

Non-Regulatory Compounds Present in the District's Potable Water

The District performs many tests on our water supply - both regulatory (those you see in our annual Water Quality Report), and non-regulatory that include various compounds and/or constituents that may be present in our water. Most of our water comes from wells and contains naturally occurring minerals such as calcium and magnesium both of which contribute to the hardness of our water.

Dealing with the hardness of water is a matter of personal preference - some people would rather install a whole-house water softener while others fill a pitcher and put it in the refrigerator so that the minerals sink to the bottom before pouring the water into a drinking glass. When hard water evaporates (as it does in a dishwasher), water spots (a thin calcium coating) often remains on items as they dry.

Some people may have serious health issues and need to be able to measure diligently the amount of sodium, calcium or magnesium they ingest. And, some people have aquariums that need special conditioning for their fish.

Our water quality staff have put together some information covering many of the compounds and non-regulatory water quality information in the following list. If you don't find what you are looking for here, please contact our Water Quality Department at 303.287.6454, or send an email to wqinfo@sacwsd.org.

The following list is based on an average for the District's drinking water, not necessarily the day-to-day concentration*:

- Calcium 84.5 mg/L
- Magnesium 11.6 mg/L
- Bicarbonate 195 mg/L as CaCO₃
- Chloride 79 mg/L
- Sodium 83.6 mg/L
- Iron 0.14mg/L
- TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) Average = 666 mg/L; Range = 466-829 mg/L

*The above abbreviations/measurements are defined as: mg/L = milligrams per liter/parts per million (Corresponds to one minute in 2 years or a single penny in \$10,000)