

# Lake Hemet Municipal Water District

2480 E. Florida Ave., Hemet, California 92544

## Valley System

### 2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



*While most of 2004 led us one step deeper into 6 years of uninterrupted drought, the late fall and winter storms were the beginning of a remarkable rainy season. Lake Hemet Spillway poured welcome water into an already swelling San Jacinto River and to the west, Mystic Lake again rose as further proof of Nature's all too unpredictable bounty.*

*Lake Hemet is beautiful this year, its shorelines brimming with water and the surrounding meadow and pine forest showing new growth and vegetation. New and returning visitors anxious to get into "the great outdoors" and perhaps see our family of bald eagles are welcome to enjoy our wonderful campground.*

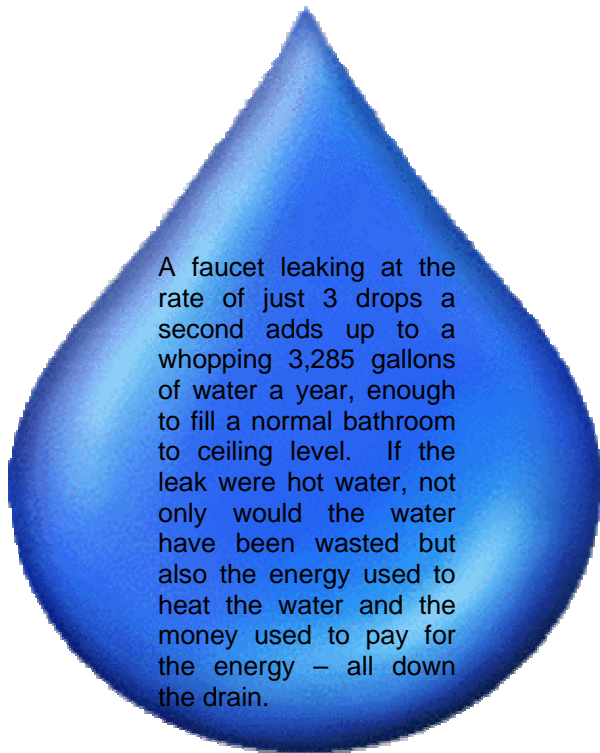
*It is our mission to provide our customers a safe and adequate water supply and the best possible service as we continue to improve the District's efficiency and overall ability to meet the future.*

*Please take the time to read this Consumer Confidence Report.  
We'll be happy to answer your questions and help you with your  
billing inquiries or water-saving solutions.*



## **WATER RESOURCES**

### **WATER CONSERVATION**



Lake Hemet continues to offer conservation tips and rebates on ultra low flow toilets and high efficiency washers. Please call 951-658-3241 for information.

### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

For more than 50 years, groundwater has helped nurture the growth of Hemet and San Jacinto, shielding the region from total dependence on costly imported water. But the valley's need for imported water is on the rise due to rapid population growth and a six year drought. While rainfall toward the end of the year gave us some immediate relief, long term planning calls for a groundwater management plan to protect the integrity of local ground water basins. The proposed plan spread out over several years' calls for reduced groundwater pumping and recharge of our local groundwater basins.

### **BEHIND THE SCENES**

The District has continued to upgrade and improve our water delivery system throughout 2004 to meet and exceed our customers' expectations. The growth in our District has kept our crews busy installing both domestic water and wastewater connections throughout the valley. The new District facility is on its way to becoming a reality with construction plans finalized this year and completion scheduled for 2006.

## **CONSTRUCTION**

The District continues with its upgrade of the Garner Valley water system and plans to commence with the construction of a new, parallel 8-inch diameter mainline in Tunnel Springs Road. Additional well capacity and storage are planned with the drilling of Well No. 6 and the construction of the new 500,000 gallon storage reservoir near Hop Patch Road. The maintenance of the valley system is constantly on our front burner, but additional water services are constantly being added to the system also. Several new housing developments are bringing many new residences to our District and the water and sewer systems installed with those new developments are being added to the District's infrastructure. Also, single water and sewer connections are being added to our system within the District's infill areas.

### **CAMPGROUND**

The District is developing a plan of improvement for the Lake Hemet Campground, one that will make your stay there even more enjoyable. The District Board of Directors recognizes its responsibility to apply logic, diligence and prudence in planning the campground's future. The task of introducing change is tempered by an unswerving appreciation of this precious recreational resource, this shining jewel, perfectly placed among Southern California's most beautiful mountain setting. Please call the Campground at 951-659-2680 for information about camping and fishing.



### **SECURITY**

Lake Hemet continues to consider security and safety a top priority throughout the District. We have implemented new security measures and have been very active in training our employees concerning both normal safety measures and emergency planning and response.

## WATER QUALITY REPORT

This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, call 951-658-3241 and ask for Robert W. Norman.

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

The District's Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of every month at the main office, located at 2480 E. Florida Avenue. The meeting times are at 3:00 PM January - July, and 7:00 PM August - December. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

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 systems 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. USEPA/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).

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 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 can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 your water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Health services (Department) 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791.)

Your water comes from eleven wells located along the San Jacinto River from Valle Vista to San Jacinto. During high demand in the summer, the District purchases local ground water from Eastern Municipal Water District. Information concerning contaminants in this water is provided later in this report. All source water is disinfected with chlorine to protect you against microbial contaminants.

The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2004 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2004. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### Terms & abbreviations used:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of 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.
- **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 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 or PDWS:** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **Notification Level (NL):** The concentration of the contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable; **ND:** not detectable at testing limit; **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation); **umhos/cm:** a measure of electrical conductance; **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (a contaminant at 4 ppm equals 0.000004 gallon of contaminant in 1 gallon of water); **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (a contaminant at 7 ppb equals 0.00000007 gallon of contaminant in 1 gallon of water); **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units; **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm (as Nitrogen) is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 ppm may also affect the ability of blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with specific enzyme deficiencies. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

## LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

### Regulated Contaminants with Primary MCLs or MRDLs

Regulated Contaminants with Primary MCLs		Units % of samples	MCLG	MCL	Highest monthly			Major Sources in Drinking Water
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform Bacteria			0	5%	0.0			Naturally present in the environment
Radioactive Contaminants		Units	PHG	MCL	Range (Average)			
Gross Alpha particle activity		pCi/l	n/a	15	1.33 - 16 (4.38)			Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium		pCi/l	n/a	5	0 - 0.66 (0.1)			Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium		pCi/l	0.5	20	0 - 13.7 (1.1)			Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants		Units	PHG (MCLG)	MCL	Range (Average)			
Barium		ppm	(2)	1	ND - 0.15 (.034)			Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium		ppb	100	50	ND- 1.7 (.15)			Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride		ppm	1	2	0.2 - 0.4 (.3)			Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharges from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate		ppm	(10)	10	0.8 - 4.3 (1.98)			Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite		ppm	(10)	10	0.8 - 4.3 (1.98)			Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium		ppb	(50)	50	ND - 0.0058 (0)			Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additives)
		Units	PHG	MCL	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	# of sites	# sites over NL	
Copper (2004 – 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)		ppm	0.17	AL=1.3	0.3	30	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		Units	MRDLG	MCL (MRDL)	Highest Annual Average	Range		
Total Trihalomethanes		ppb	n/a	80	11.2	1.6 - 18		By-product of drinking water chlorination
Halocetic Acids		ppb	n/a	60	4	0 - 18		By-product of water disinfection
Chlorine		ppm	4	(4.0)	1.24	1.05 - 1.45		Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

### Regulated Contaminants with Secondary MCLs

	Units	PHG (MCLG)	MCL	Range (Average)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	n/a	1000	220 - 370 (288)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	micromhos	n/a	1600	300 - 610 (458)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride	ppm	n/a	500	11 - 43 (23)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate	ppm	n/a	500	14 - 91 (40)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity	NTU	n/a	5	0.2 - 2 (.8)	Soil runoff

### State Regulated Contaminants with No MCLs

	Units	NL	Range (Average)	
Chromium VI	ppb	n/a	1.7 - 9.0 (5.35)	Industrial waste discharges and pesticide

### Other Detected Contaminants That May Be Of Interest To The Consumer

	Units	Range (Average)
Calcium	ppm	38 - 64 (49)
Magnesium	ppm	4.1 - 7.3 (5)
Potassium	ppm	3.1 - 5.7 (4)
Sodium	ppm	19 - 46 (31)
Bicarbonate	ppm	140 - 200 (173)
Total Alkalinity	ppm	120 - 160 (140)
Total Hardness	ppm	110 - 190 (148)
pH	Std. Units	7.6 - 8 (7.8)

Source water assessments of all eleven wells were completed in November 2003. These sources, based on assessments, are most vulnerable to sewer collection systems, septic systems, wells – agricultural / irrigation, and high-density housing. Copies of the completed assessments are available at Department of Health Services, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 1350 Front Street, Room 2050, San Diego, CA 92101 or at Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, 2480 East Florida Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544. You may request summaries of the assessments be sent to you by contacting Steve Williams at 619-525-4580 or Robert W. Norman at 951-658-3241.

In 2004, the District purchased 496.76 acre-feet of supplemental water from Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD). This amounted to 4% of the District's source of supply. The data in the tables below were supplied by Eastern Municipal Water District and are from a blend of water from 14 wells located in the San Jacinto Valley.

## EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

### Regulated Contaminants with Primary MCLs

Radioactive Contaminants	Units	PHG	MCL	Range (Average)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Gross Alpha particle activity	pCi/l	n/a	15	ND - 7.61 (2.26)	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants	Units	PHG (MCLG)	MCL	Range (Average)	
Aluminum	ppm	0.6	1	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	n/a	50	5 - 10 (6)	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	2	1	.7 - .11 (.09)	Oil and metal refineries discharge; natural deposits erosion
Fluoride	ppm	1	2	.2 - .7 (.3)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive for tooth health
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	ND - 2.7 (.8)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Nitrate and Nitrite	ppm	10	10	ND - 2.7 (.8)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Selenium	ppb	(50)	50	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	2	NL = 15	3 (3)	Housepipes internal corrosion; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	ppb	12	100	6 (6)	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories

### Regulated Contaminants with Secondary MCLs

	Units	PHG (MCLG)	MCL	Range (Average)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum	ppb	200	600	ND	Residual from water treatment process; natural deposits erosion
Color	Units	NA	15	2.5 - 5.0 (3.3)	Naturally occurring organic materials
Corrosivity	SI	NA	>15	.027 - .595 (.26)	Elemental balance in water; affected by temperature, other factors
Iron	ppb	n/a	300	ND - 260 (46)	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor Threshold	Units	NA	3	1 (1)	Naturally occurring organic materials
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	n/a	1000	220 - 430 (286)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	umhos/cm	n/a	1600	320 - 540 (407)	Substances that form ions when in water
Chloride	ppm	n/a	500	12 - 17 (14.6)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	ppb	n/a	50	ND - 92 (2.9)	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	n/a	500	11 - 98 (79.4)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Monthly)	NTU	n/a	5.0	0.1 - 1.5 (.6)	Soil runoff

### State Regulated Contaminants with No MCLs

	Units	NL	Range	Average	
Chromium VI	ppb	n/a	1.5	1.5	Industrial waste discharges and pesticide uses
Vanadium	ppb	50	9.1	9.1	Industrial waste discharges and pesticide uses
Trichloropropane (1,2,3 - TCP)	ppt	5	ND - 53	6	Industrial waste discharges and pesticide uses

### Other Detected Contaminants That May Be Of Interest To The Consumer

	Units	Range (Average)
Calcium	ppm	26 - 78 (46)
Magnesium	ppm	2.0 - 8.1 (4.4)
Potassium	ppm	2.1 - 4.2 (3.24)
Radon 222	pCi/l	8.68 - 293 (220)
Sodium	ppm	18 - 49 (32.0)
Total Alkalinity	ppm	120 - 170 (135)
Total Hardness	ppm	72 - 230 (133)
pH	Std. Units	7.5 - 8.4 (7.83)

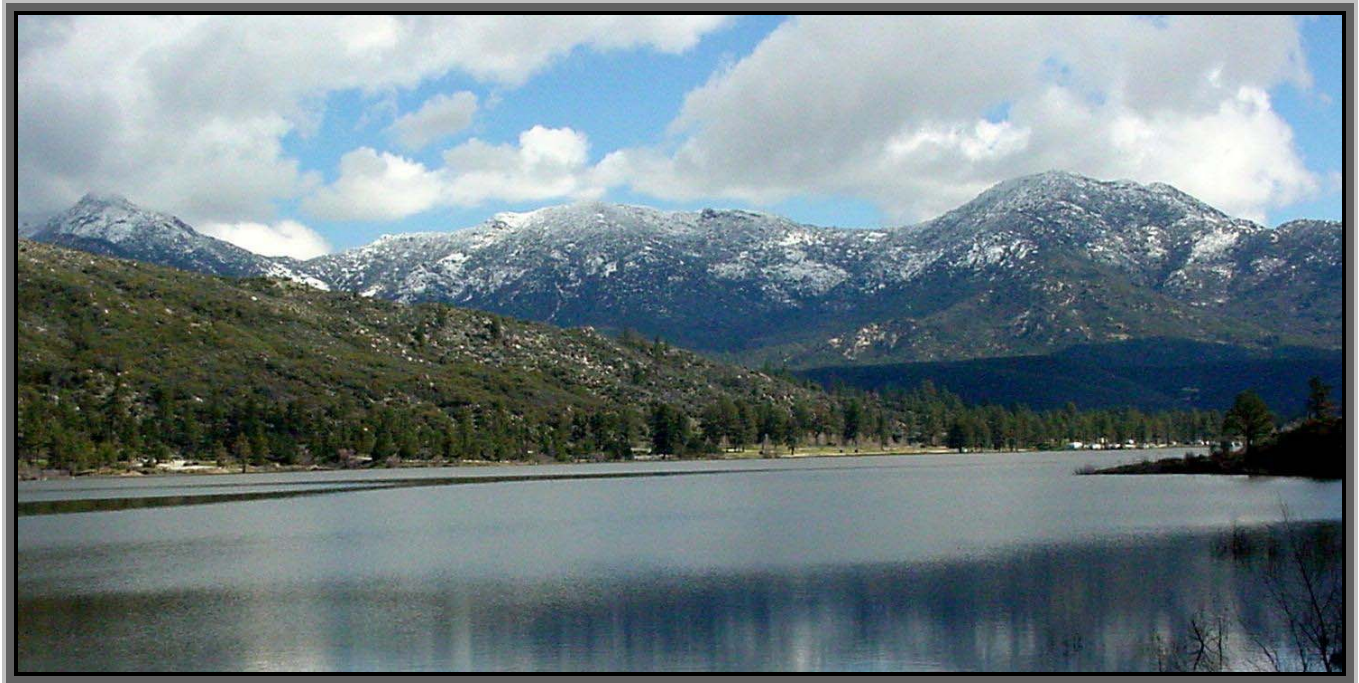
Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through the soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in the air is 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The California Department of Health Services 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.



# MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Lake Hemet Municipal Water District is to produce and deliver high quality water to our customers for domestic and agricultural use, to provide sewer collection services and to maintain Lake Hemet as a clean safe water reservoir and recreational facility, in an economical, efficient and responsible manner now and in the future.



Pat Searl  
Division 1  
John Fricker  
Division 2  
Doug Marshall  
Division 3  
Joe Van Sickle  
Division 4  
Herb Forst  
Division 5

Board of Directors

## 2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 5039  
Hemet, California 92544-0039



Presorted  
Standard  
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