

# 2004 Consumer Confidence Report



## Marina Coast Water District

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hablo con alguien que lo entiende bien.

Marina Coast Water District (District) is committed to providing customers with high quality water that meets or surpasses State and Federal drinking water standards. This 2004 annual water quality report contains detailed information about your drinking water. If you have any questions regarding this information or about your water, please contact Water Quality Manager Evelina A. Adlawan at 384-6131, or visit our website at [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org).

## Water Supply and Treatment

In 2004, Marina's water supply was taken solely from groundwater sources. Three deep wells pumped over seven hundred million gallons of water (service to 18,500 residents through 3,811 connections) from the deep aquifer (900 to 2,000 feet) of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. Less than 1 percent was produced from one well drawing groundwater from the 400-foot aquifer. Though our well water is generally clean and clear, a measured amount of disinfectant chlorine is added to protect against microbial contamination and remove naturally-occurring, odor-causing hydrogen sulfide. To ensure further safety, an allowable and desirable amount of residual chlorine is maintained in our drinking water that is delivered through a network of two storage reservoirs and 42 miles of pipeline. Though Marina's desalination plant didn't operate in 2004, it is capable of providing 13 percent of Marina's water supply.



Customer Service Assistant  
Barbara Montanti and  
Conservation Specialist Paul Lord

## Water Supply Assessment and Protection

In July 2001, the California Department of Health Services (CDHS) completed an assessment of Marina's water supply sources. The report identified possible sources of contamination for cleanup and pollution prevention to protect drinking water sources. CDHS found that Marina's groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to contaminants associated with the military installation, historic waste dumps and landfill activities. Marina's desalination plant seawater intake well is considered most vulnerable to salt water intrusion and to contaminants associated with injection wells, dry wells, sumps and wastewater treatment plant activities. Full details of the assessment may be viewed at the following locations: MCWD, 11 Reservation Road, Marina, or at CDHS, 1 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Building 1, Suite 120, Monterey.



## Water Quality

### Coliform Monitoring of the Distribution System

In 2004, a total of 277 samples from Marina's distribution system were tested for the presence of coliform bacteria. Customers were informed that three of the 26 samples collected in October showed the presence of total coliform. No more than one sample per month may show the presence of total coliform to meet the standard (MCL). This is the first time since 1998 that the Marina system experienced a total coliform MCL violation. Coliform bacteria, which are generally not harmful themselves are naturally present in the environment and are used as indicators that other potentially harmful bacteria maybe present. The District's tests did not show the presence of any of these harmful bacteria. The problem was attributed to lower than normal residual chlo-

rine levels at the affected sample sites and to inclement weather conditions during sample collection. The affected sample sites were thoroughly flushed until the allowed residual chlorine levels were detectable. Subsequent tests conducted revealed the absence of total coliform.

### Lead and Copper

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) announced several actions that EPA and water utilities would undertake in response to its evaluation of current implementation practices of the lead and copper rules. The District completed testing of selected Marina customer's indoor tap water for lead and copper in June 2004. The purpose of this monitoring every three years is to determine if significant amounts of lead and/or copper are leaching into drinking water from corroding plumbing systems. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of water samples in Marina homes and businesses were below the regulatory action level for lead and copper. The Marina system remains in full compliance with the lead and copper rule since the monitoring program's inception in 1992.

### Arsenic

While Marina's drinking water meets both the current standard at 50 parts per billion and the new lower USEPA standard at 10 parts per billion, it does contain low levels of naturally occurring arsenic. The new standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The CDHS continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.



Operation & Maintenance System  
Operator II Brian West and  
Water Quality Chemist Thomas Barkhurst

### 2004 MCWD Statistics

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Water Produced             | 736.97 million gallons |
| Maximum Month: May         | 73.43 million gallons  |
| Maximum Day: May 11        | 3.78 million gallons   |
| Population Served          | 18,500                 |
| No. of Service Connections | 3,811                  |

### Radon

Radon, which is found throughout the United States, is a radioactive gas that one cannot see, taste or smell. It can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation and can be released indoors through tap water while showering, washing dishes and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be small. Breathing air containing radon may lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may cause risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Correct the problem with your home if the level of radon is 4 pCi/L or higher. For additional information, call the USEPA's Radon Hotline at (800) SOS-RADON.



*Dear Marina Neighbors,*

As in previous years, we present our 2004 Consumer Confidence Report to give you the assurance that your drinking water meets the State and Federal health and safety requirements.

This report contains detailed information about your water supply that we hope you find educational and useful. If you should have any questions regarding the information in this report or about your water, please contact our Water Quality Manager Evelina A. Adlawan at 384-6131. Also, I encourage you to visit our website at [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org).

Your District board of directors and staff remain fully committed to providing you with excellent water quality and superb customer services. Thank you for your continued efforts to conserve our precious water supplies.

— Mike Armstrong, General Manager



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*Board meetings are open to the public and held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the District office, 11 Reservation Road (Marina State Beach) at 7 p.m. Agendas are posted in the following places at least 72 hours before each meeting: Marina Coast Water District, Marina City Hall, Marina Library and the Marina Post Office.*