



# NORTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT ANNUAL WATER QUALITY CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2015

**To Our Customers:** This report contains important information about your drinking water.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuníquese con alguien que pueda traducir la información.

## Where does my water come from?

The North Tahoe Public Utility District services nearly 3,888 connections. These connections include single family dwellings and business establishments, as well as separate irrigation and fire systems. The District operates three separate and independent water systems: Dollar Cove, Carnelian Bay, and the Tahoe Main system, comprised of Tahoe Vista, Kings Beach, and Brockway to the Nevada State Line. Dollar Cove is currently being supplied through the Tahoe City Public Utility District's Tahoe City system, by agreement of a joint well drilling project of the two Districts that is comprised of five separate wells (groundwater sources). Carnelian Bay draws its water from a single well (groundwater source). The Tahoe main water system draws water from Lake Tahoe (surface water source) through an intake at the end of National Avenue in Tahoe Vista, as well as a single well (groundwater source) located in the North Tahoe Regional Park at the top of Donner Road. These combined sources supplied just over 338 million gallons of water to our customers in 2015.

## How can I keep our drinking water safe and clean?

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 **USEPA'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 in the environment it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, pick up substances from the presence of animals or human activity, and even radioactive material, in some cases. **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 result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses; **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and **volatile organic chemicals**, that are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, 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, EPA and the Calif. Dept. of Public Health, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (Department), prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain

contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to their regulations. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

The drinking water that the District treats and provides for its customers comes from wells as well as the open water of Lake Tahoe. Many people don't see the link between the water you drink and the items that are put into the sewer system, but when people dispose of their waste incorrectly it threatens the safety of our drinking water as well.

In the Tahoe basin, our storm drain system does not put runoff into the sewer system like so many other communities in this country. Most of the storm drains actually drain directly into the Lake! In addition to protecting our sewers, it is also extremely important that under no circumstances may substances be put directly into the storm drain.

Most liquid and automotive waste (oil, old gasoline) can be disposed of during one of the hazardous waste disposal days provided by Placer County and Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal at the Eastern Regional Landfill on Cabin Creek Road off of Highway 89.

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### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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### **Radon**

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water on most cases would be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can cause cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program (1-800-745-7236), the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791), or the National Safety Council on Radon Hotline (1-800-767-7236).

### **Mandatory Water Conservation Measures in Effect**

Currently for 2016 North Tahoe Public Utility District is continuing its water conservation restrictions, the District's enforcement program and tips on how to conserve are on our website at [www.ntpud.org/conservation](http://www.ntpud.org/conservation). We encourage residents to check the website

regularly and sign up to receive email updates to keep you up to date on mandatory water conservation restrictions and other items of interest.

Although California and the Tahoe/Truckee area is in a drought, we are not experiencing a water supply shortage. However, we must comply with the mandatory state emergency drought restrictions and it is required that we conserve water.

**Complete list of prohibitions on water use:**

- Washing sidewalks, driveways, and other hard surfaces;
- Failure to repair excessive plumbing leaks;
- Excessive irrigation run-off;
- Non-commercial washing of privately-owned vehicles, trailers, and boats except from a bucket and a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle for rinsing;
- Use of water for single-pass evaporative cooling systems;
- Use of water for new non-recirculating industrial clothes wash systems;
- Irrigating between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.;
- Filling a swimming pool from empty;
- Refilling a swimming pool by more than 30% of the pool capacity at any time
- Partially refilling a swimming pool more than one time in any calendar year, provided that topping off pools from daily use is allowed only as necessary
- Use of potable water for dust control except as a condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency;
- Use of fire hydrants except for public health and safety, unless used for dust control as a condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency; dust control users must have a hydrant meter;
- Use of potable water on outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable snow and/or rainfall
- Serving drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drink are served and/or purchased
- Hotels and motels failing to prominently display notices in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language providing guests the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily
- Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water more than three (3) days per week. Properties with street addresses that end in an even number, may irrigate only on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. Properties with street addresses ending in an odd number may irrigate only on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. No outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water is allowed on Mondays. Daytime irrigation restrictions still apply.
- Irrigation of public ballfields more than three (3) days per week, or on days other than Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Ornamental landscaping around the fields shall follow restrictions for outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes. Daytime irrigation restrictions still apply.



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6/15/2016

The State allows us to monitor contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. If a substance or contaminant is not listed, it is either not detected limit or not required to be sampled.

Contaminant (UNITS)	Sample	Identify your system >			Tahoe Main System #33110001	System Groundwater Park	Carnelian Woods System #3110023	Dollar Cove System #3110036	Tahoe City PUD water supply to NTPUD consists of Highlands Well #1 #2, T.C. Well #2 #3, Tahoe Tavern Well	
		MLC	PHG (MCLG)	Lake Tahoe Nat'l Ave	Well	Park Well	Groundwater Tahoe City PUD	Violation	Major Source in Drinking Water	
<b>Detected Compounds</b>										
<b>Primary Standards</b>										
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	4	ND	NR	NR	(2014)4.7/2.9/ND/3.1/ND	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Nickel (ppb)		100	12	NR	NR	NR	(2014)20/20/20/21/20	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
<b>Microbiological Monitoring</b>										
Total Coliforms ( T / A / P )	2015	1	( 0 )	156T / 156A / 0P		12T / 12A / 0P	171T / 171A / 0P	NO	Naturally Present in the environment	
E-Coli ( T / A / P )	2015	1	( 0 )	156T / 156A / 0P		12T / 12A / 0P	171T / 171A / 0P	NO	Human and Animal Fecal Waste	
<b>Radioactive</b>										
Radon 222 (pCi/L)	2003	N/A	N/A	NR	NR	NR	547/1190/NS/1230/1120	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2012	5	0.019	ND/0.000	NR	NR	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2013	15	(0)	ND	ND	ND	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
<b>Inorganic</b>										
Nitrate - As N (ppm)	2015	1(AS-N)	1(AS-N)	ND	ND	(2015) ND	NR	NO	Runoff & leaching from fertilizers, septic tanks, sewage	
Nitrite - As NO3 (ppm)	2015	45 (NO3)	45 (NO3)	ND	ND	ND	NR	NO	Runoff & leaching from fertilizers, septic tanks, sewage	
Perchlorate (ppb)	2013	0.006	6	ND	ND	ND	NR	NO	Production of matches, flares, explosives, pyrotechnics	
Aluminum (ug/L)	2007	1000	600	363	ND	ND	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Barium (ug/L)	2007	1000	(2) mg/L	13.1	45.8	22.7	NR	NO	Oil drilling wastes, Erosion of natural deposits	
Chromium (ug/L)	2007	50	(100)	ND	NR	ND	NR	NO	Discharge from steel & pulp mills, chrome plating	
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>										
Chlorine (ppm)	2015	[MRDL=4.0(as Cl2)]		0.74-1.12 Annual RAA = 0.87		NR	Range 0.12 - 0.68 RAA = 0.37	NO	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment	
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>										
Total Trihalomethanes (ppm)	2015	0.080	1000	11	30		(2015) ND	NO	By products of drinking water disinfection	
Haloacetic Acids (ppm)	2015	0.060	1000	10	9.6		(2015) ND	NO	By products of drinking water disinfection	
<b>Secondary Standards</b>										
<b>Aesthetic Standards Established by the State of California, Department of Health Services</b>										
<b>Clarity &amp; Taste</b>										
Turbidity (NTU) - Treated Water	2015	<0.5 NTU	NS	AVG. .124-.155	NR	NR	2014 0.25/0.45/0.17/0.23/0.19	NO	Soil runoff (erosion)	
Turbidity (NTU) - Raw Source	2015	TT/5 95%	NS	AVG. .124-.181	NR	NR	NR	NO	Soil runoff (erosion)	
Bicarbonate as HCO3 (ppm)	2007	None/ppm	N/A	(2007)54.8	(2013)121	212	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Calcium (ppm)	2007	N/A	N/A	(2007)7	(2013)14.5	17.2	(2014) 7.6/7.5/12.3/10.2/16.7	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Chloride (ppm)	2007	500	N/A	1.8	0.7	0.7	(2014)0.5/0.6/0.5/0.3/ND	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Order (TON)		1	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	(2014) ND/ND/ND/2/ND	NO	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Copper (ug/L)	2007	1000	160	14	ND	ND	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Iron (ppb)	2007	300	(2008)ND	ND	ND	42	(2005)ND(1)/ND(125)/ND(1)/ND(1)/ND(1)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Magnesium (ppm)	2007	N/A	N/A	(2007)2.1	(2013)5.1	8.6	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Manganese (ppm)	2007	50	N/A	13	ND	ND	(2005) ND	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Methyl-tert-butyl-ether (ppm)	2007	0.0005	5ug/L	ND	ND	ND	NR	NO	Leaking underground fuel tanks	
PH - Disired range:	2007	6.5-8.5	N/A	8.2	8.9	7.3	NR	NO	Erosion of natural deposits, Some water treatment	
Sodium (ppm)	2007	N/A	N/A	(2007)5.9	(2013)10.2	5.3	(2014)14.6/11.6/5.0/5.2/5.3	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Specific Conductance [E.C.] (uS)	2007	1600	N/A	93.8	198	184	(2014)215/189/164/160/217	NO	Substances that form ions when in water	
Sulfate (ppm)	2007	500	N/A	1.8	0.3	0.3	(2014)1.3/0.9/1.7/3.6/0.8	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Alkalinity [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2007	N/A	N/A	(2007)44.9	(2013)99	99.3	(2014)93.5/87.3/69.3/66.7/93.7	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2007	1000	N/A	30	141	108	(2014)72/80/83/98/125	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Hardness [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2007	N/A	N/A	(2007)26	(2013)57	78	(2014)44/41/59/51/74	NO	Erosion of natural deposits	
<b>LEAD AND COPPER</b>										
LEAD (ug/L)	2013	15	15	Percentile ND	Percentile 4.6	Percentile 393	20 samples 0.00	Internal corrosion-plumbing; erosion nat'ri deposits.		
Copper (ug/L)	2013	1300	1300	Percentile 69	Percentile 69	Percentile 393	20 Samples 0.09	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.		

**Terms and Abbreviations Used in this Report**

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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.
MRDL	Maximum Residual 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.
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.
PPB	Parts Per Billion: Parts contaminant for every 1 billion parts of water.
PPM	Parts Per Million: Parts contaminant for every 1 million parts of water.
I	Number of tests for bacteria (Laboratory analysis)
A	Number of tests absent of bacteria
P	Number of tests detecting presence of bacteria
<	= Less Than
>	= Greater Than
TON	Threshold Odor Number

RAA	Running Annual Average
N/A	Not Applicable
ND	Not Detected: Indicates contaminant was not detected in the water source.
N/R	Not Regulated or Not Required
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfection 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 of microbial contaminants.
PDWS	Primary Drinking Water Standards: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment.
ug/L	Micro grams Per Liter (Parts Per Million)
pCi/L	Picocuries Per Liter: Measures of radioactivity per 1 light scattering.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant.
Units	Number of units measured
uS	Microsiemens: Measure of electrical current through a solution.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: Measure of water clarity using light scattering.

<b>Water Conservation Information</b>	
The North Tahoe Public Utility District Board of Directors has taken action to implement restrictions on outdoor water use as required by the State of California. Water conservation restrictions, the District's enforcement program and tips on how to conserve are on our website at <a href="http://www.ntpud.org/conservation">www.ntpud.org/conservation</a> . We encourage residents to check the website regularly and sign up on the website to receive email updates to keep you up to date on mandatory water conservation restrictions and other items of interest.	
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