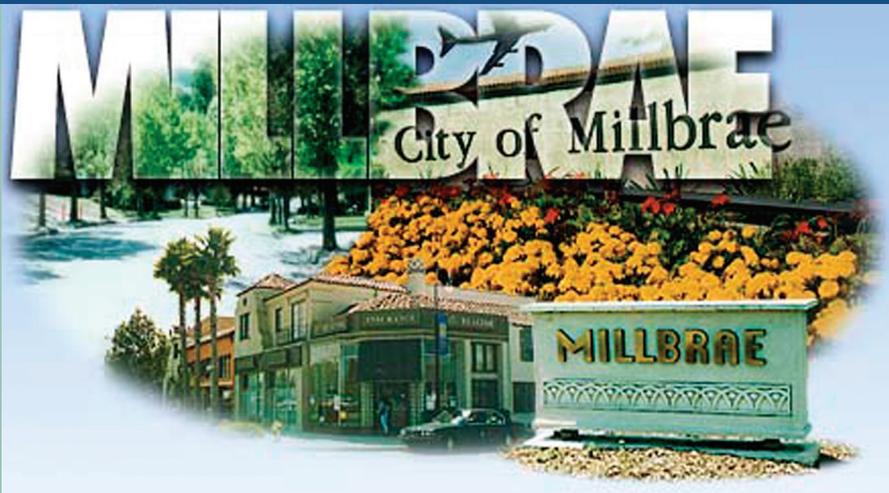
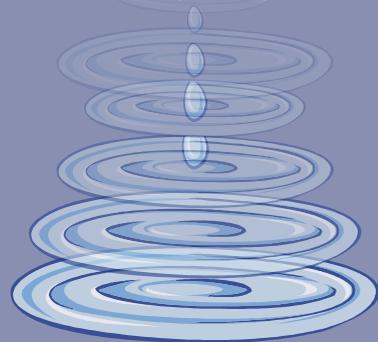


# MILLBRAE WATER QUALITY REPORT



2013



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WATER DIVISION

The City of Millbrae, Public Works Department

We present to you the City of Millbrae 2013 water quality report. Pursuant to federal regulations mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act, all water consumers are to be provided annual information about their water and its sources.

We hope that this report will give you all of the information you may need regarding your water resources. We want our customers to know the origin of their drinking water supply, the specifics of the treatment(s) that it receives, and the results of water quality monitoring reports performed daily by the City of Millbrae, Public Works, Utilities and Operations staff and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). This data should offer you, the reader, a good working knowledge about

Millbrae's water-related issues.

The City of Millbrae also endeavors to inform its water customers about the challenges we face and the efforts we perform in order to continuously provide water quality of the highest caliber.

Furthermore, we would like to encourage all water consumers to play an active role in the vital decisions that are made to protect our water resources and to ensure the quality of the water supply that is delivered to all homes and businesses in Millbrae.

We believe it is in everyone's interest to obtain a high quality and reliable water supply because it is integral to personal health, environmental integrity and community prosperity.

## WATER QUALITY AND YOU

Water quality is extremely important, because we cannot survive without a clean and reliable source of it. The City of Millbrae; our water supplier, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC); the California Department of Public Health (CDPH); and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) are all working simultaneously to ensure that we provide the highest quality water and to educate water consumers and encourage their involvement in relevant decisions. Consumers who familiarize themselves with the basic drinking water information contained in this report will be able to participate more effectively in these decision-making processes. Together, we can be a great force to promote programs that will aid us in continuing to deliver water that meets the highest possible standards.

***One way you can get more involved in water quality conversation:***

**You are invited to attend Public Meetings held by the SFPUC. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. The meetings are held in City Hall, Room 400, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102. They are scheduled to begin at 1:30 PM. Contact the Commission at (415) 554-3165 for more information about the meetings.**

**The following websites provide information on water resources. We encourage you to visit these sites.**

**City of Millbrae, Millbrae, CA**

<http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us>

The City of Millbrae's website is a valuable resource for information about our city and projects. For more information on water resources and conservation, view the website pages on Utilities and Operations, the Water Pollution Control Plant, and other city programs, such as the Recycling and Waste Prevention and Water Resources & Conservation Programs.

**San Francisco Public Utilities Commission**

<http://www.sfwater.org>

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) provides drinking water to the City of Millbrae. Their website hosts the 2012 SFPUC Water Quality Report, statistics on our water supply, tips for water conservation practices, and information about natural resources.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**

<http://www.epa.gov>

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is the federal government entity responsible for writing and enforcing environmental regulations in the country. Check out their website for information on many different topics, including water.

**American Water Works Association**

<http://www.awwa.org>

This website has many interesting sections; for instance, one can find water utility information (under "Resources & Tools"), and gain access to the Association's "Water Library".

**California Department of Public Health**

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

This state agency works to protect public health in California and its website contains multiple resources including water quality information. Of interest, is a CDPH service entitled, "Decisions Pending & Opportunities for Public Participation" as well as links to other programs, like the Drinking Water Program.

### Our Mission: Quality Water

The City of Millbrae, along with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), is pleased to present our 2013 Annual Consumer Confidence Report. This brochure offers a snapshot of the quality of water we provide to you throughout the year. We hope that it will give you all of the information you may need about your water resources. We want our customers to know the origin of their drinking water supply, the specifics of the treatment(s) that it receives, and the results of water quality monitoring reports performed daily by the City of Millbrae/Public Works/Utilities and Operations staff and the SFPUC.

## Water Source Information

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is the sole provider of drinking water to Millbrae, its citizens and businesses. The map below shows how water is delivered to our City by the SFPUC.

### Our Drinking Water Sources and Treatment

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, oceans, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells.

For our system, the major water source originates from spring snowmelt flowing down the Tuolumne River to storage in Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Our pristine, well protected Sierra water source is approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) so that no filtration is required. Water treatments including disinfections by ultraviolet light and chlorine, pH adjustment for corrosion control, fluoridation for dental health protection, and chloramination for maintaining disinfectant residual and minimizing disinfection byproduct formation are in place to meet the drinking water regulation requirements.

Hetch Hetchy water is supplemented with surface water from two local watersheds. Rainfall and runoff from the 35,000-acre Alameda Watershed spanning in Alameda and Santa Clara counties are collected in the Calaveras Reservoirs and San Antonio Reservoir for filtration and disinfection at the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant. Rainfall and runoff from the 23,000-acre Peninsula Watershed in San Mateo County are stored in the Crystal Springs Reservoir, San Andreas Reservoir, and Pilarcitos Reservoir, and are filtered and disinfected at the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant.

As in the past, the Hetch Hetchy Watershed provided the majority of our total water supply, with the remainder contributed by the two local watersheds in 2013.

### Treatment Plant Improvements

In 2013, SFPUC completed a \$62.6 million Phase II improvement project for the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant. The upgrades increase the Plant's reliability at the permitted capacity of 160 MGD and will allow it to maintain production in the event of emergency or prolonged maintenance activities. Major enhancements include the addition of a new 3 Million Gallons (MG) chlorine contact tank, a 17.5 MG treated water reservoir, and improvements to the filtration, chemical treatment and disinfection facilities.

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant Long-Term Improvements Project is currently under construction to improve delivery reliability and provide seismic upgrades. Construction started in March 2011 and has reached 70% completion. This \$280 million

project, which includes significant upgrades to the ozonation system, five new filters, and a new treated water reservoir, will ensure that the plant can produce 140 Million Gallons a Day (MGD) of water within 24 hours of a major earthquake.

### Protecting Our Watersheds

Our annual Hetch Hetchy Watershed Sanitary Survey evaluates the sanitary conditions, water quality, potential contamination sources, and the results of watershed management activities with partner agencies including National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service.

We also conduct sanitary surveys every five years to detect and track sanitary concerns for the local watersheds and the approved standby water sources in Early Intake Watershed, which includes Cherry Lake and Lake Eleanor. The latest 5-year surveys were completed in 2011 for the period of 2006-2010. These surveys identified wildlife, stock, and human activities as potential contamination sources. The reports are available for review at the CDPH San Francisco District office, (510) 620-3474.

### Millbrae Water Distribution System

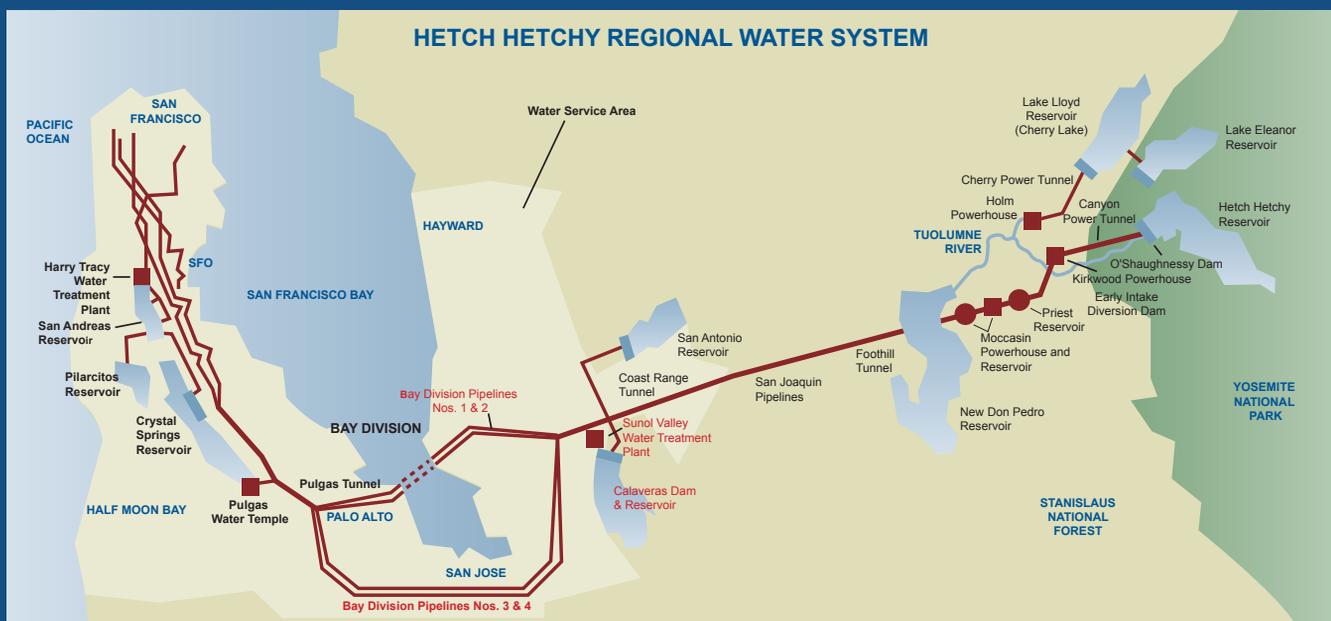
The City of Millbrae water system is fortunate to have two independent sources flowing to us from the SFPUC system. The Hetch Hetchy aqueducts run from south to north, generally along El Camino Real and Magnolia Avenue. They provide water to our customers in the gray shaded area between the San Francisco Bay and the areas that are approximately 100-feet above sea level. The blue shaded area indicates the area supplied by the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant (located at the upper right corner of the City of Millbrae map).

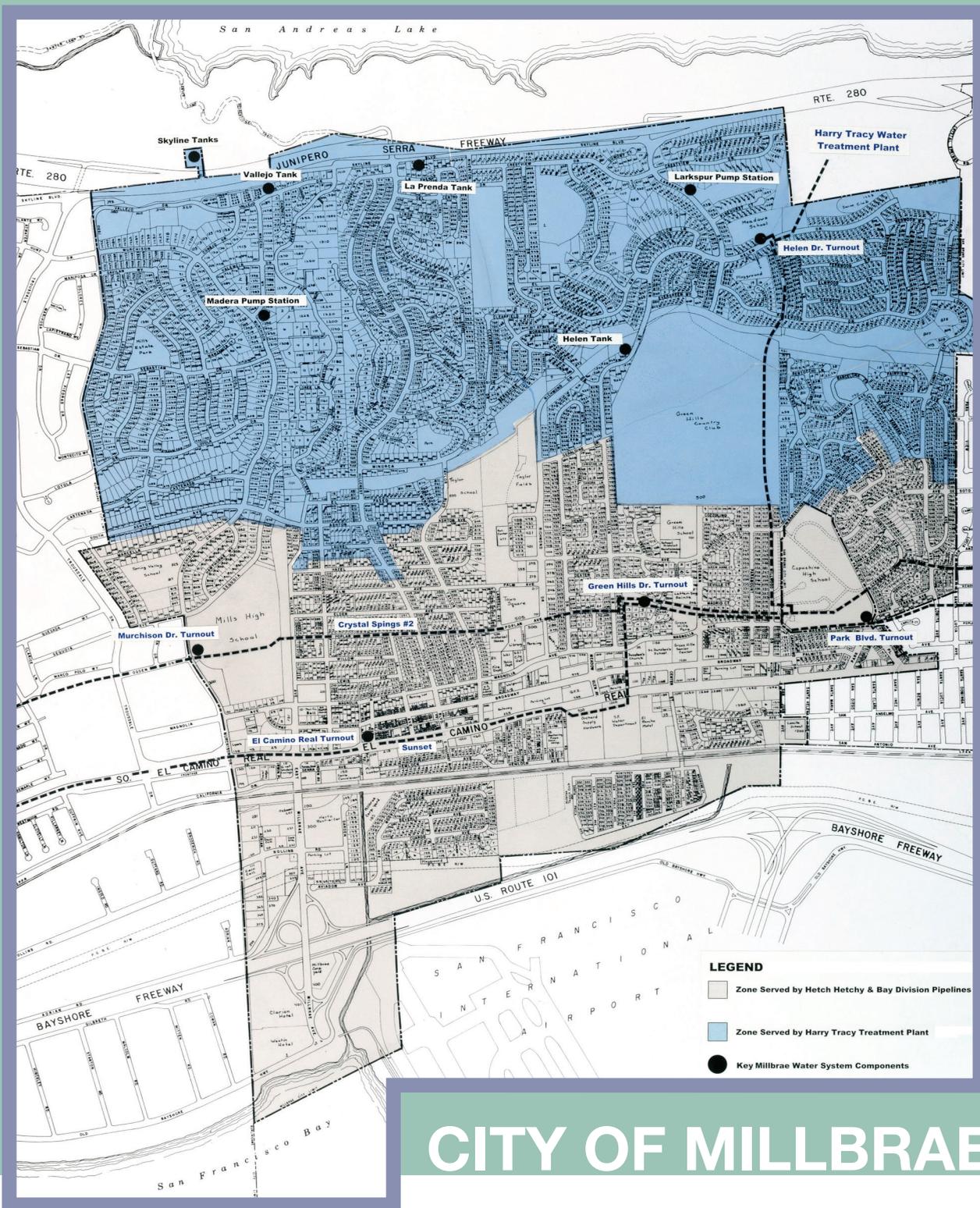
### Water Quality

Our Water Quality Division (WQD) regularly collects and tests water samples from reservoirs and designated sampling points throughout the system to ensure the water delivered to you meets or exceeds federal and state drinking water standards. In 2013, WQD staff conducted more than 102,650 drinking water tests in the transmission and distribution systems. This is in addition to the extensive treatment process control monitoring performed by our certified operators and online instruments.

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. Such substances are called contaminants.

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and CDPH





# CITY OF MILLBRAE

prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

## Contaminants and Regulations

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 that 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

*Cryptosporidium* is a parasitic microbe found in most surface water. We regularly test for this waterborne

pathogen, and found it at very low levels in source water and treated water in 2013. However, current test methods approved by the USEPA do not distinguish between dead organisms and those capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may produce symptoms of nausea, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

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

## Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3)

In May 2012, USEPA published the third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) that lists a total of 28 chemical contaminants and two viruses for monitoring by some public water systems between 2013 and 2015. USEPA uses the UCMR to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water to help determine if drinking water standards need to be developed in the future. The City of Millbrae will be conducting its scheduled UCMR3 Sample Monitoring throughout 2014 and will publish those sampling results in next year's report.

## Special Health Needs

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline **800-426-4791** or at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

### Fluoridation and Dental Fluorosis

Mandated by State law, water fluoridation is a widely accepted practice proven to be safe and effective for preventing and controlling tooth decay. Our water is optimally fluoridated at 1.0 mg/l. Infants fed formula mixed with water containing fluoride at the optimal level may have an increased chance of developing tiny white lines or streaks in their teeth. These marks are referred to as mild to very mild fluorosis, and are often only visible under a microscope. Even in cases where the marks are visible, they do not pose any health risk. CDC considers it safe to use optimally fluoridated water for preparing infant formula. To lessen this chance of dental fluorosis, you may choose to use low-fluoride bottled water to prepare infant formula. Nevertheless, children may still develop dental fluorosis due to fluoride intake from other sources such as food, toothpaste and dental products. Contact your health provider or CDPH if you have concerns about dental fluorosis. Additional information can be found at CDPH website [www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/pages/fluoridation.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/pages/fluoridation.aspx) or CDC website [www.cdc.gov/fluoridation](http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation).

### Reducing Lead from Plumbing Fixtures

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. There are no known lead service lines in our water distribution system. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at others because of plumbing materials used in your property.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. 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 levels in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline **800-426-4791**, or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Lead and Copper Monitoring

In addition, the City of Millbrae follows a CDPH approved "reduced triennial monitoring frequency" schedule for measuring levels of lead and copper. This means we are consistently below the maximum contaminant level for both of these inorganic elements. Results from our 2013 tests validate this classification, because the City continues to be well within all required standards concerning lead and copper.

### Drinking Water Regulations

In 2004, the USEPA proposed two new rules requiring water systems to enhance their existing efforts in reducing *Cryptosporidium* and Disinfection By-Products. The Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule and the Stage 2 Disinfection By-Product Rule have imposed additional monitoring and disinfection requirements for the City of Millbrae. The City continues to monitor and to report data under the Disinfection By-Product Rule.

### Earthquake Readiness

The City of Millbrae Water Division would like to remind you to prepare your home with emergency provisions, including a three-to-five-day supply of drinking water for every member of your household.

- Store tap water- at least one gallon per person per day (don't forget water for pets, too!) in clean, plastic, airtight containers in a dark, cool place.

- Store enough to last at least three to five days.
- Label each container with a date and replace the water every six months.
- At the time of usage, add 16 drops of bleach to each gallon to ensure disinfection (use pure household bleach only - not products with scents or other additives). Mix and allow it to stand for 30 minutes before each use. If a camp stove is available, you can also disinfect the water by bringing it to a rolling boil for 5 to 10 minutes.
- If you run out of stored drinking water, strain and treat water from your water heater. To strain, pour it through a clean cloth or layers of paper towels. Treat with household bleach, as directed above. Other sources of water inside the home are ice cubes, and the reservoir tank of your toilet (not the bowl).
- If your water supply is not sufficient for hand washing, use antiseptic hand gel or wipes.

**For more information visit [www.sfwater.org](http://www.sfwater.org), [www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org) or contact the City of Millbrae, your water provider.**

### Millbrae Water Quality Assurance Programs

The Millbrae Water Division conducts a comprehensive water quality assurance program. We collect and report over forty samples a month throughout our system to regularly monitor water quality. We send samples to a state certified laboratory for testing. We are pleased to report that all samples have tested negative for coliforms and that the City had zero violations related to any maximum contaminant level (MCL) in the calendar year 2013.

Other water samples are collected periodically to check for levels of lead and copper, disinfection by-products [trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids - THMs and HAAs] and general physical components as required by state and federal regulations. The City of Millbrae received a waiver for asbestos sampling.

The City of Millbrae continually monitors all five main entry points to our distribution system and also other key points in the distribution system such as our tank sites and pump stations. These sites are monitored by our computerized SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system that provides our Water Division managers with continuous automated water quality information.

The Millbrae Water Division flushes dead-end main pipes located throughout the city on a quarterly schedule (minimum) to ensure our water mains remain clean. We also manage a capital replacement program which progressively and continually ensures our water main pipes and lines remain in top order. These programs assure that water is reliably delivered at the highest quality possible.

In addition, the Millbrae water division, along with the San Mateo County Environmental Health Department, administers and manages a cross-connection prevention program to eliminate possible contamination to our drinking water through backflow prevention devices. The program includes yearly testing of all city-owned backflow devices and monitoring of compliance on privately owned backflow devices\*.

**\*A note to those residents and business owners who have backflow prevention devices: State regulations require that all backflow prevention devices be tested annually by a certified inspector.**

In 2013, the City continued to work on our Water System Master Plan, which will identify system deficiencies and provide recommendations to improve system reliability. The City also completed a water capital improvement project that included the replacement of 1,600 linear feet of water main pipe, numerous water service connections and over 30 fire hydrants. In the coming years we will continue to replace water mains, service lines and fire hydrants in an effort to continually improve our water distribution infrastructure.

**City of Millbrae - Water Quality Data for Year 2013**

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	Unit	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Range or Level Found	Average or [Max]	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>TURBIDITY</b>						
Unfiltered Hetch Hetchy Water	NTU	5	N/A	0.2 - 0.5 <sup>(2)</sup>	[2.8] <sup>(5)</sup>	Soil runoff
Filtered Water from Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant (SVWTP)	NTU	1 <sup>(4)</sup>	N/A	-	[0.26]	Soil runoff
	-	Min 95% of samples ≤ 0.3 NTU <sup>(4)</sup>	N/A	100%	-	Soil runoff
Filtered Water from Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant (HTWTP)	NTU	1 <sup>(4)</sup>	N/A	-	[0.17]	Soil runoff
	-	Min 95% of samples ≤ 0.3 NTU <sup>(4)</sup>	N/A	100%	-	Soil runoff
<b>DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRECURSOR (SFPUC Regional System) - for information only</b>						
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	18 - 63	[46] <sup>(5)</sup>	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	8 - 45	[36] <sup>(5)</sup>	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon <sup>(6)</sup>	ppm	TT	N/A	2.3 - 3.7	2.7	Various natural and man-made sources
<b>DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRECURSOR</b>						
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	26.1-73.2	49.65	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	12-47.2	29.6	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon <sup>(6)</sup>	ppm	N/A	N/A	n/a	n/a	Various natural and man-made sources
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>						
Total Coliform <sup>(7)</sup>	-	NoP ≤ 5.0% of monthly samples	(0)	-	n/a	Naturally present in the environment
<i>Giardia lamblia</i>	cyst/L	TT	(0)	<0.01 - 0.06	<0.01	Naturally present in the environment
<b>INORGANICS</b>						
Fluoride (source water) <sup>(8)</sup>	ppm	2.0	1	ND - 0.8	0.3 <sup>(9)</sup>	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive to promote strong teeth
Chloramine (as chlorine)	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	1.1 - 2.8	2.0	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Aluminum <sup>(11)</sup>	ppb	200	600	ND - 90	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; some water treatment residue
Chloride	ppm	500	N/A	2 - 20	12.3	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Color	unit	15	N/A	<5 - 7	<5	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	N/A	31 - 344	202	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	N/A	0.9 - 40	20	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	N/A	<20 - 195	108	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	5	N/A	0.1 - 0.2	0.1	Soil runoff

LEAD AND COPPER	Unit	AL	PHG	Range	90th Percentile	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppb	1300	300	0-55	48 ug/l	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
Lead	ppb	15	0.2	0-25.5	5.3 ug/l	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems

OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS	Unit	ORL	Range	Average
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	N/A	10 - 111	61
Bromide	ppb	N/A	<10 - 24	<10
Calcium (as Ca)	ppm	N/A	3 - 28	15
Chlorate <sup>(14)</sup>	ppb	(800) NL	53 - 399	221
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	N/A	8 - 114	62
Magnesium	ppm	N/A	0.2 - 10.8	6.1
pH	-	N/A	6.7 - 9.7	8.5
Silica	ppm	N/A	3.2 - 5.3	4.1
Sodium	ppm	N/A	3 - 25	15.7

KEY:
< / ≤ = less than / less than or equal to
AL = Action Level
Max = Maximum
Min = Minimum
N/A = Not Available
ND = Non-detect
NL = Notification Level
NoP = Number of Coliform-Positive Sample
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
ORL = Other Regulatory Level
ppb = part per billion
ppm = part per million
µS/cm = microSiemens / centimeter

**Footnotes:**

- (1) All results met State and Federal drinking water health standards.
- (2) Turbidity is measured every four hours. These are monthly average turbidity values.
- (4) There is no turbidity MCL for filtered water. The limits are based on the TT requirements for filtration systems in the State drinking water regulations.
- (6) Total organic carbon is a precursor for disinfection byproduct formation. The TT requirement applies to the filtered water from the SVWTP only.
- (8) The SFPUC adds fluoride to an optimum level of 1.0 ppm to help prevent dental caries in consumers. The CDPH specifies the fluoride levels in the treated water to be maintained within a range of 0.8 ppm - 1.5 ppm. In 2012, the range and average of the fluoride levels were 0.4 ppm - 1.3 ppm and 1.0 ppm, respectively.
- (9) The fluoride levels in the Hetch Hetchy and SVWTP raw water were ND and 0.2 ppm, respectively. The HTWTP raw water had elevated fluoride levels of 0.6 ppm - 0.8 ppm attributed to the transfer of fluoridated Hetch Hetchy & SVWTP treated water into the Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir, which supplies water via the San Andreas Reservoir to the HTWTP for treatment.
- (11) Aluminum also has a primary MCL of 1000 ppb.
- (12) The most recent Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2011. 0 of 30 site samp
- (13) The most recent Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2013. 1 of 30 site samples collected at consumer taps had lead concentrations above the Action Level.
- (14) The detected chlorate in the treated water is a degradation byproduct of sodium hypochlorite used by the SFPUC for water disinfection.

Note: Additional water quality data may be obtained by calling the City of Millbrae Water Department at (650) 259-2374.

**What does this table mean?**

This table shows the results of our water quality analysis for 2013. It contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (PHG), the amount detected, the typical sources of such contamination, footnotes to explain our findings and a key to the units of measurement.

**Key Water Quality Terms**

Following are definitions of key terms referring to standards and goals of water quality noted on the adjacent data 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 USEPA.

**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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)**

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)**

The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS)**

MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Regulatory Action Level**

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT)**

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Turbidity**

A water clarity indicator that measures cloudiness of the water, and is also used to indicate the effectiveness of the filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

City of Millbrae  
621 Magnolia Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030

Postal Customer  
Millbrae, CA 94030



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### Maintaining Water Quality in Your Home or Business

Customers can help to maintain a high standard of water quality, too. By following the simple measures described below you can help to prevent contamination of your water.

**Hot water heaters:** Flush the water heater tank through the drain outlet at the bottom annually.

**Cross-connections:** Some water users have contaminated their drinking water by creating cross connections that can siphon toxic fluids into their plumbing system. You can prevent them by:

1. Install anti-siphon fittings on all outside faucets.
2. Depressurize all hoses when not in use.
3. Remove any garden aspirator-type sprayers immediately after using.
4. Disconnect all hoses extending from the faucet into the sink.

**Sinks:** Clean faucet aerators regularly.

#### Water Conservation Alert – Reduce Water Use by 10%

The state has issued an Emergency Declaration for the drought conditions, and the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System –from which Millbrae receives its water - has asked customers to conserve water by at least 10 percent. Please stay tuned for on-going drought information and any changes in requested or mandated reductions in water use on our website at [www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/waterconservation](http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/waterconservation)

You can pick-up free water saving devices at City Hall's Public Works Counter, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm: Showerheads (bring in your old one in exchange), faucet aerators, shower timers, toilet leak tablets, and garden and landscaping guides. Rebates are available for high efficiency toilets, clothes washers, rain barrels and cisterns. For more information and tips visit [www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/waterconservation](http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/waterconservation) or call 650-259-2348. *Thank you for conserving water!*

or by calling the Water Resources & Conservation Program 650-259-2348.

#### Please follow the water saving tips below:

1. Install a low flow showerhead and take 5-minute or less showers. Free showerheads and timers available.
2. Catch water in a watering can or a bucket while waiting for water to get hot.
3. Replace your toilet with a high-efficiency model or put a water displacement bag in each toilet tank. Free displacement bags are available and rebates are available for qualifying high-efficiency toilets.
4. Fix all leaky toilets, faucets and pipes. Install low flow faucet aerators in the kitchen and bathroom. Free low flow aerators are available.
5. Scrape plates and run the garbage disposal less frequently. Compost food scraps instead.
6. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and shaving.
7. Run only full loads in dishwashers and clothes washers. Replace these appliances with water efficient machines. Rebates are available for qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer models.
8. Water lawns/landscaping between 8:00 pm and 10:00 am. Be sure not to over water landscaping. Check and adjust sprinkler heads seasonally. Plant drought-tolerant and native plants.
9. Use a carwash facility or use a bucket of water and one short rinse to wash your car; wash on a permeable surface (grass or gravel).
10. Sweep (never hose) driveways, patios and sidewalks.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### United States Environmental Protection Agency

Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791  
Website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline>

#### California Department of Public Health

Home Treatment Devices:  
Drinking Water Treatment Device Certification Unit (916) 449-5600  
Website:  
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/device/Pages/watertreatmentdevices.aspx>

For more information about the contents of this report, contact Millbrae Public Works at (650) 259-2374 or visit us online at <http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us>. Water quality policies are decided at public hearings held at Millbrae City Hall, Council Chambers, 621 Magnolia Ave, Millbrae, CA 94030. For more information visit [www.ci.millbrae.ca.us](http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us).

#### Translation Languages

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it. *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para ver una versión en español, visite nuestro sitio web en [www.sfwater.org/quality](http://www.sfwater.org/quality)*

此份有关你的食水报告, 内有重要资料和讯息, 请找他人帮你翻译及解释清楚。

查看本文中译版, 请浏览我们的网页:  
[www.sfwater.org/quality](http://www.sfwater.org/quality)

この情報は重要です。  
翻訳を依頼してください。