

Sunland Estates Water Quality Report – 2006

Each 3-year period we conduct tests for over 80 drinking water contaminants. We have only detected four contaminants, with none at a level higher than the state allows. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, call 787-5753 and ask for Peter Smith.

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. EPA/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 (800-426-4791).

Sunland Estates Homeowners are furnished with water provided by three wells. The system serves an estimated 130 full-time residents and approximately 350 full-time and seasonal connections. Water from the wells is stored in our new 150,000 gallon reservoir. This reservoir provides protection against fire service drawdown, power outages, and periods of high water usage. Water is carried to the various homes via approximately 5.4 miles of water pipe. Over the past 5 years a

significant portion of the system was replaced by new 8" PVC pipe, which also allowed the installation of additional fire hydrants; additional pipe is being replaced this year. The new system, as installed, will provide a significant improvement in overall water quality and reliability. An emergency generator has been installed at well 3 to assure water supply in the event of a power outage. The pump at Well 3 was completely rebuilt in 2004 to assure long-term reliability; the pumps at wells 1 & 2 were rebuilt this year.

The Sunland Estates Association Board meets the third Saturday of each month from February through October. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

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).

In general, 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, which

may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which 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 and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Use Efficiency:

Beginning this year all water systems must demonstrate a concerted effort to conserve water. In the Case of Sunland Estates, irrigation should be carried out only at night. You only need to water sufficient to keep the top 2 inches of soil moist to insure a green and healthy lawn.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The following table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent monitoring periods. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The state requires 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, is more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **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 allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable • **nd:** not detectable at testing limit • **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter • **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter • **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Sunland Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	4	2	0.47	2003	NO	Naturally Occurring
Nitrate as nitrogen (ppm)	10	10	0.77	2004	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use & septic systems
Volatile Organic Chemical Contaminants						
None Detected	Varies	Varies	0	2004	NO	Agricultural Chemicals
Radionuclides						
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	15	15	5.38	2001	NO	Naturally Occurring

About Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. *Contact JoAnn for a fact sheet on Nitrates published by the American Water Works Association.*

The Association welcomes input from its residents on ways to protect and conserve its water supplies and would be happy to supply you with additional information on ways you can help protect groundwater. Additionally, the Association is required to publish an updated Consumer Confidence Report annually and welcomes any input you might offer on how to improve this report. Residents with input on water issues or this report may contact JoAnn or attend the regularly scheduled Board meetings.

If you detect problems or feel that there is a problem with your drinking water, please call JoAnn at (509) 785-3100, or contact Pete Smith at (509) 787-5753.

This Consumer Confidence Report is required by law to be published and distributed to Association members annually. The average cost per report for each residence is \$0.75

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¡Este Informe contiene information muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien!