

# **PINYON PINES COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

**An Independent California Special District - Established in 1969**

**62011 Stonecrest - Mountain Center, California 92561**

**Phone/fax 760-349-3261**

**[www.pinyonpinescwd.ca.gov](http://www.pinyonpinescwd.ca.gov)**

To: Users of Pinyon Pines County Water District

From: Thomas E. Huss - General Manager

Subject: Annual Water Quality Report for 2020

Date: April 2021

Attached for your review are the most current water analyses of your community water system. The source of water for your system is ground water. The concentrations of the various chemical, physical, and bacteriological analyses are listed in the table in the column labeled "Pinyon Pines Water District". These can be compared to the maximum allowed level in the column labeled "MCL". MCL stands for maximum contamination level. This is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Only detected contaminants will be listed in the table.

The results can also be compared to the columns labeled "PHG" and "MCLG". PHG stands for public health goal and is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the State of California. MCLG stands for maximum contamination level goal and has the same definition as public health goals, but is set by the Federal Government. The maximum contamination level is set as close to public health goals and maximum contamination level goals as is economically or technologically feasible.

If you have any questions regarding this Annual Water Quality Report, contact Thomas Huss at telephone number 760-349-3261. You can also call Riverside County Environmental Health Department at 760-863-7570 ask for Jackie Jones or Mark Abbot.

During the last few years we and all of Southern California have been experiencing drought situations. At this time, we ask that you help your community by voluntarily conserving water. We request that you try to maintain a use of under 700 cubic feet (approximately 5000 gallons). Please take a look at your usage and if you have a problem give me a call.

**APRIL 2021**

# **Pinyon Pines County Water District Water Quality Report for 2020**

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

**Periodically, we conduct tests** for over 100 drinking water contaminants. We only detected 15 contaminants, and found none higher than the State allows. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, call 760-349-3261 and ask for Thomas Huss.

**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 (800-426-4791).

**Your water comes from a horizontal well** drilled 85 feet into an underground source of water. This well is located south of Pinyon Pines at the 6200 foot elevation above the community in the Santa Rosa Mountains. The USFS owns the land around these wells and restricts any activity that could contaminate them.

**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.

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

**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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses. ★ *Radioactive contaminants*, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. ★ *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 storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

**In order to ensure that tap water is safe** to drink, the USEPA 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. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?** The State requires us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety.

**Our District Board of Directors meets** on the first Sunday of each month at 9:00am at 63-500 Pozo Drive, Mountain Center (Holiday weekends the meeting moves to the second Sunday). Please feel free to participate in these meetings. The District can be reached at 760-349-3261 or [districtoffice@pinyonpinesc wd.ca.gov](mailto:districtoffice@pinyonpinesc wd.ca.gov)

**THE DISTRICT HAS CHECKED YOUR WATER FOR THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS:**

Total Hardness, Calcium, Magnesium, Sodium, Potassium, Total Cations, Total Alkalinity, Hydroxide, Carbonate, Bicarbonate, Sulfate, Chloride, Nitrate, Fluoride, Total Anions, PH, Specific Conductance, Total Filterable Residue, Apparent Color, Odor Threshold, Lab Turbidity, MBAS, Nitrite-Nitrogen, Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Chromium CrVI screen, Copper, Iron, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, Zinc, Boron, Nitrate as Nitrogen, Cyanide, Vanadium, Perchlorate, MTBE, Methyl tert Butyl Ether, Radon 222, Gross Alpha, Radium 228, 1'1'1'2'-Tetrachloroethane, 1'1'1'-Trichloroethane, 1'1'2'-Tetrachloroethane, 1'1'2'-Trichloroethane, 1'1'-Dichloroethane, 1'1'-Dichloroethene, 1'1'-Dichloropropene, 1'2'3'-Trichlorobenzene, 1'2'3'-Trichloropropane, 1'2'4'-Trimethylbenzene, 1'2'-Dichlorobenzene, 1'2'-Dichloroethane, 1'3'5'-Trimethylbenzene, 1'3'-Dichlorobenzene, Methylene Chloride, Naphthalene, n-Butylbenzene, n-Propylbenzene, p-Isopropyltoluene, sec-Butylbenzene, Styrene, Tetrachloroethene, trans-1'2'-Dichloroethane, Chloroethane, Chloroform, Chloromethane, cis-1'2'-Dichloroethene, cis-1'3'-Dichloropropene, Dibromochloromethane, Dibromomethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, 1'2'4'-Trichlorobenzene, Ethylbenzene, Hexachlorobutadiene, Isopropylbenzene, 1'2'-Dichloropropane, Isopropylbenzene, 1'4'-Dichlorobenzene, 2'2'-Dichloropropane, 2-Butanone, 2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether, 2-Chlorotoluene, 4-Methyl-2-Pentanone, tert Butylbenzene, Toluene, Benzene, Trans-1'3'-Dichloropropene, Trichloroethene, Trichlorofluoromethane, Bromoform, Bromomethane, Xylenes, Chlorobenzene, Tert-Amyl Methyl Ether, Bis(2-Chloroethyl) Ether, Bromobenzene, Bromodichloromethane, Vinyl Chloride, Xylenes, Carbon Tetrachloride, 1'4'-Dioxane, Ethyl tert-Butyl Ether, Hexavalent Chromium, Total Chromium, Household Lead and Copper, Coliforms and Escherichia Coli, Uranium, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane.

**TESTS PERFORMED**

Volatile organic analysis  
 Gross Alpha  
 Asbestos  
 General mineral, general physical and inorganic chemicals  
 Nitrite  
 Nitrate  
 Household lead and copper  
 Coliforms and Escherichia Coli

**TESTING FREQUENCY**

Every six years  
 Every six years  
 Every nine years  
 Every three years  
 Every three years  
 Yearly  
 Every three years  
 Monthly

**NEXT TESTING DUE**

January 2024  
 January 2027  
 January 2028  
 January 2024  
 January 2024  
 January 2022  
 Summer 2021  
 Monthly

**WATER QUALITY DATA**

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the given years. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in 2018-2020. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

**TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED BELOW:**

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

• **n/a**: not applicable **λ** **nd**: not detectable at testing limit **λ** **ppb**: parts per billion or micrograms per liter **λ** **ppm**: parts per million or milligrams per liter **λ** **pCi/l**: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation) **Mg/L**: milligrams per liter  
**Regulatory Action Level (AL)**: The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**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

	Sample Date
Total Hardness	97 mg/L 2018
Calcium	28 mg/L 2018
Magnesium	6.6 mg/L 2018
Sodium	26 mg/L 2018
Potassium	4.6 mg/L 2018
Total Alkalinity	140 mg/L 2018
Bicarbonate	140 mg/L 2018

**REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY MCLS**

<u>Radioactive</u>	PHG	Pinyon Pines Sample	Typical Source of Contaminant
<u>Contaminants</u>	(MCLG)	Water District Date	Violation
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	"0"	2.20 2015	no Erosion of natural deposits
*Uranium (pCi/L)	0.43	4.01 2009	no Erosion of natural deposits

**Contaminants**

3-16-2020 bacteriological test was positive. 3-18-2020 5 re-samples, 2 were positive. 3-24-2020 5 re-samples, all negative. For 4-20-2020 regular monthly sample, 5 samples taken, all negative. We increased sampling for coliform bacteria to catch the problem early if it recurred. The well and/or distribution system was disinfected and the additional samples did not show presence of coliform bacteria and further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections (In a month)	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	3	1	1 positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL

## REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY MCLs

Constituent	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Pinyon Pines Water District	Sample Date	Violation
Total dissolved solids (mg/L)	1000	n/a	200	2018	no
Specific conductance (umho/cm)	1600	n/a	300	2018	no
Chloride (mg/L)	500	n/a	7.4	2018	no
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	n/a	6.2	2018	no
PH	9		7.8	2018	no
Turbidity (NTU)	5		0.23	2018	no

Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  
 Substances that form ions when in water  
 Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  
 Runoff/leaching from natural deposits  
 Soil runoff

**Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC's)** - April 2019 - The County of Riverside Department of Environmental Health has analyzed pesticide use reports from the Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner's Office and has determined based on those reports that the District's water system is non-vulnerable to synthetic organic chemicals chemical contamination. This status will be reevaluated every three years.

## Household Lead and Copper Monitoring

Constituent	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Pinyon Pines Water District	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile sample of 5 samples 0.159ppm 3 samples ND 2 samples 0.230 and 0.088ppm	2018	.no	Internal corrosion of Household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile sample of 5 samples .0025ppb 4 samples ND 1 sample .005ppb	2018	no	Internal corrosion of Household plumbing systems; discharge from Manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
0 samples exceeded the Regulatory Action Level for copper						
0 samples exceeded the Regulatory Action Level for lead						

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. Pinyon Pines County Water District 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/lead>.

**Drinking Water Source Assessment information:** Information on file with the Department of Environmental Health, County of Riverside, California. (760) 863-7570. Assessment completed in June 2002. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Managed Forests and Wells – Water Supply. There have been no contaminants detected in the water supply, however the source is still considered vulnerable to activities located near the drinking water source.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

#### Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 Assessments

##### *Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an E. coli MCL Violation*

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct One (1) Level 1 assessment(s). One (1) Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take two (2) corrective actions and we completed two (2) of these actions.