

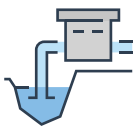


SCOTTS VALLEY  
WATER DISTRICT

svwd.org   

## SCOTTS VALLEY WATER QUALITY MAKES THE GRADE

This annual Consumer Confidence Report on water quality shows that last year, as in years past, the District's water met all State and Federal primary drinking water standards. Included in the report is information about the source water quality and treated water quality. It also explains how the water is treated and tested to ensure that it is always safe and refreshing to drink.



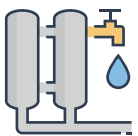
### Start with a Local Water Supply

Drinking water comes from five wells pumping from the Lompico and Butano aquifers, which are part of the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin.



### Test to Ensure Quality

The District's state-certified water operators monitor the water system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure the reliability and safety of our water. Depending on the constituent, the District conducts numerous tests on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual basis.



### Treat to Provide High-Quality Water

The Lompico and Butano aquifers are naturally high in iron and manganese. The District operates three treatment facilities that utilize oxidation and filtration to reduce these constituents and produce safe, high-quality water.

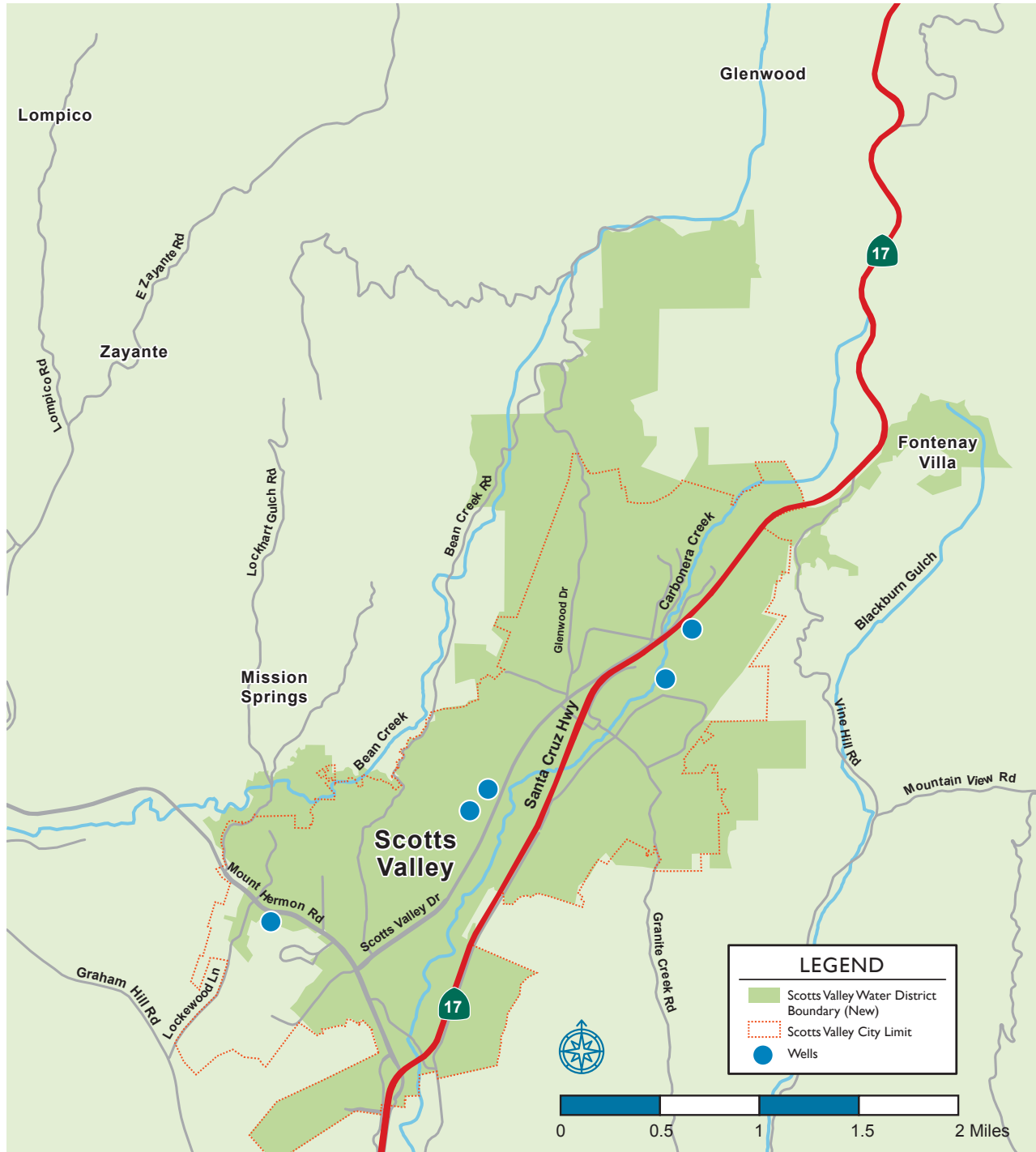


### Providing Customers with Safe, Reliable, High-Quality Water is the District's Top Priority

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

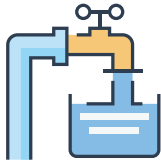


# WHERE WATER COMES FROM



Scotts Valley Water District is a public agency providing water service to over 4,000 accounts within six square miles, including most of the City of Scotts Valley and portions of the unincorporated areas north of the city limits.

The District serves as a leader in sustainable water management practices, embraces innovation and is a trusted source of water-related information in the community. The community of Scotts Valley places a high value on livability, innovation and planning for the future, and the District is proud to play a vital role in supporting those efforts by providing a reliable, high-quality water supply.



# DRINKING WATER QUALITY

## Source Water

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Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, 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.



Source water contaminants that may be present include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- 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 production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural applications and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally occurring or from oil and gas production and mining activities.
- 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.

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 visiting [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater) or calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Source Water Assessment

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In 2018, the District updated its 2001 Source Water Assessment of District wells that provide source water. These wells are considered most vulnerable to the activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply from dry-cleaning, gasoline storage and distribution, and manufacturing. In addition, these wells are susceptible to negative impacts from abandoned water and monitoring wells, septic systems, transportation corridors, commercial parking lots and sewer collection systems.

The complete assessment is available at the District Office – 2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley – or by e-mail at [contact@svwd.org](mailto:contact@svwd.org).

## Water Quality Regulations

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In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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. EPA 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.

## When to Seek Health Care Advice

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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised populations such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk for 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 at (800) 426-4791.

# HOW CONSTITUENTS ARE MEASURED

**MILLIGRAMS per liter (mg/L) or parts per MILLION (ppm)**



**One drop** in 14 gallons

OR



**One second** in 11.5 days

**MICROGRAMS per liter (ug/L) or parts per BILLION (ppb)**



**One drop** in 14,000 gallons

OR



**One second** in nearly 32 years

**NANOGRAMS per liter (ng/L) or parts per TRILLION (ppt)**



**One drop** in 14,000,000 gallons

OR



**One second** in nearly 32,000 years





# WATER TEST RESULTS

This table lists all of the drinking water contaminants and other constituents detected between January 1 and December 31. Secondary standards relate to aesthetic aspects of water. Scotts Valley Water District water quality met or surpassed all State and Federal criteria for public health protection.

Primary Health Standards	MCL or MRDL	PHG or MCLG	Range	Average	Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic (ppb) <sup>5</sup>	10	0.004	<2 - 9.8	4.9	No	Naturally occurring minerals
Fluoride from natural sources (ppm)	2	1	0.1 - 0.4	0.3	No	Naturally occurring minerals
Gross alpha particle activity (pCi/L) <sup>1</sup>	15	None	<3 - 4.6	<3	No	Naturally occurring minerals
Disinfection By-Products & Disinfection Residual	MCL or MRDL	PHG or MCLG	Range	Average	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	None	11 - 48	39	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids as HAA5 (ppb)	60	None	<1 - 6	4	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	4	4	0.21 - 1.07	0.76	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Residential Tap Monitoring	MCL	PHG or MCLG	Sites Sampled	90th Percentile	Sites Exceeding Action Level	Typical Sources
Lead (ppb) <sup>1</sup>	15	0	31	<5	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) <sup>1</sup>	1.3	0.3	31	0.19	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Sampling of Drinking Water in California Schools (AB746/HSC-116277)	Year Tested	Schools Tested	Typical Sources			
Lead	2017	3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits			
Secondary Aesthetic Standards	Secondary MCL	Range	Average	Typical Sources		
Chloride (ppm)	500	25 - 59	41	Naturally occurring minerals		
Odor Threshold @ 60 C (TON)	3	<1 - 2	<1	Naturally occurring minerals		
Specific Conductance (MHOS/CM)	1,600	490 - 887	696	Naturally occurring substance that form ions in water		
Sulfate (ppm)	500	84 - 98	90	Naturally occurring minerals		
Turbidity (NTU)	5	<0.1 - 0.7	0.15	Naturally occurring minerals		
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000	320 - 520	395	Naturally occurring minerals		
Other Monitoring Results		Range	Average	<b>NOTES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Except where noted, water samples for this report were collected from District treatment plants, the water distribution system, and customer homes throughout the 2025 calendar year.</li> <li>• The treatment processes effectively remove concentrations of iron, manganese, arsenic, sulfide and reduce other contaminants inherent in the groundwater supply.</li> <li>• The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants rarely change.</li> </ul> <b>Definitions and footnotes on next page.</b>		
pH (UNITS)		6.9 - 8.4	7.9			
Sodium (ppm)		32 - 71	49			
Total Hardness <sup>2</sup> as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)		140 - 310	227			
Calcium (ppm)		43 - 67	58			
Magnesium (ppm)		7 - 35	20			
Potassium (ppm)		1.6 - 2.5	2.1			
Orthophosphate as PO <sub>4</sub> (ppm)		0.6 - 1.5	1.02			
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 Monitoring Results <sup>3</sup>		Range	Average			
Lithium (ppb)		23 - 62	42			
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) <sup>4</sup> (ppt)		<3 - 4.2	<3			
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) <sup>4</sup> (ppt)		<3 - 6.4	<3			

## Definitions

**Contaminants:** Chemical and physical elements contained in water.

**Grains per Gallon:** A unit of hardness where 17.1 parts per million equals 1 grain per gallon.

**Turbidity:** A physical characteristic of water that makes the water appear cloudy. The condition is caused by the presence of suspended matter. It's monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

**MHOS/CM:** Micromhos per Centimeter: An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not detected at testing limit.

**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit, indicating the clarity of the water.

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter is a measure of radio-activity.

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

**ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter. 1 ppm equals 1,000 ppb and is equivalent to about one drop in 14 gallons of water.

**ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. 1 ppb equals 0.001 ppm and is equivalent to about one drop in 14,000 gallons of water.

**ppt:** Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter. 1 ppt equals 0.001 ppb and is equivalent to about one drop in 14,000,000 gallons of water.

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

**Total Dissolved Solids:** An indicator of dissolved minerals in the water.

**TON:** Threshold Odor Number: The unit of odor.

**90TH Percentile:** The third highest sample result of 20 sample results.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> All testing is from 2025, except where noted. Radiological constituents were drawn from treatment plants in January 2019. Residential tap monitoring of lead and copper occurred in 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Average Total Hardness for 2025 was 13.3 grains per gallon.

<sup>3</sup> Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the US EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether these contaminants need to be regulated. This section includes a summary of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 monitoring results in 2024.

<sup>4</sup> PFHxA and PFPeA were detected only at the Well 10A Water Treatment Plant, which provided 25% of water provided to customers of the Scotts Valley Water District in 2025.

<sup>5</sup> Arsenic testing results include both untreated and treated sample results. The average arsenic detection for the El Pueblo Water Treatment Plant was 5.9 ppb, while arsenic was not detected at both the Orchard Run and Well 10 Water Treatment Plants. The El Pueblo Water Treatment Plant produced 25% of the water distributed to customers in 2025.

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. Scotts Valley Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water.

For information specific to service lines in the Scotts Valley Water District service area, please refer to the inventory report available on our website: <https://www.svwd.org/lead-service-line-inventory-report>. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Scotts Valley Water District at [contact@svwd.org](mailto:contact@svwd.org).

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Got Questions?

Contact Operations Manager Nate Gillespie at (831) 600-1903.

## How to Get Involved

Customers are invited to attend monthly board meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 6 pm at the District Office, 2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley.

Download this report at:

[www.svwd.org/media/Reports/CCR2025.pdf](http://www.svwd.org/media/Reports/CCR2025.pdf)



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