CONSERVATION &
SUSTAINABILITY

2011 | Consumer Confidence Report

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

PWS ID# 3610703

CCR and You!

Under the "Consumer Confidence Rule" (CCR) of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), community water systems are required to report water quality information to the consuming public annually.

Continuing Our Commitnent

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is proud to present our 2011 Consumer Confidence Report. This edition covers all drinking water testing completed from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. We are pleased to report that our compliance with all State and Federal drinking water laws and standards remains exemplary.

As always, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water to all personnel aboard MAGTFTC, MCAGCC. Through continued vigilance we meet the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while meeting the needs of all our water users.

***Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. ***

This report was compiled by the MAGTFTC, MCAGCC Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Water Resources Office. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Chris Elliott, Water Resources Manager, at (760) 830-7883 or email chris.elliott@usmc.mil.

Important Health Information

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 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 (Center 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.

Contaminants In My 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead Information

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. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Arsenic Information

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. 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.

"Because MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is committed to sustainment and protection of the environment, this report is printed on 100% recycled paper to help reduce waste and minimize impact on the environment while meeting the Marine Corps mission."

Water Conservation

Protecting a Critical Natural Resource

Water conservation requires a change in attitude by everyone. It starts with the realization that there isn't enough drinkable water anywhere in the world that allows everyone to consume or use an unlimited amount. Sooner or later the quantity and/or quality of a water resource will degrade if users remove more from the source than is being replenished by the environment. This is most important in our desert environment, where rain comes only several times each year, and the demand for water is high.

Once water-conservation awareness becomes part of daily life, the effort to reduce wastefulness is a simple next step: "As a rule, only open the faucet when you need to, use just what you need, and close it quickly when you are done."

Conservation can be achieved with simple changes in the way we use water. Examples of potential savings by simply changing how we do things are presented below.

Remember, conservation (wise use) and sustainability (extending a finite supply) are words we often hear and they are never more important than when talking about our water resources here at MCAGCC. Let's leave some water behind for the next Marines.

Program Spotlight

The Range Sustainment Branch (RSB) is a section within the Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) aboard the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC). RSB is a two part organization started in February of 2000 consisting of the Range Clearance and Material Processing Teams. RSB is unique among Marine Corps Bases and other Department of Defense (DoD) installations for its ability to safely demilitarize and process collected munitions for sale.

The Range Clearance Team works individually and with other base unit/organizations to ensure safer training areas aboard the Combat Center. The team consists of 6-8 personnel led by 1 Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Technician which collects munitions ranging from small arms to 2000 lb. practice bombs. Once materials are collected, checked, and separated they are brought to the Material Processing Team.

The Material Processing Team also receives munitions and range debris from other DoD installations including Edwards AFB, Marine Corps Base Yuma, and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Materials received are sorted and staged in preparation for processing and Demilitarization. The demilitarization process includes melting of

COMPARISON CHART FOR WATER USAGE AND SAVINGS

Did you know that not even 1% of the world's fresh water supplies are available for human consumption?

Types of Water Usage
Shower (10 min)
Tub Bath
Toilet Flushing
Washing Hands
Brushing Teeth
Shaving
Washing Dishes
Dishwasher
Washing Machine

aluminum and zinc, smashing and deforming of brass, and shredding of light steel into unrecognizable strips.

The Range Sustainment Branch ensures a cleaner, safer and sustainable training area in support of the Marine Corps mission. In Fiscal Year 2011 QRP as a whole produced over 10 million pounds of material for sale which enabled QRP to donate $800,000 to the Marine Corps quality of life programs.

Where Does My Water Come From?

All domestic water supplied to MAGTFTC MCAGCC is ground water from the Surprise Springs sub aquifer of the Twentynine Palms Ground Water Basin. This water is extracted by 11 production wells at a depth between 500 and 700 feet located in a protected area of the Sand Hill Training Area.

This water has consistently been of such high quality in nature that it routinely meets or exceeds all EPA and California Department of Public Health Services primary and secondary drinking water standards without any treatment required (other than basic disinfection) before distribution. Basic disinfection is required by California Department of Health Services as a safeguard against possible microbial contamination due to repairs or maintenance of the system.

Investing In Our Future

Challenges facing MAGTFTC, MCAGCC Utilities are similar to those faced by other utilities in the area: water supply, aging infrastructure, and population growth. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC issued multiple contracts to repair and improve the quality of the water system. Some of the contracts issued were: TRACRS Water and Electricity; GTF Water Improvements; Replace Water Point Building; and Repair Fire Mainline Deficiencies, Rifle Range. Just over 32 million dollars were spent on repairing and upgrading the potable water system in 2011.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC's drinking water system consists of 11 potable water wells and 12 reservoirs with a storage capacity of 15 million gallons that serves the military and civilian work force through a series of pipelines that extend over the 84.2 miles service area.

No Drugs Down The Drain

Pharmaceutical waste remains a threat to water supplies. One way to reduce this threat is to dispose of all over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions properly. DO NOT FLUSH DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN.

Old medicines can be taken to the San Bernardino County Community Household Waste Collection Center located at 62499 29 Palms Highway, Joshua Tree. The hours of operation are the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on proper disposal of unwanted medicines please visit www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org.

Average Water Usage		Conservation Usage		
GALS. USED	METHOD	GALS. USED	METHOD	SAVINGS
50	Showerhead running continuously	25	Shorter showers (5 min) or	50%
		25	Low flow showerhead (10 min) or	50%
		12.5	Low flow showerhead (5 min)	75%
36	Standard tub, full	18	Standard tub, half full	50%
5–7	Depends on tank size	4–6	Use a displacement bag or milk jug in tank reservoir or	20%
		1.6	Replace with low flow toilet	73%
5	With tap running continuously	1	Fill a standard basin	80%
10	With tap running continuously	1	Wet brush with brief rinses	90%
20	With tap running continuously	1	Fill a standard basin	95%
30	With tap running continuously	10	Wash and rinse with a half-filled standard sink	66%
16	Full cycle	7	Short cycle	56%
60	Full cycle; highest water level	27	Short cycle	55%

Water Quality Data

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC conducts extensive water quality testing. No contaminants were found at levels higher than the EPA allows. As a result of the continued commitment to bring the safest, best quality water to everyone at MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, our water continues to meet or exceed all primary drinking water standards and most secondary standards.

The table provided is a snapshot of last year's water quality details about what your water contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	MCAGCC Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source
Source Wells Primary Drinking Water Standard							
Aluminum (mg/L)	1	0.2	<0.05	ND-< 0.05	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Antimony (mg/L)	0.006	0.006	<0.006	ND-<0.006	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Arsenic (mg/L)	0.01	0.01	0.004	0.0020-0.0078	2011	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (mg/L)	1	1	<0.1	ND-< 0.1	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Beryllium (mg/L)	0.004	0.004	<0.001	ND-< 0.001	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Cadmium (mg/L)	0.005	0.005	<0.001	ND-< 0.001	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium (mg/L)	0.05	0.05	<0.011	ND-0.011	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Cyanide (mg/L)	0.15	0.15	0.1	ND-<0.1	2010	No	Wastewater Discharges or Industrial Emissions
Fluoride (mg/L)	2	2	0.55	0.2-0.9	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Iron (mg/L)	0.03	0.03	0.11	<0.1-0.15	2011	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Mercury (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	<0.001	ND-<0.001	2010	No	Wastewater Discharges or Industrial Emissions
Methyl-tert-butylether (mg/L)	0.013	0.013	0.003	ND-<0.003	2011	No	Leaking Underground Storage
Nitrate (NO3) (mg/L)	45	45	4.9	3.6-6.8	2011	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrite (NO2) (mg/L)	1	1	<0.1	ND-<0.1	2010	No	Natural Deposits or Agricultural Runoff
Nickel (mg/L)	0.1	0.1	<0.01	ND-<0.01	2010	No	Discharges from Industry
Perchlorate (mg/L)	0.006	NA	0.004	ND-<0.004	2010	No	May be Found Naturally or Manufactured for Industrial Use
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	5	0.078	ND-0.78	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	ND	ND	ND-1	2011	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Source Wells Secondary Drinking Water Standard							
Chloride (mg/L)	250	250	18	ND-20	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Color (CU)	15	15	<3	<3-3	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Manganese (mg/L)	0.5	0.05	<0.02	ND-<0.02	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	250	27	ND-28	2010	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000	500	175	140-230	2010	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Zinc (mg/L)	5	NA	<0.05	ND-<0.05	2010	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Distribution System							
Copper 90th Percentile	1300	170	28	0.37 - 75	2009	No	Plumbing Corrosion
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (mg/L)	0.06	NA	<0.005	ND-<0.005	2011	No	By-product of System Chlorination
Lead 90th Percentile	15	2	8.6	ND - 610	2009	No	Plumbing Corrosion
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (mg/L)	0.08	NA	0.0016	ND-0.0016	2011	No	By-product of System Chlorination
Total Coliform Bacteria	>1 or 5%*	0	0	ND	2011	No	Naturally Present in the Environment

*Per Month

Table Definitions

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

Unit: Standard unit of measurement for this constituent

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

NA: Not applicable

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

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.

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)

Total Coliform Bacteria: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as indicators that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

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