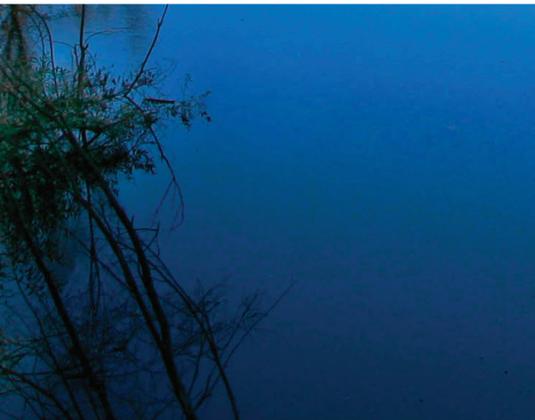


2014  
**WATER**  
**QUALITY REPORT**  
 City of Healdsburg





# 2014 WATER QUALITY REPORT

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Este informe contiene información sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable alguien que lo entienda bien.



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The ongoing drought has the attention of everyone. While last year the City was able to show significant reductions in water usage, this year it's even more important to conserve water due to the prolonged, multi-year drought. The City has a number of conservation programs that everyone can participate in but the number one method to reducing water usage is to limit outdoor irrigation and to use your indoor water wisely. Brown is the new green when it comes to your lawn. A brown lawn is a statement - you understand the importance of conservation and are doing your part.

We are keenly aware our water is a precious resource to be conserved. We shouldn't forget our water is also a vital part of our health. We wash, cook, and drink with the water which makes the quality of the water the City provides so very important. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. EPA and State drinking water health standards.

City staff vigilantly safeguard the community's water supply and once again, we are proud to report our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This means your water is reliably safe and will continue to be so.

This brochure provides 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 water quality standards. This year's report also includes many water saving ideas and conservation programs. I sincerely hope you find this report informative and a useful reference.

Sincerely,

Shaun McCaffery



# WATER AND YOUR HEALTH NOTICE FROM THE EPA

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 other matter, and in some cases radioactive material. This runoff water can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. Microbial Contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
2. Inorganic Contaminants such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or can result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, oil leaks from vehicle engines, mining, or farming.
3. Pesticides and Herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.
4. Organic Chemical Contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems.
5. Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Drinking Water (DDW) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

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 at 800.426.4791 or [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov)

## FLUORIDE

Healdsburg's water is dosed with fluoride for dental benefits pursuant to a 1952 City of Healdsburg voter initiative (Ordinance No. 1952-14) and the more recent 2014 voter initiative. State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a range of 0.4 to 1.2 PPM with an optimum dose of 0.8 PPM. Our control range was from 0.70 to 1.3 PPM. For info on fluoridation, oral health, and current issues visit [www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml)

## WHAT DOES A 24% WATER REDUCTION LOOK LIKE?



AVERAGE DAILY USE



2015 DAILY GOAL

TAKE FIVE MINUTE SHOWERS  
INSTEAD OF 10 MINUTE SHOWERS  
SAVES 12.5 GALLONS

with a water efficient shower head



FIX LEAKY TOILETS

SAVES 30-50 GALLONS  
per day/toilet



TURN OFF WATER WHEN BRUSHING TEETH OR SHAVING



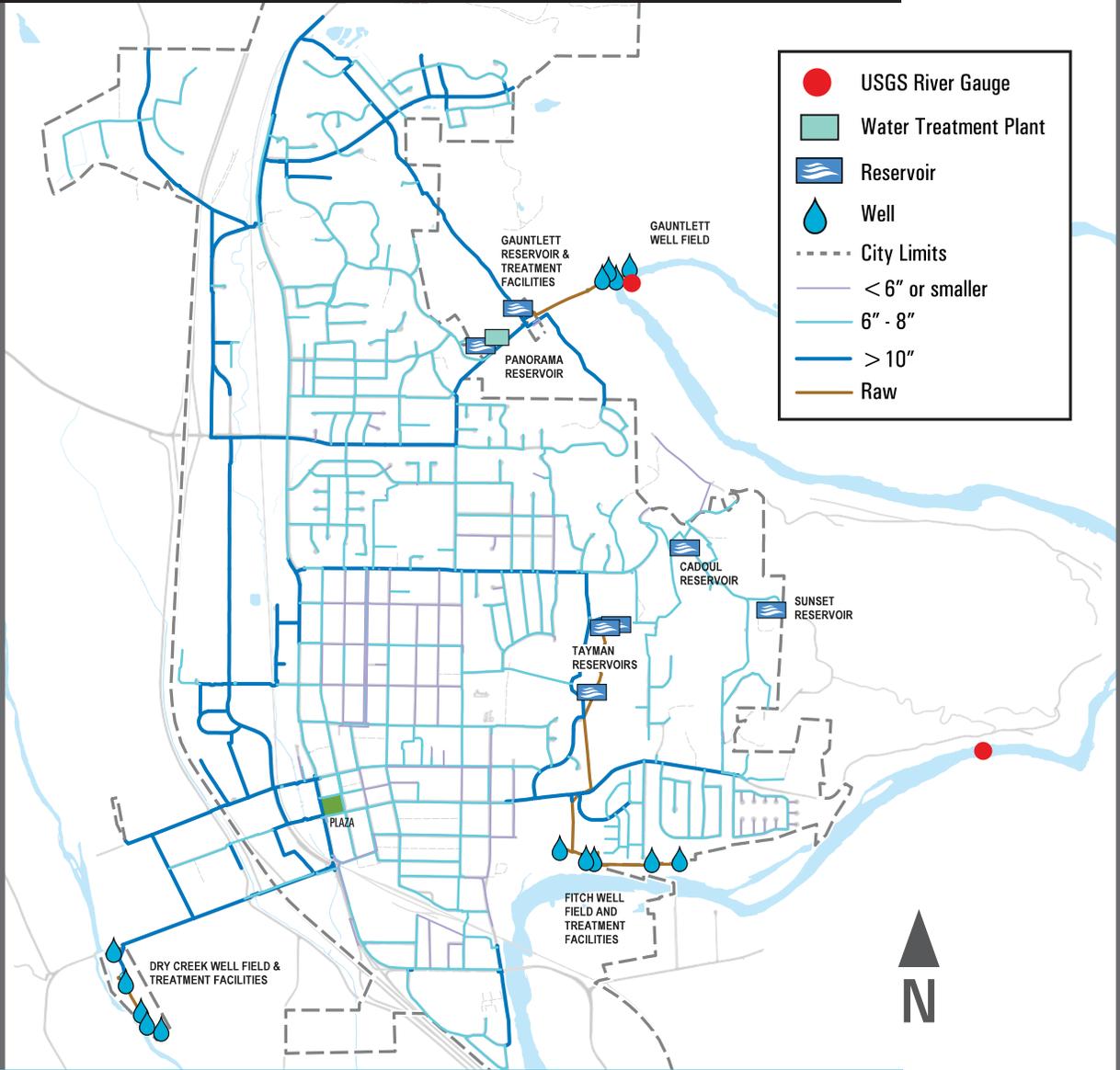
SAVES 10 GALLONS  
per person/day

## HEALTH-RELATED NOTICE

### Precautions for Vulnerable Populations

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. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/)

# HEALDSBURG WATER SYSTEM MAP



**17% REDUCTION** in 2014  
594 million gallons compared to  
712 million in 2013



# WATER SOURCES

The City of Healdsburg delivers treated water to its customers from three well fields: two located along the Russian River and one located on Dry Creek. Before entering the water distribution system, the water is treated and filtered to improve its quality and remove any contaminants. The water is then stored at various locations throughout the City, ready to be delivered to our homes and businesses. As the wells are influenced by the flows of both the Russian River and Dry Creek, it's very important for us to remain aware of the health of these watersheds and what impact we have on them.

Due to two large rain events this winter, both Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma storage levels are better than last year. While this is good news, we still need to be keenly aware of our water usage as we do not know what next year will bring. Combined the City's wells can supply Healdsburg's water needs for years to come.

## MONITORING

The City of Healdsburg conducts regular testing as prescribed by the state and federal agencies to ensure that none of the contaminants listed on the following pages are detected at levels considered to be unsafe by the health agencies.

The City of Healdsburg prepared a "Drinking Water Source Assessment" in December 2001. Prepared in accordance with guidelines issued by the State Department of Public Health Services, the purpose of the Source Assessment is to determine if the water sources of the community are vulnerable to contamination.

Ground-water supplies are considered most vulnerable to automobile gas stations, chemical/petroleum processing/storage yards, parks, freeway/state highway transportation corridors, herbicide use in road rights-of-way, water supply wells, drycleaners, metal plating/ finishing/ fabricating, automobile repair shops, utility station maintenance areas, and wastewater treatment plants. The Source Assessment is available for review at the Community Development Center, 435 Allan Court, or visit [www.healdsburgutilities.org](http://www.healdsburgutilities.org).

If you are still concerned with tap water and purchase bottled water, please consider that bottled water is actually less regulated than municipal water supplies. Simple and effective point-of-use treatment devices can remove specific substances of concern. For more information on water treatment devices see: [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov).

## Orthophosphate Blend

Orthophosphate is a proprietary liquid blend that is added to the water to reduce pipeline corrosion and plumbing fixture corrosion. This is added to the water to comply with the EPA's "Lead and Copper Rule" (LCR).

## NOTICE FROM THE EPA: LEAD

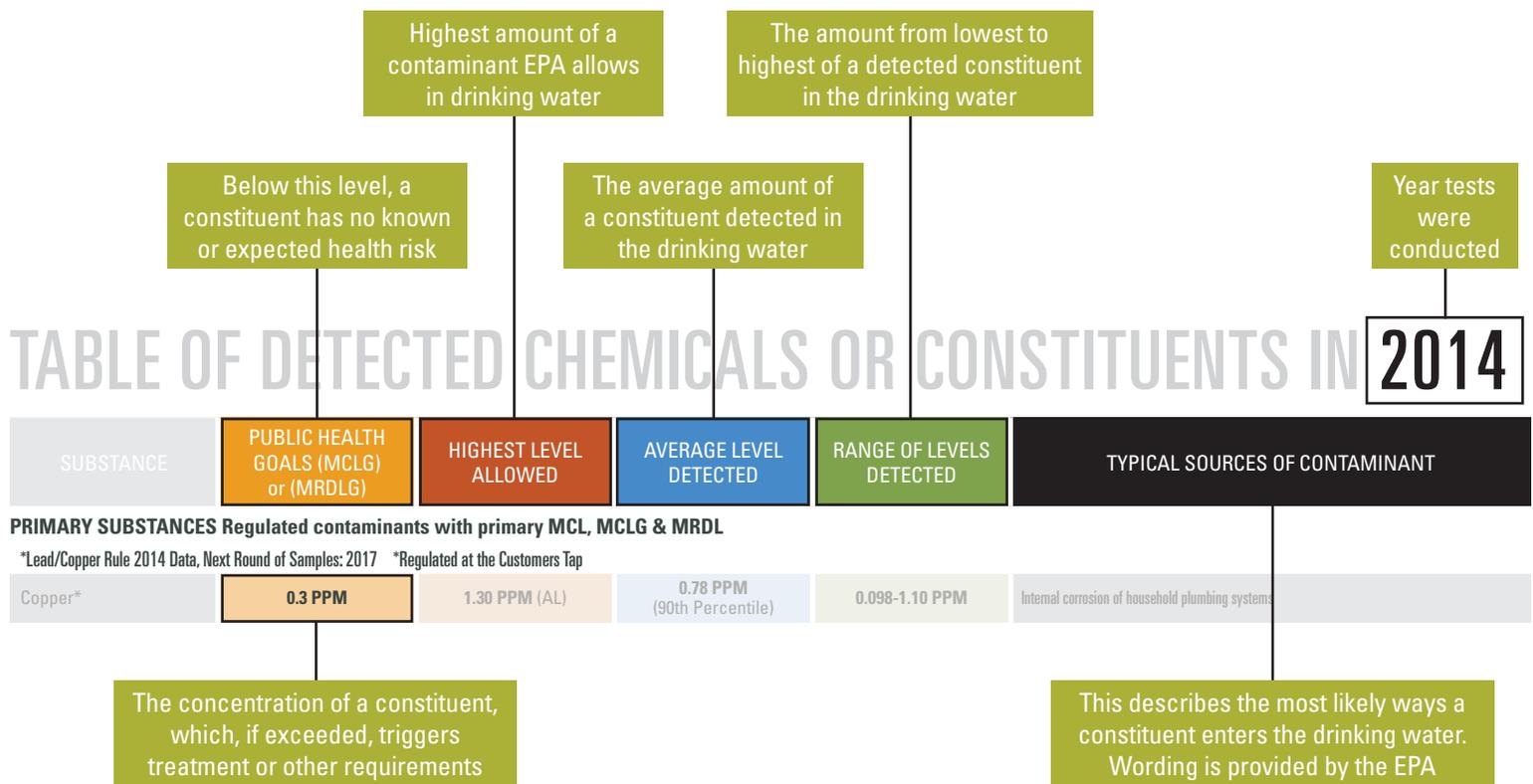
The "lead and copper rule" or LCR was introduced by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1991 to limit the concentration of lead and copper allowed in public drinking water at the consumer's tap as well as limit the corrosivity due to the water itself. Lead originates from the solder used to connect plumbing fittings inside the home, and copper is used widely in small diameter plumbing pipe. Lead and copper levels are consistently below the action level in Healdsburg.

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may want 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 or website: 800.426.4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

**Copper:** The governing regulation to determine whether copper is present above or below the standard is based on the 90th percentile value for the most recent testing. The 90th percentile is the ninth highest value measured of ten test results. The 90th percentile value for the 2014 testing performed in Healdsburg was 0.78 PPM. The MCL, or action level for copper was 1.3 PPM. None of the 32 test sites exceeded the action level.

**Lead:** The governing regulation to determine whether lead is present above or below the standard is based on the 90th percentile value for the most recent testing. The 90th percentile is the ninth highest value measured of ten test results. The 90th percentile value for the 2014 testing performed in Healdsburg was < 5 PPB. The MCL, or action level for lead is <15 PPB. One of the 32 test sites exceeded the action level.

# HOW TO READ THE WATER QUALITY TABLE



## DEFINITIONS:

**AL:** Regulatory Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level is 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.

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal is the level of contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. The U.S. EPA sets MCLGs.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level is the level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the customer's tap.

**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal is the level of disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The U.S. EPA sets MRDLGs.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not detected. Constituent was not detected at the reporting level.

**NS:** No standard. Officials have not developed a Public Health Goal or MCLG standard.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter.

**PDWS:** Primary Drinking Water Standard. MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

**pH:** A measure of a solution's acidity.

**PHG:** Public Health Goal is the level of contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. The U.S. EPA sets PHG's.

**PPB:** Parts per billion (or micrograms per liter). One PPB is equal to 1 teaspoon in 1.3 million gallons.

**PPM:** Parts per million (or milligrams per liter). One PPM is equal to 1 teaspoon in 1,300 gallons.

**TT:** Treatment Technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in water.

**umhos/cm:** Micromhos per centimeter.

# TABLE OF DETECTED CHEMICALS OR CONSTITUENTS IN 2014

2014 TREATED WATER QUALITY SUMMARY - Listed below are 28 substances or water quality characteristics detected in Healdsburg's Drinking Water. There are nearly 100 organic and inorganic substances that the City tested for but did not detect. Only those substances with detectable amounts are required to be included in this report. For certain substances with concentrations that do not change frequently, the State allows the City to monitor less frequently than once a year. In these cases the most recent sample data are included. The City of Healdsburg collected and analyzed 252 samples for coliform during 2014 with no positive samples. The City of Healdsburg had NO WATER SYSTEM VIOLATIONS in 2014.

SUBSTANCE	PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS (MCLG) or (MRDLG)	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED	AVERAGE LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	TYPICAL SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
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## PRIMARY SUBSTANCES Regulated contaminants with primary MCL, MCLG & MRDL

\*Lead/Copper Rule 2014 Data, Next Round of Samples: 2017 \*Regulated at the Customers Tap

Copper*	0.3 PPM	1.30 PPM (AL)	0.78 PPM (90th Percentile)	0.098-1.10 PPM	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead*	< 0.2 PPB	15 PPB (AL)	< 5.0 PPB (90th Percentile)	< 5.0 to 57 PPB (1 site exceeded the action level)	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems

## REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Total Haloacetic Acids	NS	80 PPB	11.4 PPB	<1.0 - 43.20 PPB	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	NS	60 PPB	22.1 PPB	3.07 - 53.96 PPB	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	4 PPM	4 PPM	0.82	0.32 - 1.57 PPM	Disinfectant added for drinking water treatment
Fluoride	1 PPM	2 PPM	0.89 PPM	0.39 - 1.05 PPM	Leaching from natural deposits. Our water system treats your water by adding fluoride in order to help prevent dental caries. The fluoride levels in the treated water are maintained within a range of 0.70 to 1.30 ppm as required by Department regulations
Nitrate (As No3)	< 45 PPM	45 PPM	1.53 PPM	<2.0 - 6.2 PPM	Runoff/leaching from fertilizer use, septic tanks, and erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Emitters	0	15 pCi/L	4.26 pCi/L	0.0 - 4.26 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

**Turbidity is the measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is an indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants**

Turbidity-Dry Creek Well Field (Groundwater)	N/A	TT =95% of samples <1.0 NTU	0.08 NTU	0.01 - 1.01 NTU	
Turbidity-Fitch Mtn. Well Field (Groundwater Under Surface Water Influence)	N/A	TT =95% of samples <0.30 NTU	0.13 NTU	0.02 - 0.50 NTU	
Turbidity-Gauntlett/Fitch Micro-Filtration Facility	N/A	TT =95% of samples <0.10 NTU	0.02 NTU	0.01 - 0.12 NTU	

## SECONDARY SUBSTANCES and others sampled in 2014

Alkalinity	Not regulated	NS	110 PPM	66 - 180 PPM	Natural geology
Aluminum	200 PPM	200 PPB	<50 PPB	<50 - 120 PPB	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	<2 PPB	10 PPB	<2 PPB	ND - <2 PPB	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, and glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	< 2 PPM	1 PPM	0.123 PPM	<0.100 - 0.150 PPM	Erosion of natural deposits
Bicarbonate	Not regulated	NS	123 PPM	81 - 210 PPM	Natural geology
Calcium	Not regulated	NS	19.5 PPM	13 - 24 PPM	Natural geology
Chloride	< 500 PPM	500 PPM	6.4 PPM	4.4 - 12 PPM	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness	Not regulated	NS	102 PPM	113- 162 PPM	Natural geology
Iron	< 300 PPB	300 PPB	<100 PPB	<100 - 220 PPB	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	< 50 PPB	50 PPB	<20 PPB	<20 - 49 PPB	Leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium	Not regulated	NS	15.5 PPM	8.2 - 30 PPM	Natural geology
Ph Units	6.5 to 8.5 pH units	6.5 to 8.5 pH units	7.30 pH units	6.9 - 7.55 pH units	A measure of the acidity of water
Sodium	Not regulated	NS	8.81 PPM	5.8 - 9.7 PPM	Natural geology
Specific Conductance	< 1600 umhos/cm	1600 umhos/cm	230 umhos/cm	150 - 350 umhos/cm	A measure of substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	< 500 PPM	500 PPM	13.2 PPM	8.6- 16 PPM	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	< 1000 PPM	1000 PPM	170 PPM	110 - 240 PPM	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc	NS	5000 PPB	<50 PPB	ND - 61 PPB	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes

**MANGANESE:** The concentration in some production wells exceeds the secondary MCL. Manganese in excess of the secondary MCL can chemically react with the chlorine added to disinfect the water and form a dark colored precipitate. This precipitate can stain plumbing fixtures such as sinks and toilet bowls, and

may cause staining of light colored laundry. By blending water from a number of sources, the average manganese concentration was <20 PPB in 2014. The MCL for Manganese is 50 PPB.

**We add 3 substances directly to drinking water following State guidelines:**

**CHLORINE:** a highly efficient disinfectant that prevents the spread of waterborne diseases, and kills any microbes or bacteria entering the water supply.

**SODIUM FLUORIDE:** added for the prevention of tooth decay and dental health.

**CORROSION CONTROL INHIBITOR:** an orthophosphate compound that reduces pipeline corrosion by laying a microfilm along interior surfaces of pipelines and plumbing fixtures to prevent corrosion and the leaching of copper and lead in residential plumbing.



## 2014 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Electric, Water & Wastewater  
401 Grove Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448  
707.431.3346  
healdsburgutilities.org

# PARTICIPATE

If you are interested in learning more about your water utility or water quality, you can direct your questions, concerns or comments to the Utilities Department at 401 Grove Street, Healdsburg or by calling 707-431-3346.

You may also present comments directly to the Healdsburg City Council, which meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 PM, at 401 Grove Street. City Council meetings are open to the public. For meeting dates and agendas, visit [cityofhealdsburg.org](http://cityofhealdsburg.org).



## WATER RESTRICTIONS CONTINUE RESTRICTIONS

- Water landscape only on Tuesday & Friday between Midnight - 7am OR 8 pm - Midnight
- Routinely inspect irrigation systems for leaks & repair within 72 hours
- Don't refill swimming pool except to top off to prevent damage to equipment

## PROHIBITED WATER USE

- Washing sidewalks or driveways with drinking water
- Washing vehicles with a hose not fitted with a shut-off nozzle
- Watering landscapes during & within 48 hours after measurable rainfall

For up-to-date information on conservation:  
[facebook.com/smartlivinghealdsburg](https://www.facebook.com/smartlivinghealdsburg)

**REBATES & FREE WATER AUDITS,  
IRRIGATION SYSTEM AUDITS  
& TUNE UPS AVAILABLE**

**24%** Mandatory Conservation  
in 2015 (compared to 2013)  
Required by Executive Order of the Governor