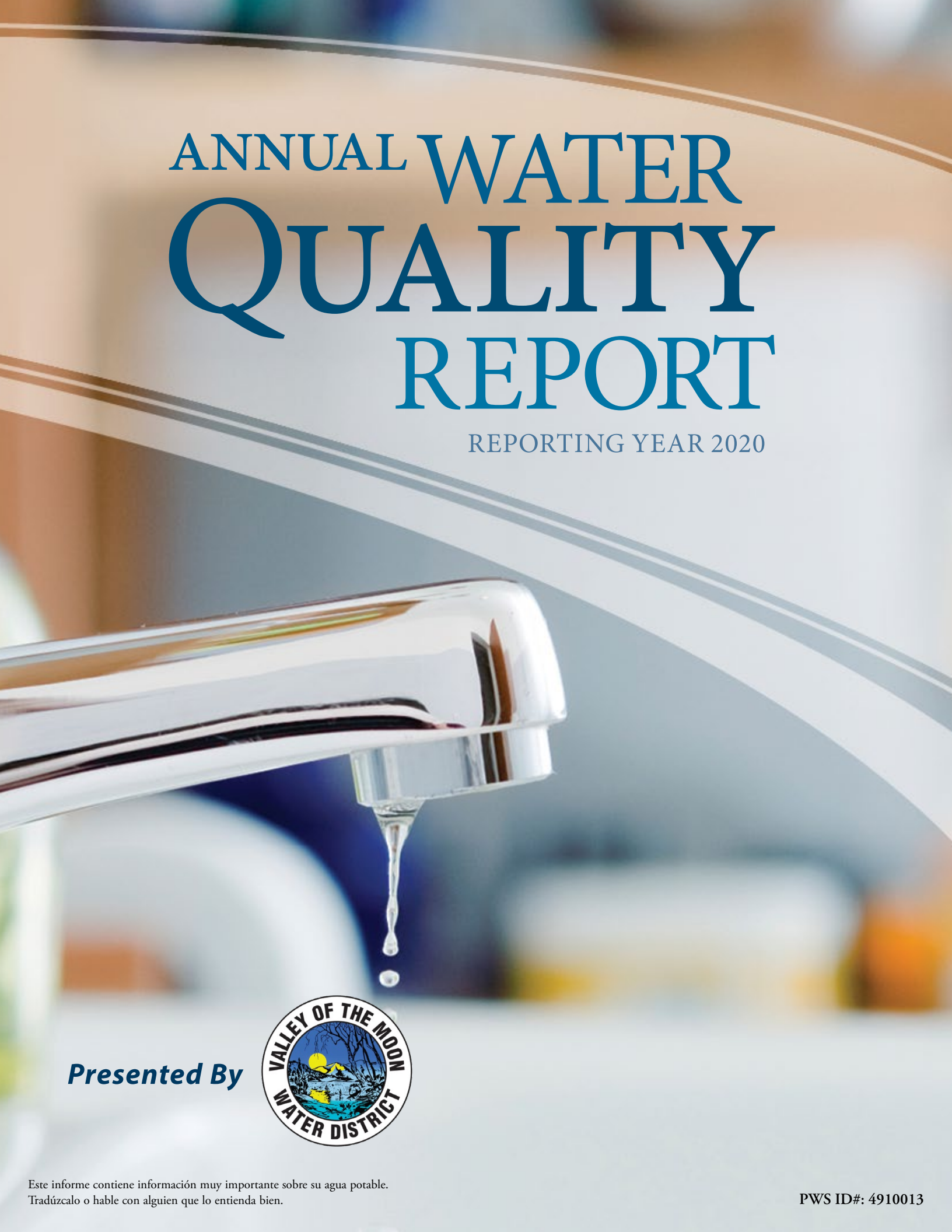
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2020



Presented By

VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT

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

PWS ID#: 4910013

Quality First

Once again, we are pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2020. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your family.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

Water Conservation Tips

As you may be aware, Sonoma County is experiencing a historic drought this year. You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So, get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you can save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it indicates flow, you have a leak.

The district recently completed its advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) installation. To sign up for automatic leak alerts, go to https://vomwd.watersmart.com/index.php/welcome/accountLookup. For more water-saving tips, check out the Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership here: www.savingwaterpartnership.org/.

Community Participation

The Valley of the Moon Water District encourages the public to voice their concerns about their drinking water. They may write to the district or attend any of the regularly scheduled board meetings. The board of directors meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., currently over Zoom. Agendas and board meeting Zoom information can be found at the district office, located at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, and the district website, www.vomwd.org/boardmeetings.

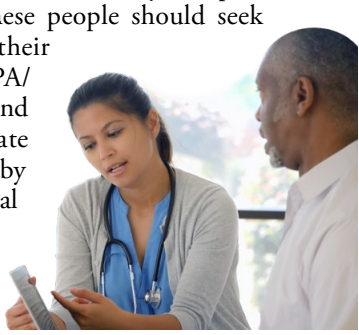
Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the Water Agency was completed in January 2001. The sources are considered vulnerable to wastewater treatment and disposal, mining operations, septic systems, and agricultural operations. A copy of the complete assessment is available from the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB), 50 D Street, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95404, or at the SWRCB website: www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/DWSAP.html.

An assessment of the district's wells was performed in 2003, as required by the U.S. EPA. This assessment identified the sewer collection system as the most likely source of possible contamination to the wells. Please note that no contaminants have been detected in the water supply above state primary drinking water standards; however, the sources are still considered vulnerable to activities located near the drinking water sources. The district routinely monitors and samples the wells to ensure the water is free from contamination. A copy of the completed assessment is on file at the Valley of the Moon Water District office, 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, or at the SWRCB website: www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/DWSAP.html.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.



Questions? For more information about this report, or for other questions related to water quality, please contact Brian Larson, Water System Manager, at (707) 996-1037.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. (If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.) 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

One of the critical factors for water quality is the source of supply: the purer the source, the better the water. The Valley of the Moon Water District relies on two sources: water from the Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency) and local groundwater wells. The Water Agency produces water from six Ranney collectors (or caissons) in the Russian River and, to a lesser extent, three groundwater wells in the Santa Rosa plain.

The Russian River originates in central Mendocino County, about 15 miles north of Ukiah. The main channel is 110 miles long and flows southward from the headwaters near Potter Valley to the Pacific Ocean near Jenner. Three main reservoirs, Lake Sonoma, Lake Pillsbury, and Lake Mendocino, feed the river, providing seasonal storage and replenishing the river aquifer.

The riverbed provides natural filtration for the water removed from the Ranney collectors. The Water Agency treats the water with chlorine for bacterial disinfection and adds sodium hydroxide (also known as caustic soda) to adjust the pH. Slightly higher pH levels reduce the corrosivity, thereby reducing the amount of copper and lead that could be dissolved into the water from pipes. The water needs no further treatment when it reaches the district through the Water Agency's transmission system.

The district supplements Water Agency supplies with water from five groundwater wells: four owned by the district and one leased. In 2020 the district purchased 2,226 acre-feet of water from the Water Agency and produced 429 acre-feet from our local wells.

Substances That Could Be in 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.

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 Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 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. 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.

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, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or can 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 agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fourth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water in order to determine if U.S. EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data are available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				Sonoma County Water Agency		Valley of the Moon Water District			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2020	10	0.004	ND	NA	3.34	2.5–4.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	2.0	1	ND	NA	0.204	0.14–0.25	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity[1] (pCi/L)	2014	15	(0)	0.29	ND–1.36	0.362[1]	ND–1.81[1]	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2020	60	NA	6.15	1.44–11.62	6.6	ND–6.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [As Nitrate] (ppm)	2020	45	45	ND	NA	0.844	ND–2.5	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2020	80	NA	10.5	5.2–18.6	21	ND–21	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2020	1.3	0.3	0.099	0/31	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2020	15	0.2	ND	0/31	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				Sonoma County Water Agency		Valley of the Moon Water District			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2020	500	NS	5.22	5.10–5.40	8.84	5.2–20	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2020	1,600	NS	240	230–260	204	150–360	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2020	500	NS	11.67	11–13	4.28	1–12	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2020	1,000	NS	133.33	120–150	200	180–250	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	2020	5	NS	0.033	0.031–0.039	0.258	ND–0.94	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES [2]

		Sonoma County Water Agency		Valley of the Moon Water District		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromide (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	40	ND–110	NA
Calcium (ppm)	2020	22	20–24	12.6	8.4–26	Erosion of natural deposits
Germanium (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	0.398	ND–0.67	NA
HAA5 (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	4.1	1.86–4.78	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA6Br (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	5.386	3.22–7	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA9 (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	8.125	4.04–10	NA
Magnesium (ppm)	2020	13.67	12–16	7.72	4.7–16	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	0.191	ND–1	Erosion of natural deposits
pH (units)	2020	7.4	7.25–7.57	7.52	7.4–7.7	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Sodium (ppm)	2020	8.3	7.5–9.1	16.6	13–21	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness (ppm)	2020	110.67	105–123	63.2	40–130	Calcium and magnesium concentration
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (ppm)	2018	NA	NA	1.131	ND–8.1	Naturally occurring

[1] All sampled in 2016, except Larbre, which was sampled in 2020.
[2] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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. EPA.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT
A Public Agency Established in 1962
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET FOR Valley of the Moon Water District

Our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards during the past year and, therefore, was in violation of the regulations. Even though this failure was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

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 your drinking water meets health standards. Samples for MTBE were not completed in 2020 as required due to an oversight in sample preparation. Furthermore, a sample for disinfection byproducts (TTHM and HAA5) was overlooked in the required sampling period of January at one of our distribution sample locations in 2020. Follow-up samples taken for these constituents early in 2021 however, show a continuation of historical trends and that the water is safe to drink. The District has instituted a better internal control procedure to avoid similar circumstances in the future. However, for the time period above there is no way to be sure that these constituents were within limits.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do at this time.
- The table below lists the contaminants that were missed in 2020, how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When All Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were Taken
TTHM	Annually	1	January 2020	January 2021
HAA5	Annually	1	January 2020	January 2021

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When All Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were Taken
METHYL-TERT-BUTYL-ETHER (MTBE)	Every three years	5 (one for each source)	February 2020	February 2021

Trihalomethanes (THM) are a type of disinfection byproduct. Total THM (TTHM) is a group of four regulated THMs: chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane, and dibromochloromethane. Haloacetic acids (HAA) are another type of disinfection byproduct. HAA5 is a group of five haloacetic acids: dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, monochloroacetic acid, and trichloroacetic acid. If you believe you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

After many years of regular sampling, it became clear that HAA5 and TTHM trends were very low (good) in the District. As a result, the State Water Board reduced monitoring requirements from quarterly to annually in 2019. This simple change resulted in the accidental oversight of the new required sampling time (January of 2020). The missed MTBE sample occurred as a result of an incomplete lab quotation. The District has since instituted a better internal control procedure (double-check) to avoid similar circumstances in the future.

For more information, please contact Brian Larson at 707-996-1037.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA POTABLE

NO SE CUMPLEN LOS REQUISITOS DE SEGUIMIENTO PARA Valley of the Moon Water District

Nuestro sistema de agua no pudo monitorear según lo requerido por los estándares de agua potable durante el año pasado y, por lo tanto, violó las regulaciones. Aunque esta falla no fue una emergencia, como nuestros clientes, usted tiene derecho a saber qué debe hacer, qué sucedió y qué hicimos para corregir esta situación.

Estamos obligados a controlar su agua potable para detectar contaminantes específicos de forma regular. Los resultados del monitoreo regular son un indicador de si su agua potable cumple o no con los estándares de salud. Las muestras para MTBE no se completaron en 2020 como se requería debido a un descuido en la preparación de la muestra. Además, se pasó por alto una muestra de subproductos de desinfección (TTHM y HAA5) en el período de muestreo requerido de enero en una de nuestras ubicaciones de muestra de distribución en 2020. Sin embargo, las muestras de seguimiento tomadas para estos componentes a principios de 2021 muestran una continuación de las tendencias históricas y que el agua sea potable. El Distrito ha instituido un mejor procedimiento de control interno para evitar circunstancias similares en el futuro. Sin embargo, durante el período de tiempo anterior, no hay forma de estar seguro de que estos componentes estuvieran dentro de los límites.

¿Qué tengo que hacer?

- No hay nada que deba hacer en este momento.
- La siguiente tabla enumera los contaminantes que se perdieron en 2020, cuántas muestras debemos tomar y con qué frecuencia, cuántas muestras tomamos, cuándo deberían haberse tomado las muestras y la fecha en la que se tomaron las muestras de seguimiento.

Contaminante	Frecuencia de muestreo requerida	Número de muestras tomadas	Cuando se deberían haber tomado todas las muestras	Cuando se tomaron muestras
TTHM	Anualmente	1	enero de 2020	enero de 2021
HAA5	Anualmente	1	enero de 2020	enero de 2021

Contaminante	Frecuencia de muestreo requerida	Número de muestras tomadas	Cuando se deberían haber tomado todas las muestras	Cuando se tomaron muestras
METIL-TERT-BUTIL-ÉTER (MTBE)	Cada tres años	5 (uno para cada fuente)	febrero de 2020	febrero de 2021

Los trihalometanos (THM) son un tipo de subproducto de desinfección. El THM total (TTHM) es un grupo de cuatro THM regulados: cloroformo, bromoformo, bromodiclorometano y dibromoclorometano. Los ácidos haloacéticos (HAA) son otro tipo de subproducto de desinfección. HAA5 es un grupo de cinco ácidos haloacéticos: ácido dibromoacético, ácido dicloroacético, ácido monobromoacético, ácido monocloroacético y ácido tricloroacético. Si cree que tiene problemas de salud relacionados con el consumo de esta agua, puede consultar a su médico.

¿Qué pasó y qué se está haciendo?

Después de muchos años de muestreo regular, quedó claro que las tendencias de HAA5 y TTHM eran muy bajas (buenas) en el Distrito. Como resultado, la Junta Estatal de Agua redujo los requisitos de monitoreo de trimestrales a anualmente en 2019. Este simple cambio resultó en la supervisión accidental del nuevo tiempo de muestreo requerido (enero de 2020). La muestra de MTBE perdida se produjo como resultado de una cotización de laboratorio incompleta. Desde entonces, el Distrito ha instituido un mejor procedimiento de control interno (doble verificación) para evitar circunstancias similares en el futuro.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Brian Larson al 707-996-1037.

Comparta esta información con todas las demás personas que beben esta agua, especialmente con aquellas que no hayan recibido este aviso directamente (por ejemplo, personas en apartamentos, hogares de ancianos, escuelas y negocios). Puede hacerlo publicando este aviso público en un lugar público o distribuyendo copias a mano o por correo.

Número de identificación del sistema de agua estatal: CA4910013
Fecha de distribución: 16-06-2021