



Grand Finalist  
Kate Bobadilla  
Twentynine Palms Elementary School  
Mrs. Stepp, 5<sup>TH</sup> Grade



# 2014 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command  
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

## CCR and You!

Under the “Consumer Confidence Rule” (CCR) of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), community water systems are required to report water quality information to the consuming public annually.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is proud to present our 2014 Consumer Confidence Report. This edition covers all drinking water testing completed from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. As always, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water to all personnel aboard MAGTFTC, MCAGCC. Through continued vigilance, we meet the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while ensuring the needs of all our water users are met.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is committed to the sustainment and protection of the environment. This report is printed on 100% recycled paper to help reduce waste and minimize impact on the environment while meeting the Marine Corps mission.

\*\*\* Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. \*\*\*

This report was compiled by the MAGTFTC, MCAGCC Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Water Resources Office. For more information about this report or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Chris Elliott, Water Resources Manager, at (760) 830-7883 or email [chris.elliott@usmc.mil](mailto:chris.elliott@usmc.mil).

## Monitoring Requirements Not Met

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the reporting period of March 2014, we did not complete all monitoring for total coliform as required by the Groundwater Rule and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water at that time.

There is nothing you need to do at this time; the sampling oversight has been corrected to ensure future monitoring is conducted in compliance with the regulatory requirements. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Chris Elliott, Water Resources Manager, at (760) 830-7883 or email [chris.elliott@usmc.mil](mailto:chris.elliott@usmc.mil).

## Important Health Information

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Center 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 at (800) 426-4791.

## No Drugs Down The Drain

Pharmaceutical waste remains a threat to water supplies. One way to reduce this threat is to dispose of all over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions properly. **DO NOT FLUSH DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN.**

Old medicines can be taken to the San Bernardino County Community Household Waste Collection Center located at 62499 29 Palms Highway, Joshua Tree, CA. The hours of operation are the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on proper disposal of unwanted medicines, please visit [www.nodrugsdowndrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdowndrain.org).



## Contaminants In My Drinking Water?

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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.

Contaminates 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, USEPA and the California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Water Conservation

Water is a precious commodity, especially in our environment, which is why MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is doing all it can to ensure this resource isn't just going down the drain. California is experiencing an unprecedented drought with no relief in sight. Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency and the state adopted new legislation to impose restrictions on water use.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is committed to water conservation to ensure the sustainability of this precious resource and is leading the charge with the issuance of the Commanding General's Water Conservation Policy. Through the Commanding General's Policy, the Water Conservation Task Force (WCTF) has been established and is charged with seeking new methods of conserving water and educating everyone who lives and works aboard the installation. The WCTF has implemented a number of water conservation practices across the installation, resulting in significant water savings. In addition, MAGTFTC, MCAGCC per-capita water use is 75 gallons per person per day with potential for further reductions.

With everyone's continued support, MAGTFTC, MCAGCC will continue to increase water conservation. The WCTF will work to establish MAGTFTC, MCAGCC as the installation model for water conservation within the DoD by reducing water consumption to the maximum extent possible while still meeting the Marine Corps mission.

To report water wasting at MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, call our **Hotline: 760-830-SAVE (7283)**



## Program Spotlight

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC conducts training for all U.S. Armed Forces. As part of the training, the release of hazardous materials can occur. NREA has an Abatement Section that works to minimize hazardous material releases and the effects of these releases on the environment.

The Abatement Section operations include stopping releases, containing spills, removing contaminated soil, back filling with clean soil, taking spill reports, and making notifications to outside agencies, if they are required. Once removed, contaminated soil is transported to the Contaminated Soil Storage Area (CSSA) and sifted to aerate the soil and remove debris. It is stored at the CSSA until the volume of soil is sufficient to develop the next Bio Pile.

The Bio Pile is a permitted operation that can take and clean up to 2,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil at a time. The soil may be contaminated with diesel fuel, jet fuel, oils/lubricants, coolants, and hydraulic fluids. The process takes approximately 6 to 8 months to achieve State mandated clean-up levels and then the soil is used for Alternative Daily Cover at the base landfill.

The Bio Pile operation provides a huge cost avoidance/savings as cleaning the soil costs approximately \$27 per ton, while shipping that same soil off-base to a Treatment Facility would cost \$64 per ton. In 2014, MAGTFTC, MCAGCC processed approximately 810 tons of contaminated soil. Remediating that soil at the Bio Pile cost \$21,870; however, shipping that soil to a Treatment Facility would have cost \$51,840. The Bio Pile operations provided MAGTFTC, MCAGCC a significant cost avoidance/savings of \$29,970 solely in 2014.

For questions or information on the Bio Pile, contact Thomas Connors at [thomas.r.connors@usmc.mil](mailto:thomas.r.connors@usmc.mil).

## Where Does My Water Come From?

All domestic water supplied to MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is groundwater from the Surprise Springs sub-aquifer of the Twentynine Palms Ground Water Basin. This water is extracted by production wells at depths between 500 and 700 feet located in a protected and isolated area of the Sand Hill Training Area.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC's drinking water system consists of 11 production or potable water wells and multiple reservoirs that serve the military and civilian work force through a series of pipelines that extend over 84.2 miles of service area.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC's drinking water is consistently of such high quality in nature that it routinely meets or exceeds all USEPA and Department primary and secondary drinking water standards without any treatment required (other than basic disinfection) before distribution. Basic disinfection is required by the Department as a safeguard against possible microbial contamination due to repairs or maintenance of the system.

## Investing In Our Future

Challenges facing MAGTFTC, MCAGCC Utilities are similar to those faced by other utilities in the area: water supply, aging infrastructure, and population growth. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC issued multiple contracts to repair and improve the operation and quality of the water system.



**First Runner-Up**  
**Madison Fulcher**  
**Condor**  
**Ms. Dellinger 2<sup>ND</sup> Grade**

## Lead Information

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. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC 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 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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Arsenic Information

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. USEPA 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.

## Earth Day 2015 Activities



As part of Earth Day 2015, NREA along with the WCTF sponsored a host of clean-up and water conservation awareness activities aboard the installation. These activities focused around this year's theme: "Think green, save blue" and included a poster contest to engage the kids at the local elementary schools. This year's grand finalist is Kate Bobadilla – her poster is featured as the cover of this year's CCR!

### Round of applause for this year's finalists:

First Runner-Up – **Madison Fulcher** (see inset)

Second Runner-Up – **Sara Willis** (see inset)

### Finalists:

**Hailey Beck**, TPES, 5th grade

**Mitchell Klich**, Condor, K

**Bryce Newland**, TPES, 4th grade

**Patricia Ochoa**, Condor, K

**Isabella Ramirez**, Condor, 3rd grade

**Jesse Williams**, TPES, 4th grade

Big THANK YOU to all the Teachers at TPES and Condor for participating in the inaugural year of this annual event!



**Second Runner-Up**  
**Sara Willis**  
Twentynine Palms  
Elementary School  
Mrs. Stepp 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Water Quality Data

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC conducts extensive water quality testing. Last year, as in years past, no contaminants were found at levels higher than USEPA or Department standards. As a result of the continued commitment to bring the safest, best quality water to everyone at MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, our water continues to meet or exceed all primary drinking water standards and most secondary standards.

The table below is a snapshot of last year's (2014) water quality. The table shows details about what your water contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. USEPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Detection Value		Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source
			Average	Range			
<b>Primary Drinking Water Standard</b>							
Antimony (mg/L)	0.006	0.006	< 0.006	ND – < 0.006	2012	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Arsenic (mg/L)	0.01	0	0.004	0.0020 – 0.0080	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (mg/L)	1	1	< 0.1	ND – < 0.1	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (mg/L)	0.004	0.004	< 0.001	ND – < 0.001	2012	No	Discharge from metal refineries
Cadmium (mg/L)	0.005	0.005	< 0.001	ND – < 0.001	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium VI (µg/L)	10	0.02	11.086	4.1 – 21	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits or industrial discharges
Chromium (mg/L)	0.05	0.05	< 0.011	0.0063 – 0.022	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (mg/L)	0.15	0.15	<0.1	ND – < 0.1	2012	No	Wastewater discharges or industrial emissions
Fluoride (mg/L)	2	1	0.660	0.4 – 0.9	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (mg/L)	0.0027	NA	< 0.0060	0.0020 – < 0.0036	2014	No	By-product of system disinfection
Mercury (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	< 0.001	ND – < 0.001	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits or industrial discharges
Nickel (mg/L)	0.1	0.1	< 0.01	ND – < 0.01	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits or industrial discharges
Nitrate (NO <sub>3</sub> ) (mg/L)	45	45	4.671	3.5 – 6.8	2014	No	Natural deposits or agricultural runoff
Nitrite (NO <sub>2</sub> ) (mg/L)	1	1	< 0.1	ND – < 0.1	2012	No	Natural deposits or agricultural runoff
Perchlorate (mg/L)	0.006	NA	<0.004	ND – <.004	2012	No	May be found naturally or manufactured for industrial use
Tot. Coliform Bacteria	1	ND	ND	ND – 1	2014	No	Naturally present in the environment
Tot. Trihalomethanes (mg/L)	0.08	NA	0.008	0.00057 – 0.024	2014	No	By-product of system disinfection
<b>Secondary Drinking Water Standard</b>							
Aluminum (mg/L)	1	0.2	< 0.05	ND – < 0.05	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride (mg/L)	250	250	18.600	8.1 – 32	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Color (CU)	15	15	NA	<3 – 3	2014	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Copper (mg/L)	1		0.240	< 0.05 – 0.24	2012	No	Plumbing corrosion
Foaming Agents (MBAS) (mg/L)	0.5	NA	< 0.05	ND – < 0.05	2012	No	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Iron (mg/L)	0.3	0.3	0.220	< 0.1 – 0.22	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (mg/L)	0.5	0.05	< 0.02	ND – < 0.02	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Methyl-tert-butylether (mg/L)	0.013	0.013	<0.003	ND – < 0.003	2014	No	Leaking underground storage tanks
Odor (TON)	3	NA	<1	ND – <1	2014	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Silver (mg/L)	0.1	NA	0.010	ND – 0.01	2012	No	Industrial discharges
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	250	27.000	16 – 34	2012	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000	500	179.000	120 – 330	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	NA	0.504	< 0.20 – 1.2	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc (mg/L)	5	NA	< 0.05	ND – < .05	2012	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Detection of Lead and Copper</b>							
Copper 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1300	170	20	5.9–26	2012	No	Plumbing corrosion
Lead 90 <sup>th</sup> Percential (ppb)	15	2	4	ND–19	2012	No	Plumbing corrosion

Substance (µg/L)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	MCAGCC Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Requirement
<b>UCMR 3</b>							
1,2,3-trichloropropane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), as amended in 1996, requires USEPA to establish criteria for a program to monitor unregulated contaminants and to identify no more than 30 contaminants to be monitored every five years. The purpose of monitoring for unregulated contaminants in drinking water is to provide data to support the USEPA Administrator's decisions concerning whether or not to regulate these contaminants in the future for the protection of public health.
1,3-butadiene	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
chloromethane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
1,1-dichloroethane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
bromomethane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
chlorodifluoromethane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
bromochloromethane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
1,4-dioxane	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
vanadium	NA	NA	5.9	ND – 18	2014	No	
molybdenum	NA	NA	1.8	ND – 5.9	2014	No	
cobalt	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
strontium	NA	NA	94.2	ND – 250	2014	No	
chromium total	NA	NA	4.5	ND – 13	2014	No	
chromium-6	NA	NA	12	ND – 13	2014	No	
chlorate	NA	NA	368.5	94 – 890	2014	No	
perfluorooctanesulfonate acid (PFOS)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	NA	NA	ND	ND	2014	No	

## Table Definitions

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**Unit:** Standard unit of measurement for this constituent.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.

**PHG (Public Health Goal):** 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.

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

**Total Coliform Bacteria:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as indicators that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

**CU:** Color unit.

**TON:** Threshold odor number.

BECAUSE MAGTFTC, MCAGCC IS COMMITTED TO SUSTAINMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, THIS REPORT IS PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER TO HELP REDUCE WASTE AND MINIMIZE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT WHILE MEETING THE MARINE CORPS' MISSION.

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