

## **VIRGIN VALLEY WATER DISTRICT 1999 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

We are pleased to present to you the 1999 Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with safe and a dependable supply of drinking water at the lowest cost possible. We want you to understand that we are continually making every effort to protect your water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

### **- Where does my water come from?**

Our water supply currently comes from the hydrologic basin known as basin 222. The Water District draws the water from five (5) deep wells located throughout the valley. The District is in the process of drilling an additional three wells which is planned to take place later this summer and early fall.

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

All drinking water, including the less regulated bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that 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 EPA hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The Virgin Valley Water District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to State and Federal laws. This report shows the quality of the water as monitored during the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of 1999. A copy of all test results is available upon request at the District Offices.

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

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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. EPA/Center 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 (800) 426-4791.

### **- Important Drinking Water Definitions:**

**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 allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

Contaminants Units Inorganic Contaminants	MCGL	MCL	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCES
Arsenic (ppb)	N/A	.50	.57	.19	.86	9/99	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate [Measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.99	.6	1.6	9/99	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform (# of monthly positive samples of 72 samples)	0	0	0	N/A		Monthly	No	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminants Units Inorganic Contaminants	MCLG	AL	YOUR WATER	# OF SAMPLES AL	SAMPLE DATE	EXCEEDS AL	TYPICAL SOURCES
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.078	0	9/98	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. At this time VVWD is only required to test every 3 years
Lead (ppb)	0	15	0	0	9/98	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. At this time VVWD is only required to test every 3 years

### MCL Violations:

#### ARSENIC:

Federal Regulations currently require that arsenic, which occurs naturally in the water supply, not exceed a concentration of 0.050 (mg/l) in drinking water. This is an enforceable standard called a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and was established by the EPA to protect public health. The 0.050 mg/l MCL was based on studies, which suggest that long-term exposure to arsenic might cause skin lesions known as hyperkeratosis. People who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the allowable standard over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and could have an increased risk of getting cancer. The National Research Council's report has concluded that arsenic in drinking water may cause bladder, lung and skin cancer, and may also cause other types of cancer. The EPA is currently re-evaluating the arsenic MCL, and a determination is expected after the year 2000 regarding whether to revise that MCL. In the interim, the District will continue to monitor the arsenic levels in the water system, and may enter into a compliance schedule agreement with the State Health Division to evaluate alternatives, costs, and actions, if necessary, to comply with the MCL.

**NAC VIOLATIONS**  
**NAC 445A.66665 Plan for restoration of services in emergency.\*\***  
**NAC 445A.6667 Manual of operations and maintenance.\*\***

\*\* Although the District is currently in violation of the above mentioned Nevada Administrative Codes, we are currently making every effort to bring the Utility into compliance. The current violations are not a violation of practice but of administrative procedures.

- **What other information can you give me about my water?**

PH	7.88	Water Temperature	72°
Total Dissolved Solids	670 mg/l	Fluoride	0.6 mg/l
Chloride	49 mg/l	Sulfate	270 mg/l
Hardness	15-19 grains/gallon		

Each water source is tested either on a quarterly or annual basis for 76 different contaminants as required by State and Federal agencies. Results of those tests can be found by contacting the Water District at 702-346-5731.

- **How can I learn more about my water?**

If you have any questions regarding the Water Quality or District operations, the District Board of Directors meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at 500 Riverside Road. These meetings are opened to the public.