

ANNUAL  
WATER  
QUALITY  
REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2014



*Presented By*  
**Crescenta Valley Water District**

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

이 안내는 매우 중요합니다.  
본인을 위해 번역인을 사용하십시오.

## Our Commitment

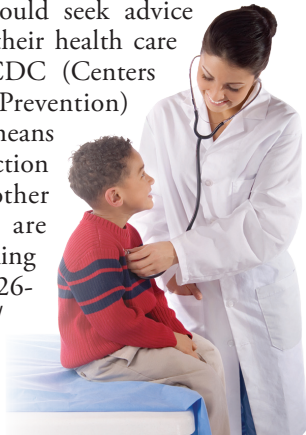
Each year, Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD) is proud to issue this report because we strongly believe in the importance of communicating with our customers about the quality of the water that they drink.

Last year marked the 40th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This rule was created to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply. We celebrate this milestone as we continue to manage our water system with a mission to deliver the best quality drinking water. By striving to meet the requirements of SDWA, we are ensuring a future of healthy, clean drinking water for years to come.

CVWD has dedicated itself to providing high-quality dependable water service. This year's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) includes sample results for the 2014 calendar year, that met all U.S. EPA and State drinking water health standards.

## Important Health Information

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 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 (Centers 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 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



## Substances That Could Be in Water

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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. 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.

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 can 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Source Water Description

In 2014, approximately 51% of CVWD's source water came from the local groundwater supply in the Verdugo Basin. The majority of CVWD's groundwater wells are located along the Verdugo Wash, south of Honolulu Avenue.

The remaining 49% of CVWD's source water came from imported surface water supplied by Foothill Municipal Water District, which is a member agency to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). MWD supplies surface water from the State Water Project in Northern California and the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aqueduct, which carries water 242 miles from Lake Havasu to Lake Mathews in Riverside, CA.

In emergency situations, an interconnection between CVWD and the City of Glendale or The City of Los Angeles can be used to supply water to District customers.

The District supplied approximately 1.4 billion gallons of water in the 2014 calendar year, which was about 6% less than 2013.



## Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment was conducted for all active sources utilized by CVWD in August 2002. These water sources are considered vulnerable to known or unknown contaminant plumes associated with automobile body and repair shops, gas stations, sewer collection systems, historic gas stations, furniture repair/manufacturing, dry cleaners, and historic waste dumps/landfills.

A copy of the completed assessment may be viewed at the Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 500 North Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale, CA 91203. You may request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Chi Diep, P.E., District Engineer at (818) 551-2054.

## Public Meetings

The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected at large who meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month at CVWD's main office. Public input is encouraged. Information regarding the District's Board meetings and upcoming events can be found on the District Web site at [www.cvwd.com](http://www.cvwd.com).

The community is encouraged to attend special meetings such as budget workshops and Public Hearings that are advertised and posted on the District's website and at the District's Administration Office at 2700 Foothill Blvd.

## QUESTIONS?

Please remember that we are always available to assist you should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Christy Scott at (818) 248-3925 or email her at [cjscott@cvwd.com](mailto:cjscott@cvwd.com).

## Treatment

CVWD is required by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB) to test its groundwater for organic chemicals, minerals, metals, and bacteria; and is also required to perform daily, weekly, and monthly tests for bacteria, nitrates, and total trihalomethanes in the distribution system. Lead and copper are tested in tap water from selected residences. MWD is responsible for water quality testing of their treated surface water.

Local groundwater is disinfected with chlorine before blending with MWD's imported surface water. The Verdugo Basin is high in nitrates, which could be due to the old septic systems and historical agricultural practices in the Crescenta Valley. CVWD treats some of the groundwater through a nitrate removal process at CVWD's Glenwood Facility. The remaining groundwater is blended with imported surface water to lower the nitrate levels below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The blend of imported surface water and groundwater delivered to your residence depends upon where you live in the community and the time of year.

## To The Last Drop

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) defines drought as a deficiency in precipitation over an extended period of time, usually a season or more, resulting in a water shortage causing adverse impacts on vegetation, animals, and/or people. Drought strikes in virtually all climate zones, from very wet to very dry.

There are primarily three types of drought:

**Meteorological Drought:** Refers to the lack of precipitation, or the degree of dryness and the duration of the dry period

**Agricultural Drought:** Refers to the agricultural impact of drought, focusing on precipitation shortages, soil water deficits, and reduced groundwater or reservoir levels needed for irrigation

**Hydrological Drought:** Pertains to drought that usually occurs following periods of extended precipitation shortfalls that can impact water supply (i.e., stream flow, reservoir and lake levels, groundwater).

Drought is a temporary aberration from normal climatic conditions, thus it can vary significantly from one region to another. Although normally occurring, human factors, such as water demand, can exacerbate the duration and impact that drought has on a region. By following simple water conservation measures, you can help significantly reduce the lasting effects of extended drought.

The image is a public service announcement poster for CVWD. At the top left is the CVWD logo, which consists of the letters 'CVWD' in white on a blue rounded rectangle, with a blue water drop icon below it. To the right of the logo, the word 'RATIONING' is written in large, bold, orange capital letters. Below this, the text 'WATER CONSERVATION ALERT STATUS' is written in bold black capital letters. On the left side of the poster, the word 'TODAY' is written vertically in large, bold, black capital letters. To the right of 'TODAY' is a large orange square containing a white water drop outline. Inside the drop, the word 'RATIONING' is written in orange capital letters. At the bottom of the poster, the text 'FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (818) 248-3925 OR VISIT WWW.CVWD.COM' is written in small black capital letters.

# WATER CONSERVATION

## ORANGE ALERT

**ORANGE ALERT** is defined as a Rationing Conservation Alert.

In response to Governor Jerry Brown's Executive Order to implement water use reduction during this serious drought, Crescenta Valley Water District is mandated by the State Water Board to achieve a 24% reduction in water use.

Crescenta Valley Water District Water Conservation Ordinances require that customers minimize indoor water use and severely limit outdoor water use as follows:

- Landscape irrigation is limited to two (2) days per week, **Tuesdays and Saturdays before 9:00AM and after 5:00PM.**
- Hand watering of potted plants and vegetable gardens is allowed any day of the week before 9:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m.
- No Outdoor Watering during and 48-hours following a rain event.
- The draining and refilling of pools is prohibited unless mandated by Federal, State or local health codes. The District strongly urges that a pool cover be used to prevent evaporation and thereby reducing the frequency of refilling required to prevent equipment failure.
- Vehicle washing is permitted only when using a bucket and quick rinses with a hose using a positive shut-off nozzle.
- Leaks must be repaired within 48 hours after customer discovers or is notified by the District of the leak.

In addition to the above, the following regulations are always in effect:

- Hose washing of any hardscaped areas is prohibited.
- Use of water for any purpose which results in overspray and runoff onto hardscapes is prohibited.
- No watering, sprinkling or irrigating on days when it is raining or the wind is blowing hard enough to cause overspray.

The District maintains a program for residents to report waste of water within the District. Use the anonymous online form on the District website, [www.cvwd.com](http://www.cvwd.com), or call the dedicated phone line, [818-248-3897](tel:818-248-3897). All reported wastes of water are followed up on by District personnel.

## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

### INDOORS:

- Shorten your shower by two minutes and save up to 5 gallons
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving and save 2 gallons per minute
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes and save between 15 and 50 gallons per load
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks and save up to 20 gallons a day for every leak you fix
- Check toilets for leaks and save 600 gallons per month. Stop by the District office and pick up toilet leak detection tablets
- Install a low-flow shower head and save 15 gallons per shower
- Install a faucet aerator and save 90 gallons per month
- Capture tap water and water from your shower in a bucket while waiting for the water to warm up, and use the water for house plants or your garden

### OUTDOORS:

- Use a broom to clean hardscaped areas
- Mulch, mulch, mulch around plants – saves hundreds of gallons per year as it aids in reducing evaporation
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, broken sprinkler heads, and overspray and save 500 gallons per month
- Let your grass grow longer, 2 to 3 inches longer than usual. The longer grass helps keep the soil cooler and helps to retain water
- Convert your lawn to sustainable, drought tolerant landscaping
- Cover your pool

## Sampling Results

During the past year CVWD has taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The State requires CVWD to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Crescenta Valley Water District		Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Aluminum (ppb)	2014	1,000	600	ND	NA	136	70–230	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	0.004	ND	ND–4.1	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppb)	2014	1,000	200	118	9–150	112	112–112	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Control of DBP precursors [TOC] (ppm)	2014	TT	NA	NA	NA	2.5	2.4–2.7	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Fluoride <sup>1,2</sup> (ppm)	2014	2.0	1	0.5	0.3–0.8	0.8	0.6–1.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2014	15	(0)	5.5	4.0–7.7	ND	ND–4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity <sup>3</sup> (pCi/L)	2014	50	(0)	NA	NA	5	4–6	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids–Stage 2 <sup>4</sup> (ppb)	2014	60	NA	17	12–24	16	8.3–18	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2014	10	0.02	0.50	ND–0.84	ND	NA	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Methyl tert-Butyl Ether [MTBE] <sup>5</sup> (ppb)	2014	13	13	ND	ND–ND	ND	ND–ND	No	Leaking from underground gasoline storage tanks; discharge from petroleum and chemical factories
Nitrate [as nitrate] <sup>6</sup> (ppm)	2014	45	45	21.3	9.3–31	ND	NA	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	2014	6	6	NA	NA	ND	NA	No	An inorganic inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries; historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2009	5	0.05	0.11	ND–0.24	ND <sup>7</sup>	NA <sup>7</sup>	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2009	5	0.019	0.47	0.25–0.74	ND <sup>7</sup>	NA <sup>7</sup>	No	Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 <sup>4</sup> (ppb)	2014	80	NA	59.3	40–76	47	25–42	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Tetrachloroethylene [PCE] <sup>6</sup> (ppb)	2014	5	0.06	0.13	ND–0.57	ND	NA	No	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Total Coliform Bacteria [Total Coliform Rule] (% positive samples)	2014	More than 5.0% of monthly samples are positive	(0)	0	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Trichloroethylene [TCE] (ppb)	2014	5	1.7	1.25	ND–2.5	ND	NA	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Uranium (pCi/L)	2014	20	0.43	3.75	1.2–6.8	3	2–3	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppb)	2014	1,300	300	500	0/38	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2014	15	0.2	2.4	0/38	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES										
				Crescenta Valley Water District	Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)					
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Chloride (ppm)	2014	500	NS	76	5.7–90	89	86–92	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence	
Color (Units)	2014	15	NS	1	1–1	NA	NA	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Copper (ppm)	2014	1.0	NS	0.003	ND–0.02	NA	NA	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Iron (ppb)	2014	300	NS	65	ND–160	NA	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes	
Methyl tert-Butyl Ether [MTBE] (ppb)	2014	5	NS	ND	ND–ND	ND	ND–ND	No	Leaking underground storage tanks; discharge from petroleum and chemical factories	
Odor–Threshold <sup>6</sup> (Units)	2014	3	NS	1	1–1	2	2–2	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2014	1,600	NS	804	346–877	987	964–1,010	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence	
Sulfate (ppm)	2014	500	NS	110	28–130	233	227–238	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes	
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2014	1,000	NS	523	220–570	623	604–641	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Turbidity (Units)	2014	5	NS	0.15	0.10–0.92	ND	NA	No	Soil runoff	

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES						
		Crescenta Valley Water District	Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2014	148	130–170	128	127–128	Naturally occurring
Boron (ppb)	2014	64	47–85	110	110–110	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Calcium (ppm)	2014	84	36–96	74	74–74	Naturally occurring
Chlorate (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	102	21–105	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes
Chloroform (ppb)	2014	1.2	ND–1.6	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>8</sup> (ppm)	2014	339	140–390	289	284–294	Leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	2014	31	12–35	25	25–26	Naturally occurring
pH <sup>6</sup> (Units)	2014	7.6	7.3–8.0	8.1	8.1–8.1	Naturally occurring
Potassium (ppm)	2014	4.0	3.1–4.2	NA	NA	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2014	36	16–42	93	89–96	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Vanadium (ppb)	2014	5.8	3.4–6.7	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup> The results reported for fluoride are from samples collected within the District's distribution system and reflect Fluoride values after the water has been blended with imported water from MWD.

<sup>2</sup> Metropolitan was in compliance with all provisions of the State's Fluoridation System Requirements.

<sup>3</sup> The State Water Resources Control Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

<sup>4</sup> Compliance was based on the highest locational running annual average (LRAA) of all data collected at the treatment plant specific core monitoring locations.

<sup>5</sup> MTBE has both primary and secondary MCLs.

<sup>6</sup> Results reported represent samples collected within the District's Distribution System.

<sup>7</sup> Sampled in 2014.

<sup>8</sup> To convert the data from mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub> hardness to grains per gallons hardness, divide the average by 17.1 (339/17.1 = 19.8 grains per gallon).

## Definitions

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

**µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 microbial contaminants.

**NA:** Not applicable

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

**NS:** No standard

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

**PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**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).

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

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.