

June 2004

Currents

Burbank's Newsletter for Issues Affecting Your Water and Power Department.



Annual Water Quality Report 2003

Burbank Water and Power (BWP) provides water service for the citizens of Burbank.

Last year, over 1800 water samples were tested for over 120 contaminants. This report compares those tests with State standards and explains the different sources of our City water. If you have any questions about this report, please call Henriette Rieffel at (818) 238-3500. For questions regarding water conservation, please contact BWP's Conservation Services group at (818) 238-3731.

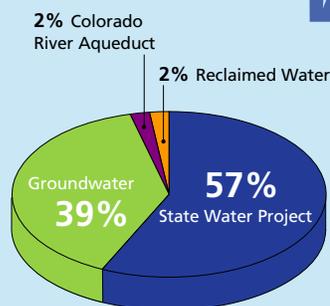
The Burbank Water and Power Board typically meets the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 P.M. at the BWP Administration Building (164 W. Magnolia Blvd). The public is invited to participate in these meetings.

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

Այս տեղեկագիրը կը պարունակէ կարեւոր տեղեկութիւններ ձեր խմած ջուրին մասին: Բաճեցէք կարդալ կամ թարգմանել տալ:

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

Water Sources



The water supply for Burbank comes from three different sources: local groundwater, the Colorado River, and the State Water Project.

The groundwater in Burbank is treated to remove volatile organic contaminants such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) before it is put into our distribution system. Burbank has two treatment facilities, the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Plant and the Burbank Operable Unit (BOU) Plant. For calendar year 2003, 39% of our total water supply came from groundwater.

The Colorado River and the State Water Project are imported water supplies purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). MWD operates treatment facilities for these surface water supplies before delivering it to Burbank. For the year 2003, 57% of the City's water came from the State Water Project and 2% came from the Colorado River Aqueduct.

An additional water resource for the City is reclaimed water. It is a reliable supply for the irrigation of our parks and golf courses as well as cooling water at our Power Plant. In 2003, 2% of the city's total water supply came from reclaimed water.

A source water assessment was completed in December 2002 for both the groundwater and surface water supplies. The groundwater source is considered most vulnerable to the known contaminant plume and resulted in the construction of the BOU Plant. Possible contaminating activities include automobile repair shops, petroleum pipeline, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitted discharges, metal plating, underground storage tanks, plastics producer, airport, military installation, and automobile gas stations. The groundwater report is available for public review at the Water Engineering Office located in the BWP Administration Building at 164 West Magnolia Blvd.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS	MCL	MCLG	Highest No. of detection	No. of months in violation	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (a)	5.0%	0%	0.96%	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E coli	(b)	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

CONSTITUENT	No. of samples	Action Level	Public Health Goal	90th percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) (c)	33	15	2	3.2	0	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems
Copper (ppm) (c)	33	1.3	0.17	0.15	0	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	Running Annual Average	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	80	NA	36.7	23 – 54	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (i)	ppb	60	NA	6.5	1.2 – 15.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Chlorine Residual (i)	ppm	(4)	(4)	1.85	1.6 – 2.0	Drinking water disinfectant added

FEDERAL REGULATED CONTAMINANTS WITH NO MCL'S

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source
2,4-Dinitrofluorene	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
2,6-Dinitrofluorene	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
Acetochlor	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
DCPA mono-acid degradate	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
DCPA di-acid degradate	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
Dichlorodiphenyldichloro-ethylene (4,4'-DDE)	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Residue of banned pesticide
s-ethyl dipropylthio-carbamate (EPTC)	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
Molinate	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Runoff/leaching from herbicide used on rice
MTBE	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Gasoline discharge from aircraft engines
Nitrobenzene	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	
Perchlorate	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Industrial waste discharge
Terbacil	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
INORGANIC CHEMICALS						
Aluminum (e)	ppb	1000	600	ND	ND	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	50	NA	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	1	2	0.05	ND – 0.13	Discharges from oil and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	50	(100)	3.4	1.3 – 6.42	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	0.29	0.11 – 0.6	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive for tooth health.
Nickel	ppb	100	12	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories.
Nitrate (as N) (f)	ppm	10	10	4.15	2.4 – 5.2	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Nitrite (as N) (f)	ppm	1	1	ND	ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Nitrate and Nitrite (as N) (f)	ppm	10	10	4.2	2.4 – 5.2	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
RADIONUCLIDES (results are from monitoring of BOU wells conducted in 2001)						
Adjusted Gross Alpha (g) (m)	pCi/L	15	NA	3.1	0.02 – 9.5	Erosion of natural deposits
Adjusted Gross Beta	pCi/L	50	NA	6.1	ND – 14	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Combined Radium (h)	pCi/L	5	NA	0.4	ND – 2.9	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (m)	pCi/L	20	.5	6.4	ND – 20	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Aluminum (e)	ppb	200	600	ND	ND	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	64	29 – 82	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	Units	15	NA	1	0.13 – 2.0	Naturally occurring organic materials
Copper (e)	ppm	1	.17	ND	ND	Internal corrosion of household pipes; natural deposits erosion
Foaming agent (MBAS)	ppb	500	NA	ND	ND	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Iron	ppb	300	NA	0.02	ND – .21	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Odor	Units	3	NA	ND	ND	Naturally occurring organic materials
Manganese	ppb	50	NA	0.008	ND – .06	Leaching from natural deposits
MTBE (e)	ppb	5	13	ND	ND	Gasoline discharges from watercraft engines
Silver	ppb	100	NA	ND	ND	Industrial discharges
Specific Conductance	µmho/cm	1600	NA	648	550 – 796	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	57	48 – 71.7	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Thiobencarb	ppb	1	NA	ND	ND	Runoff/leaching from rice herbicide
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1000	NA	361	301 – 496	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Turbidity	NTU	5	NA	0.05	.05 – .06	Soil runoff
Zinc	ppm	5	NA	ND	ND	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

OTHER PARAMETERS

Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	49	25 – 97	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (k)	ppm	NA	NA	198	120 – 344	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	pH units	NA	NA	8.1	7.5 – 8.31	Acidity and alkalinity of water
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	18	14 – 24	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	48	31 – 59	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	AL/PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Boron	ppb	NA	AL=1,000	181	ND – 220	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Chromium VI	ppb	NA	(j)	2.4	ND – 4.19	Industrial waste discharge
Dichlorodifluoromethane (Freon 12)	ppb	NA	AL=1,000	ND	ND	Industrial waste discharge
Ethyl-tert-butylether (ETBE)	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Used as gasoline additive
tert-Amyl-methyl-ether (TAME)	ppb	NA	NA	ND	ND	Used as gasoline additive
Perchlorate	ppb	NA	AL=4	ND	ND	Industrial waste discharge
Tert-Butyl Alcohol (TBA)	ppb	NA	AL=12	ND	ND	MTBE breakdown product; used as gasoline additive
Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)	ppt	NA	AL=50	1.0	ND – 15.9	Industrial waste discharge and pesticide uses
Vanadium	ppb	NA	AL=50	1.6	ND – 4.4	Naturally-occurring; industrial waste discharge

Educational Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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 United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting the USEPA website at www.EPA.Gov/safewater/HFacts.html.

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 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 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).

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.

- 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 byproducts 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Department of Health Services 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

Abbreviations:

AL = California Action Level; **NA** = Not Applicable; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level; **ND** = None Detected; **MCLG** = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; **NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units; **MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; **µmho/cm** = micromho per centimeter; **PHG** = Public Health Goal; **ppb** = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L); **ppm** = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L); **ppt** = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

Footnotes:

(a) MCL for total coliform is no more than 5% of monthly samples are positive.

(b) Fecal coliform / E.coli MCLs: The occurrence of 2 consecutive total coliform-positive samples, constitutes an acute MCL violation. The MCL was not violated in 2003.

(c) Lead and copper compliance based on 90th percentile being below the Action Level. Samples were taken from customer taps to reflect the influence of household plumbing. 33 homes were sampled in November 2000, none exceeded the action level for lead or copper.

(d) Value shown is the average of the blended water (MWD water and local groundwater)

(e) Aluminum, copper and MTBE have primary and secondary MCLs.

(f) State MCL for Nitrate of 10 mg/L as N is equivalent to 45 mg/L as Nitrate. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age.

(g) State MCL for Gross Alpha excludes radon and uranium. Compliance is based on adjusted gross alpha where radon and uranium are deducted.

(h) Standard is for Radium-226 and -228 combined.

(i) Compliance is based on Running Annual Average which is the average of the last four quarters.

(j) A PHG for chromium VI of 2.5 ppb was adopted in 1999 but withdrawn in November 2001.

(k) Hardness in grains/gallon can be found by dividing the ppm by 17.1. 230 ppm is equivalent to 13.5 grains/gallon.

(m) The highest and lowest values from individual source of water.

How to **Contact Us.**

Customer Service: (818) 238-3700

Water Services: (818) 238-3500

Electric Services: (818) 238-3575

Conservation Services: (818) 238-3730

Street Light Outages: (818) 238-3575

After-hours Emergency: (818) 238-3778

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Visit us on-line at:
www.BurbankWaterAndPower.com

Always There For You!

The following definitions may be helpful in your understanding of our Water Quality Report:

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. MCLs are set by the California Department of Health Services.

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

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 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements. California's drinking water program is accountable to the USEPA for implementation of standards at least as stringent as the federal government.

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.



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