

**2014 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report
Del Oro Water Company – Ferndale District
Public Water System Number 1210007**

We test 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 - December 31, 2014 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.
Water for the Del Oro Water Company – Ferndale District is produced from groundwater sources known as the High Line Springs, Low Line Springs, and Van Ness Well.
For additional information concerning your drinking water, contact Community Relations at P.O. Drawer 5172, Chico, CA 95927 1-877-335-6764.

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

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 are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
Public Health Goal (PHG): 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.
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 known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs or MRDLs 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 affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND: Not detectable at testing limit
ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
ppq: Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
MFL: Million fibers per liter
ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppt: Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture 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*, which 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per 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.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA – 2014 – MONTHLY

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER – 2012

Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ug/L)	10	ND	None	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ug/L)	10	133	None	1300	170	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	05/18/11	18.7	14-26	none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water
Hardness (ppm)	05/18/11	196.7	120-310	none	none	Generally found in ground & surface water

TABLE 3 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	05/18/11	8.1		10	.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppb)	05/18/11	410		1000	2000	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	2014	0.80	0.44-0.80	[4]	[4]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppb)	03/31/11	320	250-390	2000	1000	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	2014	6.5	ND – 12	60	[N/A]	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as NO ₃) (ppm)	2014	3.7	ND – 4.7	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	10/05/06	.7	0.12 - 1.3	5	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2014	26	ND – 31	80	[N/A]	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	03/31/11	31	18-52	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	07/28/11	3		15	N/A	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	03/31/11	480	310-730	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	03/31/11	7.3	ND-15	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits' industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	03/31/11	267	180-400	1000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Units)	07/28/11	.26	0.09-0.48	5	N/A	Soil runoff

*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Additional General Information on Drinking Water:

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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The California Department of Health Services 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 other circulatory problems. Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, or AL, or Violation of Any Treatment Technique or Monitoring and Reporting Requirements.

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. Del Oro Water Company 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/safewater/lead>.

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