



SUN VALLEY G.I.D.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

2015



The Sun Valley G.I.D. is proud that our drinking water continues to meet all state and federal drinking water quality standards as it has for more than 40 years. We know the quality of your drinking water is important to you and we take drinking water regulations very seriously. We are pleased to provide you with this Water Quality Report for 2015.

This annual drinking water quality report for calendar year 2014 is designed to inform you about your drinking water quality. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply.

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments require that all community water systems make available to customers an annual report on the quality of their drinking water, by July 1st of each year. Your drinking water system is owned by you, the customer, and operated and maintained by the Sun Valley General Improvement District. We hope this report looks familiar to you. Every year for thirteen years we have mailed a copy of this report to each customer. Inside the report you'll find accurate information about your drinking water from source to tap. We know the information in this report is complex. The content of the report, the language in it, and the format for reporting compliance monitoring results are required by law. We have attempted to include all the necessary information in a readable format at the lowest cost.



SUN VALLEY G.I.D.

MISSION

- Maintain the highest level of customer service and support.
- Provide a reliable, affordable, high quality sustainable water supply
- Support through active participation in community projects and events, public education, ensuring that Sun Valley has a voice on important issues that effect it's residents

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sandra Ainsworth, Chairman
 Susan Severt, Vice Chairman
 Joseph Barstow, Treasurer
 Margaret Reinhardt, Secretary
 Garth Elliott, Trustee

HEALTH INFORMATION

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 persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Center 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 1-(800) 426-4791.

Special Notes:

Cryptosporidium: Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. TMWA's monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause Cryptosporidiosis and abdominal infection. Symptoms of the infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at a greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Coliform: Is a type of bacteria which presence in groups is an indication of possible pathenogenic bacterial contamination. Sun Valley G.I.D. did not receive any positive coliform samples during the routine sampling in 2014.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide similar protection for public health. For more information on bottled-water quality, call the International Bottled Water Association at 1-800-WATER11.

What are we doing to keep the tap water safe ?

Sun Valley G.I.D. literally monitors your water quality **every day**. Our professional staff checks all water storage tanks every day, monitors the levels and pumping with our SCADA (Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition) system and has an extensive flushing and maintenance program. In addition, we take 20 water quality samples around the valley every month that are tested by the Nevada State Health Laboratory. We also monitor the chlorine residual and turbidity levels and are well within state and federal standards. Should you ever have concerns about your water, please feel free to call our office and schedule a time for a test, at no cost to you. Please allow 48 hours notice.

Source Water Assessment Program Summary

The federal Safe Drinking Water Act was amended in 1996 and requires states to develop and implement source water assessment programs to analyze existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water throughout the state. A summary of the Sun Valley General Improvement Districts' susceptibility to potential sources of contamination was initially provided by the State of Nevada in May of 2006. The summary of this source water assessment (SWA) was first included in the Sun Valley General Improvement Districts' Water Quality Report and now may be obtained by contacting us at (775) 673-2220.

Those who wish to view additional information pertaining to the initial findings of the source water assessment may do so in person at the offices of the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, 901 South Stewart St., Ste. 4001, Carson City, NV 89701. Appointments are suggested; please call (775) 687-9520. Office hours are 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

A Message from the Chairperson

Dear Water Customer:

The Sun Valley General Improvement District is committed to safe, quality drinking water. I am pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Darrin Price, our General Manager or Mike Ariztia, our Public Works Director at (775) 673-2220. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at 6:00 PM at the District offices located at 5000 Sun Valley Blvd.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Ainsworth

Where does our water come from ?

All water in Sun Valley is pre-treated and purified by Truckee Meadows Water Authority or TMWA. Our water starts at Lake Tahoe, one of the purest lakes in the world. From there it flows into the Truckee River which is fed not only by Tahoe, but several mountain lakes and streams. In addition to the river, TMWA also has several wells in the Truckee Meadows that supply about 25% of the water supply. The water is screened, filtered, and treated at the two water treatment plants in our area (Glendale and Chalk Bluff). After leaving the treatment plants our water runs through a series of water mains and pump stations and is received at our main booster pump station located at our offices at 5000 Sun Valley Blvd or from our second wholesale point at the Boundary Tank site at the top of West 7th Street. From there we boost the water up to our nine water storage tanks located around the valley. These water storage tanks hold a combined 9.4 million gallons of water. The water is then gravity fed into our distribution system and from there into your tap. Because we take such pride in the quality of our water, if at any time you notice a change in the taste, odor, or clarity of your drinking water, please call our offices and we will be happy to test the water. All water quality data is available free of charge upon customer request. Sun Valley G.I.D. also has an open door policy, and customers are encouraged to stop by and view any of our facilities. If you ever have any questions about our water operations, please call our office at (775) 673-2220 and one of our supportive, friendly staff will be glad to help you.

REQUIRED CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR) STATEMENT ADDRESSING LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

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. Sun Valley GID 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 drinking 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>.

A word about TMWA's Water Quality Report

As was mentioned, all water in Sun Valley comes from TMWA's treatment plants. TMWA's Water Quality Report is a detailed account of everything in the water. Sun Valley G.I.D. works closely with TMWA to safeguard the quality of your water. TMWA's Water Quality Report is available at our office. Should you have any questions regarding TMWA's report, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed on that report, or you can call the District and we will be happy to assist you.

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the 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.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variance and Exemptions	State EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
Ug/L	Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water	% positive samples/month	Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	NA	Not detected
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)	ND	Not detected
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)	NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended

TMWA'S 2015 WATER QUALITY DATA TEST RESULTS

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that TMWA detected during the 2014 calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the state requires them to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

CONTAMINANTS	MCGL or MRDLG	MCL,TT or MRDL	2014 RESULT	SYSTEM WEIGHTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as CL2) (ppm)	4	4	1.28	0.96	0.11	1.28	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	37	37	5.4	47	NO	By- product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	N/A	80	56	56	10.4	56	NO	By- product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminates								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.099	0.02	ND	0.099	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0.2	0.000006	ND	0.2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	5.9	0.243	ND	5.9	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate- Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	3.50	0.146	ND	3.50	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	ND	0.0002	ND	7.9*	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)	200	200	39	30.3	ND	39	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	6.67	0.0014	ND	13	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes.
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	2.3	0.00004	ND	5.1	NO	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	5	0	0	0	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	For surface water, 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3 NTU. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.06 NTU. Any measurement in excess of 1.0 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.						NO	Soil Runoff
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.5	0.02	ND	3.5	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	4.4	0.013	ND	4.4	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	2.2	0.00002	ND	2.2	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	1.1	0.010	ND	1.1	NO	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	2	0.073	ND	2	NO	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Inorganic Contaminates								
	MCGL	AL	2014 RESULTS	#Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Copper- action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.091	0	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	
Lead- action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.54	0	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	

*=Thallium had a reported value of 7.9 ug/L due to a sampling anomaly. Subsequent and concurrent samples had no detectable levels of thallium.

Additional Monitoring

As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	System Weighted	Range Low	Range High
chlorate (ppb)	170	148	ND	170
1,4-dioxane (ppb)	0.143	0.013	ND	0.296
chromium-6 (hexavalent chromium) (ppb)	0.75	0.10	0.039	2.1
strontium (ppb)	245	128	84	560
vanadium (ppb)	4.1	1.1	0.76	12
molybdenum (ppb)	1.9	2.24	ND	4.5
chromium (total chromium) (ppb)	0.81	0.034	ND	2.1

Notes: PCE/ARSENIC/ANTIMONY: Compliance for these constituents is determined by calculating the running annual average. Sampling is conducted either on a daily basis or a quarterly basis at designated locations. A corresponding quarterly average is determined from these samples and the running annual average is calculated by using the four most recent averages. A single sample may show that an individual elevated result is over the MCL but the compliance value remains below the MCL. All water meets all local, state and federal standards and you water is safe to drink.

SUN VALLEY GID WATER TESTING INFORMATION

Microbiological Contaminants

	MCL or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	2013 Result	System Weighted Average	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation?	Typical Source
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	>1	0	0	0	0	2014	NO	Naturally present in the environment

The following are the results of the District's Lead and Copper tests that were last sampled in August of 2012 (We are required to sample every three years and our next sampling will be in August of 2015). You may find terms or abbreviations you may not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

***Action Level** – is the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

***ppm – Parts per million** corresponds to one penny in \$10,000.

***ppb - Parts per billion** corresponds to one penny in \$1,000,000.

***Lead and Copper** – 32 samples were collected, from residential sites, to measure corrosivity.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
NAME	Date	Action Level*	Above Action Level	90th Percentile Results	Violation?	Typical Source
Lead	2011-2013	15 ppb	0%	1.0 ppb	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2011-2013	1.3 ppm	0%	.049 ppm	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Notes: SYSTEM WEIGHTED AVERAGE: The 2015 Water Quality Report is mandated by the EPA to give our consumer the HIGHEST recorded value of any constituent detected from all sources in 2014. However, most groundwater wells, in which most of our reported constituents were detected, are only used when system demands are at their peak during the summer months. In 2014, these wells made up less than 15 percent of the water that TMWA and Sun Valley customers consumed. The “system weighted average” value is based on the percentage of total production and highest compliance value recorded for the year. In this way, we not only report the highest value detected in our system for any constituent, but we also give you an idea of how little that groundwater is used when compared with the total water produced from our two surface water plants. This report will also allow us to give you a more meaningful representation of the water you receive, not just a highest detected value for a well that may only operate one day a week.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before it is treated 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 regulation which limits 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, which must provide the same protection for public health. Further questions can be answered by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

