

**South San Francisco  
Purchased Water**

<b>Primary Drinking Water Standards</b>								
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>MCL (SMCL)</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Result Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Source of Substances</b>
Aluminum	2005	ppm	1	0.6	No	0.006 - 0.07	0.04	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride <sup>1</sup>	2005	ppm	2	1	No	0.99 - 1.1	1.03	Erosion of natural deposits
						<b>Highest Single Measurement</b>	<b>Lowest Monthly Percent</b>	
Turbidity (Surface water not requiring filtration) <sup>2</sup>	2005	NTU	5	n/a	No	1.74	100%	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Surface water requiring filtration) <sup>3</sup>	2005	NTU	TT	n/a	No	0.27	100%	Soil runoff
<b>ORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>MCL (SMCL)</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Result Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Source of Substances</b>
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	0.9 - 3	2.3	Naturally occurring organic materials
<b>DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>MCL (SMCL)</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Result Range</b>	<b>Highest Running Annual Average</b>	<b>Source of Substance</b>
Total Haloacetic Acids (THAA)	2005	ppb	60	n/a	No	5 - 46	22	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethane (TTHM)	2005	ppb	80	n/a	No	13 - 56	32	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>DISINFECTANT</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>MRDL</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Result Range</b>	<b>Highest Running Annual Average</b>	<b>Source of Substance</b>
Chloramine <sup>4</sup>	2005	ppm	4	4	No	0.03 - 3.34	2.14	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
<b>OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>AL</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Level Detected (90th percentile)</b>	<b># Samples Exceeding AL</b>	<b>Source of Substance</b>
Copper	2004	ppm	1.3	0.17	No	0.09	0 of 30	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2004	ppb	15	2	No	ND	0 of 30	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Secondary drinking Water Standards and Unregulated Compounds</b>								
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>	<b>Year Range</b>	<b>Reporting Units</b>	<b>MCL (SMCL)</b>	<b>PHG (MCLG)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Result Range</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Source of Substance</b>
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	6 - 150	54	Erosion of natural deposits
Boron	2005	ppb	NL = 1	n/a	No	0.02 - 0.17	0.07	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	3 - 30	16	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	2005	ppm	(500)	n/a	No	<3 - 25	9	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	2005	UNIT	(15)	n/a	No	<5 - 25	12	Naturally occurring organic materials
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	8 - 150	56	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	<0.5 - 12.3	6.6	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	2005	UNIT	n/a	n/a	No	7.6 - 9.8	8.9	Inherent characteristic of water
Potassium	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	<0.5 - 1.4	0.8	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	2005	ppm	n/a	n/a	No	3 - 26	15	Erosion of natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance	2005	umhos/cm	(1600)	n/a	No	25 - 435	155	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	2005	ppm	(500)	n/a	No	1 - 42	19	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	2005	ppm	(1000)	n/a	No	20 - 210	116	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

<sup>1</sup> Fluoride is added to the South San Francisco water supply.

<sup>2</sup> The turbidity standard for unfiltered supplies is 5 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

<sup>3</sup> For surface water systems, the treatment technique dictates that the turbidity level of the filtered water be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the SFPUC filtration system.

<sup>4</sup> In February 2004, the SFPUC converted to chloramination as its means of disinfection. Chloramines are a more stable and longer-lasting disinfectant.

umhos/cm = measure of specific conductance  
 pCi/L = picoCuries per liter (measure of radioactivity)  
 ppm = parts per million (milligrams per liter)  
 NTU = nephelometric turbidity unit  
 ppb = parts per billion (micrograms per liter)  
 SMCL = secondary maximum contaminant level  
 ND = none detected  
 n/a = not applicable

***In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (DHS) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DHS regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.***

## ***Bayshore District***

### 2005 Water Quality Report for South San Francisco

At California Water Service Company, we are committed to supplying you with high-quality water. We are pleased to provide this annual water quality report, which includes information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. It also explains the steps we take to protect your water supply.

We care about what you think. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please call us. Also, please watch for bill inserts, where you will find announcements of any water-related public meetings or workshops as well as important information about your water.

#### ***About Your Water Supply***

California Water Service Company (Cal Water) has provided high-quality water utility services in South San Francisco since 1931. In 2005, water for our customers was purchased from the City and County of San Francisco (SFPUC). Our South San Francisco system includes 144 miles of pipeline, 12 storage tanks, one collecting tank, and 20 booster pumps. Cal Water proactively maintains and upgrades its facilities to ensure a reliable, high-quality supply.

***If you have any questions, please contact Tyrone Robinson, District Manager, at (650) 558-7800.***

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### *Our Commitment to Our Customers*

All of us at Cal Water appreciate having the opportunity to serve you, our valued customer. We know that water quality is important to you, and we are committed to providing water that meets or surpasses all water quality standards. Toward that end, our team of leading water quality experts vigilantly monitors our supply and maintains a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory. And we are always looking for opportunities to improve our operations. In fact, our mission is to be **the** leader in providing communities and customers with traditional and innovative utility services.

### *General Information About Water*

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 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**, 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 by-products of industrial processes 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.

### *Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWSAPP)*

By the end of 2002, Cal Water had submitted to the California Department of Health Services a DWSAPP report for each water source in the water system. The DWSAPP report identifies possible sources of contamination to aid prioritizing cleanup and pollution prevention efforts. All reports are available for viewing or copying at our Customer Center.

The surface water source in your system is considered most vulnerable to the following activities for which no associated contaminant has been detected: gas stations, dry cleaners, and underground storage tanks (confirmed leaking tanks). The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), which supplies a significant portion of the water for your district, completed such a report in 2000. It found that its watersheds are vulnerable to contaminants associated with wildlife and, to a limited extent, human recreational activity. Historically, the levels of contaminants have been very low in watersheds.

A complete copy of the report may be obtained at the SFPUC web site ([www.ci.sf.ca.us/html/wqb.htm](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/html/wqb.htm)) and at the main branch of the San Francisco Public Library. We encourage customers to join us in our efforts to prevent water pollution and protect our most precious natural resource.

### *Recommendation for Those Who May Have Special Water Needs*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, 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 at (800) 426-4791.

Cal Water and the SFPUC converted its disinfectant to chloramines in February 2004. Although chloraminated water may be used for drinking, bathing, cooking, cleaning scrapes, watering the garden, and most other uses, special precautions are required for dialysis patients, fish owners, and certain industries that use water in their manufacturing process. Informational brochures are available at our web site at [www.calwater.com](http://www.calwater.com). Additional information is available at the SFPUC web site at [www.sfwater.org](http://www.sfwater.org). If you have any questions about chloramines, please call our Customer Center at (650) 558-7800.

### *Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products Rule (D/DBP) Extension*

Stage 1 of the D/DBP Rule became effective January 1, 2002. This rule lowered the levels of total trihalomethanes and other disinfection by-products permissible in the distribution system. Your system receives its water supply from the SFPUC, which converted to chloramine as its means of disinfection in February 2004. Chloramines are a more stable, longer-lasting disinfectant that will significantly lower disinfection by-product levels. Your system was granted an extension for complying with the new D/DBP Rule because of SFPUC's planned conversion to chloramines. Even with the use of chlorine, your system has never exceeded the maximum contaminant level for disinfection by-products.

### *What about Cryptosporidium?*

Cryptosporidium and giardia are parasitic microbes found in most surface water supplies and can pose a potential health threat. If ingested, either may produce symptoms of diarrhea, stomach cramps, upset stomach, and slight fever. Some people are more vulnerable to cryptosporidium and giardia than others, especially those with compromised immune systems. The SFPUC tests regularly for cryptosporidium and giardia in both source and treated water supplies. Both were occasionally found at very low levels in the City of San Francisco's treated water in 2003.

***Cal Water is coordinating with state and federal agencies to enhance the security of our water supplies. Please report any suspicious activities near water facilities to us immediately.***

### *How to Read the Table*

We test your water for more than 100 contaminants for which state and federal standards have been set. THIS TABLE LISTS ONLY THOSE THAT WERE DETECTED. All 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. The water quality test results shown in this table are divided into two main sections: those related to "primary standards" and those related to "secondary standards." Primary standards protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants in drinking water. Secondary standards are limits for substances that could affect the water's taste, odor, and appearance.

### *Definitions of terms and abbreviations used in the table*

**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.

**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.

**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 are economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

**Notification Level (NL):** A health-based advisory level for an unregulated contaminant in drinking water. It is used by DHS to provide guidance to drinking water systems.

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

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

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

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