nature.

Water plants only when necessary. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

A 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Use a water efficient showerhead. They can save you up to 750 gallons a month. Shut off water while brushing your teeth washing your hair and shaving can save up to 500 gallons a month.

**Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely.**

Microbiological Contaminates					
Contaminants	Number of Detections	Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform bacteria	0	0	More than one (1) sample in a month with a detection	0	We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. Coli	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detected total coliform and either resample also detects fecal coliform or E. Coli	0	Human and animal fecal waste

Results for Lead and Copper 2012						
Constituents	No of samples collected	90th Percentile Level Detected	Sites exceeding AL	AI	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppm)	20	<.005	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharge from industrial manufactures; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	21	0.19	0	1	0.2	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservations

Hardness and Sodium						
Constituents	Year	Level Detected	Range of detections	MCL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Hardness (ppm)	2013	514.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	Hardness is the sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium.
Sodium (ppm)	2013	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring

**Definitions/Abbreviations**

- **Maximum Contamination Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set at close to the PHGs (or MCLG) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that effect taste, odor or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWS do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
- **ND:** not detectable at testing limit
- **ppm:** part per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
- **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
- **pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter ( a measure of radiation)
- **Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no know or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the USEPA.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.