Este informe contiene información importante con respecto a su calidad del agua. Si usted desea obtener información en español, visítenos en www.emwd.org y seleccione “EMWD en Español” o llame (951) 928-3777, ext. 4221 para solicitar una copia por correo.
Dear EMWD Customer,

As General Manager of Eastern Municipal Water District, I am pleased to present our Consumer Confidence Report for 2006. This report covers water quality information that is important to your everyday life.

Each year, EMWD faces new challenges. In 2006, our District experienced tremendous growth; in fact, Riverside County was one of the top five fastest growing counties in the nation. In response to this growth, EMWD has committed to building new facilities and infrastructure to meet water demands. EMWD has also committed to enhance its water conservation programs so the water we provide is used wisely.

EMWD has been challenged to meet ever increasing regulations that govern our water quality. We thoroughly test our water to meet all drinking water standards and to serve high quality water to our customers. This report describes how we meet all drinking water standards that are set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and enforced by the California Department of Public Health.

EMWD is also challenged to be more responsive to you, our customers. Last year, we included a survey card asking you how we can improve this report. We have incorporated your suggestions by making the tables more user-friendly and adding more conservation tips. We would appreciate your feedback again this year.

EMWD cares about our customers. We work hard each day to provide quality drinking water today, and we invest in our water system to be able to deliver quality water in the future. Please look over this report, and if you have any questions, call Amy Mora, Environmental Compliance Analyst at (951) 928-3777 ext. 6337.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Pack
General Manager

EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Water is the only drink for a wise man.
—Henry David Thoreau
As an EMWD customer, your tap water comes from one of three areas: the Mills service area in the northwest portion of the District, the East Valley service area in the northeast portion of the District, and the Skinner service area in the southern portion of the District.

In an effort to help you easily find specific details about your tap water, we have organized this report according to the communities we serve. To find information such as the source, quality, and hardness of your tap water, simply locate your community on the map and match it with the Service Area on the foldout table.

In 2006, the Perris Water Filtration Plant doubled in capacity to 20 million gallons a day. This plant uses membrane technology to filter the water and ultraviolet light as a primary disinfectant.

Water is the basis of life and the blue arteries of the earth!

“Sandra Postel, Global Water Policy Project,” Grist Magazine 2004

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In 2006, the Perris Water Filtration Plant doubled in capacity to 20 million gallons a day. This plant uses membrane technology to filter the water and ultraviolet light as a primary disinfectant.
Water from this service area comes from a combination of sources:

- The Henry J. Mills Filtration Plant* treats imported surface water supplied solely from Northern California through the State Water Project.

Water from the Mills Plant is blended with several other EMWD water sources:

- The Moreno Valley Wells serve two small portions of Moreno Valley near the intersections of Heacock and Fir, and Heacock and Ironwood.
- The Perris Valley Wells serve a limited area of Perris – along Perris Boulevard south of the Ramona Expressway.
- The Perris Water Filtration Plant treats Colorado River water purchased from The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This plant uses the latest microfiltration technology to remove particulate contaminants to produce quality, potable water. This plant serves Lakeview, Nuevo, Romoland, Homeland and Juniper Flats.
- The Menifee/Perris Desalters convert salty groundwater into potable water using a reverse osmosis process to remove contaminants that exceed the maximum contaminant levels (MCL). Menifee, Sun City, (North) Canyon Lake, and Quail Valley are the only communities within the Mills Service Area to receive blended water from this desalination plant.

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**The Mills and Skinner Plants are owned and operated by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).**

**Typically served by Mills Plant and occasionally served by the Skinner Plant**

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Water from this service area comes from:

- The Robert A. Skinner Filtration Plant* treats water from the Colorado River and from the State Water Project.

**The Mills and Skinner Plants are owned and operated by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).**

**Typically served by Mills Plant and occasionally served by the Skinner Plant**
### Definitions

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):**
The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Primary MCLs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):**
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 contaminant in drinking water 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 (Primary Standard):**
MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

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

### Secondary Drinking Water Standard (Secondary Standard):
MCLs for contaminants do not affect health but are used to monitor the aesthetics of the water.

### Treatment Technique:
A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### Variance and Exemptions:
The California Department of Public Health grants permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

### Table

**Abbreviations**

- **AI:** Aggressiveness Index
- **AL:** Action Level
- **CFU/mL:** Colony-Forming Units per Milliliter
- **DBP:** Disinfection By-Products
- **DLR:** Detection Limits for purposes of Reporting
- **HAAS:** Haloacids (free)
- **MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level
- **MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- **MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
- **MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
- **PHG:** Public Health Goal
- **TOC:** Total Organic Carbon
- **TTHM:** Total Trihalomethanes
- **µS/cm:** MicroSiemen per centimeter; the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **ppb:** Parts per billion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
- **ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**Abridged Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>State or Federal MCL (MDL)</th>
<th>PHG (MDL)</th>
<th>State Range</th>
<th>Entire Distribution System</th>
<th>Moreno Valley</th>
<th>Hemet, San Jacinto, Winchester &amp; French Valley</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Microbiological</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Coliform Bacteria</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>5.0 (A)</td>
<td>(B)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Range Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fecal Coliform Bacteria</td>
<td>(B)</td>
<td>(B)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Range Average</td>
<td>0 - 1.3</td>
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<td>Heterotrophic Plate Count</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>(D)</td>
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<td><strong>Physiological Parameters</strong></td>
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<td>Nitrogen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Organic Carbon</td>
<td>µg/L</td>
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<td>Treatment Technique</td>
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<td><strong>Physical Parameters</strong></td>
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<td>Units</td>
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<td>NTU</td>
<td>Units</td>
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<td>Range Average</td>
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<td>Turbidity</td>
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<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>Units</td>
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<td>8.9</td>
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<td><strong>Metal As a By-Product of Corrosion of Consumer’s Plumbing</strong></td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>90th percentile of 50 samples: 250 ppb</td>
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<td>Lead</td>
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<td>AL=15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>90th percentile of 50 samples: 11 ppb</td>
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</table>
Protecting Your Drinking Water

EMWD uses several sources of water to serve its customers, including surface water from the Colorado River and the California State Water Project, as well as local groundwater. As water travels over the surface of the land, or soaks down through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring substances, such as minerals and radioactive material; surface water can also pick up substances from the presence of animals and/or humans. The land that the water comes into contact with is called the watershed; everything that happens to or in the watershed can affect the quality of your drinking water supply.

An assessment of all EMWD’s watersheds, both surface and groundwater, was completed in 2002. The Colorado River, a surface water source, was assessed to be most vulnerable to recreational activities, urban and storm water runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. Water from the California State Water Project, also a surface water source, was assessed to be most vulnerable to urban and storm water runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreational activities, and wastewater. The assessment of the groundwater wells within the District were determined to be most vulnerable to urban land uses such as automobile gas stations and repair shops, transportation corridors, furniture repair and manufacturing, sewer collection systems and sand and gravel mining operations. Groundwater wells were also considered vulnerable to agricultural uses including irrigated crops and use of pesticides and herbicides.

Protecting the sources of drinking water helps protect our health. You can view the vulnerability assessments online by logging onto http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/dwsap/default.htm and then clicking on “Summary of Assessments.” You can also call (951) 928-3777 ext. 6337 for a copy of the vulnerability assessments.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) established regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS, such as salts and metals, 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 may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock, and wildlife.

ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals. These may be by-products of industrial processes or petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

NITRATE LEVELS in drinking water above 45 parts per million (ppm) are a health risk for infants under 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 45 ppm may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.
Taste & Odor

For various reasons, your drinking water may periodically have a different odor or taste. Below are some of the more common changes reported and possible reasons for each:

Chlorinous:

Most of the water that EMWD serves is chloraminated, using a combination of five parts of chlorine to one part ammonia. If this ratio changes in the distribution system, it is possible that a chlorinous taste and/or odor may temporarily occur.

The tap water on the east side of the Hemet Valley uses only chlorine (no ammonia), which can have a chlorinous odor.

Earthy, Musty:

All of our surface water sources are susceptible to algae blooms, particularly in the summertime. Some blue-green algae produce substances that cause an earthy, musty taste and odor. The Henry J. Mills Filtration Plant uses a process called ozonation, which naturally eliminates the earthy smelling substance. The Robert A. Skinner Filtration Plant is planning to use ozone by 2008.

Sewer Odor:

More often than not, the water at a customer’s tap will have a sewer odor only at one sink, which indicates the drain at that sink needs cleaning. Water from the tap displaces the stagnant air in the drain and pushes it upward. To find out if the problem is the water or the drain, fill a clean glass with water, walk away from the sink, and smell the water. If there is no odor, the drain needs cleaning. If, however, there is still an odor call us so we can investigate further.

Odor or taste problems can sometimes be caused by home filters, water softeners, hot water heaters and other treatment devices, especially if they are not maintained or serviced properly. To preserve good quality tap water, be sure to maintain your water appliances according to the manufacturers’ directions.

Drinking Water Fluoridation

“Community water fluoridation continues to be the most cost-effective, practical, and safe means for reducing and controlling the occurrence of tooth decay in a community.”

- Richard H. Carmona, M.D. U.S. Surgeon General, 2004

Fluoride has been added to U.S. drinking water supplies since 1945, and of the 50 largest cities in the U.S., 43 fluoridate their drinking water. In fall 2007, the MWD and, in turn, EMWD will join the majority of our nation’s water suppliers in helping to prevent tooth decay by adding fluoride to our drinking water.

Following recommendations from the California Department of Public Health, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Dental Association, MWD and EMWD will adjust the natural fluoride level in the water we provide to our customers to the optimal range for dental health.

Fluoride levels in drinking water are limited under California state regulations at a maximum dosage of 2 parts per million (ppm). We will remain below the regulation dosage and add only enough fluoride to the water to reach the optimal range of 0.7 to 0.8 ppm.

For additional information about drinking water fluoridation, contact EMWD at (951) 928-3777 extension 6337 or the following agencies:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1-800-311-3435
http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/index.htm

American Water Works Association
www.awwa.org

American Dental Association
http://www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/index.asp

For more information about MWD’s fluoridation program contact: Edgar G. Dymally at (213) 217-5709 www.mwdh2o.com

If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.

Loran Eisely, The Immense Journey, 1957
TAP WATER VS. BOTTLED WATER

The presence of a small amount of contaminants, whether the water is in bottles or from the tap, a small amount of contamination does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. To ensure that contaminants in drinking water are minimal, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have very strict drinking water standards that must be upheld at all times. EPA sets standards for tap water provided by public water suppliers (such as EMWD); FDA sets standards for bottled water based on the EPA’s standards.

Many people believe that bottled water tastes better than tap water. The taste of all water is dictated by the treatment processes used, the quality of its source, and its natural mineral content. Most bottled water comes from a groundwater source, where water quality varies less from day to day, or is treated and immediately bottled. Bottled water from a dedicated source or plant may have a more consistent taste than tap water, which mostly comes from surface water and must travel through pipes to reach homes.

It is important to remember that some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. 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 are particularly sensitive to contaminants. Likewise, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

Anyone who may be immuno-compromised 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).

When the well is dry, we learn the worth of water.
Benjamin Franklin, Poor Richard’s Almanac, 1748
EMWD continues to work hard to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for years to come. An aggressive program has secured millions of dollars in grants and low interest loans to fund infrastructure expansion projects and helps EMWD provide better service while keeping costs low.

Some of the accomplishments this past year include:

- Perris Water Filtration Plant—Capacity doubled from 10 to 20 million gallons a day
- Hemet Water Filtration Plant—10 million gallons a day supply began in 2006
- Desalination—Production capacity more than doubled from three to 7.5 million gallons a day
- Ultraviolet light—EMWD became the first public water agency in California to implement this technology for disinfection and to enhance water quality
- Groundwater recharge—Nearly two billion gallons of water from the State Water Project were stored underground in the San Jacinto River basin
- One new water well has increased production capacity by more than 1.5 million gallons a day