



2009 Annual Water Quality Report

How Good Is Our Water?

This brochure is a summary of the quality of water provided to the customers of the Big Bear City Community Services District. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

Where Does Our Water Come From?

The Big Bear City Community Services District's water department serves 6,007 customers from a system comprised of 81.7 miles of water mains, 11 vertical wells, 2 sealed springs, 2 horizontal wells, and 4 storage reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 6.25 million gallons.

Why Is There Anything In My 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.

What Else Should I Know?

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 may be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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, should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/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.

How Can I Get Involved?

Our Board of Directors meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the District office. We encourage participation from the public.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The Big Bear City Community Services District office is located at 139 E. Big Bear Blvd. and is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Our phone number is (909) 585-2565. For questions regarding your water quality, ask for Jerry Griffith. The Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline is (800) 426-4791.

What Contaminants May Be Present In Source Water Before We Treat It?

- **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**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A source water assessment was conducted for the Big Bear City Community Services District Water System in September of 2002. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at the Big Bear City Community Services District Office or at the DHS San Bernardino District Office, 464 West 4th Street, Suite 437, San Bernardino, CA 92401, or you may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Tim Moran, Water Department Superintendent, Big Bear City Community Services District, P.O. Box 558, 139 E. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City, CA 92314, (909) 585-2565.

Water Data for 2009

Our water is tested by independent laboratories to assure that it meets all drinking water standards. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the test data, though representative, is more than one year old. Test results are presented in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

The following terms and abbreviations are used in Tables 1, 2, and 3:

- **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.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** This is a measure of the suspended material in water.
- **Regulatory Action Level (A/L):** The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable
- **ppm:** parts per million
- **ppb:** parts per billion
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)



Big Bear City Community Services District
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Table 1: Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated Contaminant	Last Sampled	Unit	Goal (PHG or MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Detected Level (Average)	Range of Values Detected	Major Sources
Hexavalent Chromium	2005	ppb	2	50	1.5	0-3.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium	2008	ppb	n/a	50	3.71	0-8.9	Erosion of natural deposits
Dichlorodi-fluoromethane	2007	ppb	n/a	1000	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 2: Regulated Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	Last Sampled	Unit	Goal (PHG or MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Detected Level (Average)	Range of Values Detected	Major Sources
Clarity							
Turbidity	2009	NTU	n/a	5	0.22	0-2.6	Soil runoff
Microbiological							
Total Coliform Bacteria	2009	# positive	0	2/month	0	0	Naturally in the environment
Inorganic Chemicals							
Aluminum	2008	ppb	600	1000	53	0-87	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	2008	ppb	4	10	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2008	ppm	2	1	0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2009	ppm	1	2	0.97	0-1.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO ₃)	2009	ppm	45	45	1.51	0-4.9	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper Rule							
Lead ¹	2007	ppb	2	AL=15	0	all sites <AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	2007	ppm	0.17	AL=1.3	0.27	all sites <AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Radioactivity							
Gross Alpha Activity	2008	pCi/l	0	15	2.02	0-5.54	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	2008	pCi/l	0	20	2.3	2.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards							
Color	2009	units	n/a	15	1.90	0-5	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor-Threshold	2009	units	n/a	3	1	1	Naturally occurring organic materials
Chloride	2008	ppm	n/a	500	7.91	1.8-14	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Iron	2009	ppb	n/a	300	0	0	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	2009	ppb	n/a	50	0	0	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	2008	ppm	n/a	500	47.3	2-230	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	2008	ppm	n/a	1000	301	220-600	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	2008	micromhos	n/a	1600	462	310-810	Substances that form ions when in water
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	2008	ppb	n/a	500	0	0	Municipal & industrial waste discharges
Corrosivity	2008	n/a	n/a	noncorrosive	noncorrosive	noncorrosive	Balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen in water
Additional							
PH	2008	units	n/a	n/a	7.63	7.2-8.0	n/a
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	2008	ppm	n/a	n/a	210	91-440	n/a
Sodium	2008	ppm	n/a	n/a	24	10-62	n/a
Calcium	2008	ppm	n/a	n/a	50.4	25-96	n/a
Potassium	2008	ppm	n/a	n/a	1.97	0-3.7	n/a
Magnesium	2008	ppm	n/a	n/a	18.4	6.3-36	n/a

¹Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Table 3: Volatile Organic Contaminants

Volatile Organic Contaminant*	Last Sampled	Unit	Goal (MCL)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Detected Level (Average)	Range of Values Detected	Major Sources
Carbon Tetrachloride	2009	ppb	.01	0.5	0	0	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
1, 1 Dichloroethane (1, 1 - DCA)	2009	ppb	3	5	0	0	Extraction and degreasing solvents
1, 1, 1, Trichloroethane (1, 1, 1 - TCA)	2009	ppb	1000	200	0	0	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories; manufacture of food wrappers
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	2009	ppb	0.8	5	0	0	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories

* Contaminants listed in Table 3 are blended in a 2.5 million gallon reservoir. All samples have been non-detect.