Linden County Water District Annual Water Quality Report

Newsletter June 2025

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse LCWD a 209-887-3216 para asistirlo en espanol.

LINDEN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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Inside this Issue:

Once again, we proudly present our annual water quality report. We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2024 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Linden's drinking water comes from two active wells located within the District's service area and an additional well on standby status, which readily available for use during emergency situations. The 480,000 gallon water storage tank ensures water availability and fire protection for overall improved system reliability within the District.

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.

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, that 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,* that 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 U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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 can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. U.S. EPA/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 (1-800-426-4791).

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. Linden 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.) 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/lead.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
E. coli	(In the year) 0	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli.*

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper	No. of samples collected	90th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 8-29-2023	10	<0.005 mg/L	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 8-29-2023	10	0.063 mg/L	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Linden Unified School District did not request to have Linden County Water District conduct lead sampling at any schools in 2023

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	7-16-2024	11	11	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	7-16-2024	.755	.74 - .77	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	7-16-2024	.079	.078 - .080	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	7-16-2024	0.84	0.79 - 0.89	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	7-16-2024	3.4	3.3 – 3.4	500	N/A	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	7-16-2024	205	200 - 210	1,600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	7-16-2024	3.45	3.3 – 3.6	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	7-16-2024	180	180	1,000	N/A	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (ntu)	7-16-2024	0.15	0.12 - 0.18	5	N/A	Soil runoff

TERMS USED IN THIS 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.

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 (U.S. EPA).

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a 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.

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.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): 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.

Variances and Exemptions: Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ND: Not detectable at testing limit
ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq: parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

LINDEN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
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CONTACT: Barbara Kascht
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REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS:
Monday through Friday – 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

PUBLIC WELCOME

Monthly Board Meetings
3rd Thursday of every month @ 6:00 p.m.
held at Pizza Plus
19018 E. Highway 26, Linden, CA 95236

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Linden County Water District is to strive to provide the safest and most dependable domestic water service and wastewater service to its constituents at the lowest and most efficient costs possible to enhance the quality of life for its citizens. We are a creation and extension of the people we serve. We are obligated to serve the public's interest throughout our functions.

CURRENT WATERING SCHEDULE

Even-numbered addresses water Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday.

Odd-numbered addresses water Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

No watering on Sunday.

No watering from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Water no more than 30 minutes per station, per day.

No excessive water flow or run-off.

No washing down hard / paved surfaces.

No watering during / within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.

This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

After over 20 years of dedicated service, John Villierme retired from his full-time General Manager role as of May 18, 2025. He will continue as a consultant to the District on a part-time basis. Operations Supervisor Joe Chaves has been promoted to General Manager and Operator In Training Brayden Fredricksen has assumed a full-time position. Barbara Kascht remains the Office Manager & Board Secretary.

ENSURING GROUNDWATER FOR THE FUTURE

LCWD continues to partner with 16 other Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) as a member of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA), which was formed for the purpose of developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and coordinating sustainable groundwater management in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin. GSPs are required for critically over-drafted basins as identified by the State.

The ESJ GSP was ultimately approved by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on July 6, 2023. In January 2025, the Linden County Water District GSA, along with the other 16 members, approved the 2024 GSP Amendment and first Periodic Evaluation, which was submitted to DWR and is pending approval.

While Linden does not have specific, immediate groundwater management projects identified in the GSP, it is still a partnering agency located within the boundaries of the ESJGWA and as such, is responsible for a portion of the GSP's ongoing development and implementation. LCWD's share of cost has risen to approximately $10,000 per year, which is budgeted as part of the District's operational costs. This amount may fluctuate in future years.

LCWD will continue to provide updates about the GSP as feedback is received from the State. Contact the District office at 887-3216 or visit www.esjgroundwater.org for more info.