



# 2011 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Water System Name: City of Oakdale Water System No. 5010014 Report Date: May 3, 2012

*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, 2011.*

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

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater

Name & location of source(s): Wells 2, 3, 4, 5A, 6, 7, 8, & 9

## Drinking Water Source Assessment information:

A source water assessment was conducted by the Department of Public Health in February 2001. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities: Sewer Collection systems (sewer lines), dry cleaners, historic waste dumps, landfills, injection wells, gas stations, plastics and Synthetics producers, and septic systems. A copy of the assessment can be viewed at or be requested at:

- City of Oakdale Department of Public Works, 455 S. Fifth Avenue, Oakdale, CA, (209) 845-3600; or
- Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 31 E. Channel Street, Room 270, Stockton, CA, (209) 948-7696.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at 277 N. Second Ave., Oakdale, CA in the City Council Chamber starting at 7:00PM.

For more information, contact: Department of Public Works Phone: (209) 845-3600

## 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.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs and 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.

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

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**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, 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*, 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, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, that 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**, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the state Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 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 Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. 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**

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 1	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 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**

Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) Sample Dates 8/30&31/2010	31	<5	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) Sample Dates 8/30&31/2010	31	0.071	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

\*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**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)	2009/2010	13.5	11 to 17	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2009/2010	91	72 to 130	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

**TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	2010/ 2011	1.2	0 to 3	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium (ppm)	2009/ 2010	0.1	0 to 0.13	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	2009/ 2010	0.1	0 to 0.13	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2011	11	4 to 29	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ppb)	2010/ 2011	0.4	0 to 5.5*	5	0.06	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser). Solvent for turbine oil used as lubrication for water well.
Total Chromium (ppb)	2009/ 2010	2.5	0 to 20	50	(100)	Some people who use water containing chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.

**TABLE 5 – 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)	2009/ 2010	7.8	5.6 to 14	500	None	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Iron (ppb)	2009/ 2010/2011	29	0 to 180	300		Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Specific Conductance ( $\mu$ S/cm)	2011	243	160-320	1600	None	Substances that form ion when in water, seawater influence.
Sulfate (ppm)	2009/ 2010	7.4	4.2 to 14	500	None	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2009/ 2010	164	130 to 220	1000	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Odor (TON)	2009/ 2010	0.12	0 to 1	3	None	Naturally-occurring organic materials.

\*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).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity.

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. The City of Oakdale 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>.

### Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)

A water sample collected on February 28, 2011 from Well 2 exceeded the MCL of 5 ppb for PCE. Due to this exceedance, additional water samples were collected from Well 2 and analyzed for PCE. The results were all below the MCL. Currently, water samples are collected and analyzed for PCE from Well 2 once every three months.