

Willow Creek C.S.D.



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June 2018

**Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Willow Creek Chamber
Permit No. 31**

Your water bill pays for a lot more than simply water. You get sophisticated water treatment, frequent testing and monitoring, and a vast infrastructure that delivers safe, water right to your tap.

Return service requested

District Staff

Susan O’Gorman, General Manager P.E.
Lynn White, Office Manager
Bill Zertuche, Chief Operator
Mike Bell, Operator II
Mike Searcy, Water trainee
Ken Gallamore, Recreation Technician



Calendar of Events

- June 28 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting
- July 4 *Independence Day*
- July 14 Taste of Willow Creek at Veteran’s Park
- July 26 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting
- Aug. 23 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting
- Sept. 1 Big Foot Days Parade & Ice Cream Social, follow up at Veterans Park
- Sept. 3 *Labor Day*
- Sept.14-16 WC China Flat’s Hammer In
- Sept. 27 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting
- Oct. 12 Fire Safe Spaghetti Dinner @ VFW Hall
- Oct. 25 WCCSD Regular Board meeting
- Oct. 31 *Halloween*
- Nov. 15 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting
- Dec. 20 WCCSD Regular Board Meeting



~10 inch main line water leak! ~



Willow Creek Community Services District
2017 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report
Public Water System Number 12-10015
June 2018

For additional information concerning your drinking water, contact Susan O’Gorman, General Manager, at 530-629-2136 or email willowcreekcsd@gmail.com

The Willow Creek Community Services District (District or WCCSD) owns and operates a public water system that serves domestic water to approximately 936 service connections, with a population of 1,710 people.

The source of supply for your water is from Willow Creek, a tributary of the Trinity River. Your source water is drawn through naturally filtered sand and gravels in the creek streambed. The District also collects surface water during summer demand from a surface water collection system with a special protective intake.

Our water treatment facility was installed in the spring of 2007. This facility is a modern, inline, direct filtration plant. This facility consists of a control center with the latest in technology with controls and monitoring equipment. The three, multi-stage, pressure filters have 720 square feet of surface filter media that produce the highest quality of water. To assist in the filtration process, a synthetic organic polymer is added to the water, prior to the filters, which causes the very small particles to clump together and filter out.

With the installation of our water treatment facility, the District is meeting the Surface Water Treatment Rule. All public systems under the direct influence of surface water shall have a filtration system that will remove Giardia and Cryptosporidium 99.9% of the time. The District meets or exceeds this regulation. The key item in this process is the addition of sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) to the water before the filters and again after the filters. We are required by the State to maintain a chlorine residual in the water at all times.

The facility can produce up to three million gallons of water a day at peak production if needed. Normal production in the summer averages 1.2 million gallons per day and in the winter the average is 325,000 gallons of water per day.

The District monitors disinfection and turbidity 24 hours per day with the latest technology. The treatment facility has alarms that will shut down the treatment facility in case of equipment and treatment failures. This alarm system is to protect our customers from potential pathogens that, if not treated properly, may cause humans to become ill.

The District is proud to produce water at the highest of quality to our customers.

2017 Annual Water Usage (million gallons)

| Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 10.0 | 9.2 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 16.5 | 28.5 | 36.3 | 38.6 | 25.1 | 18.6 | 12.3 | 10.9 |

Total water pumped in 2017 was 226 million gallons

If you would like to tour of our facility, please contact Susan O’Gorman at 530-629-2136. Our operators would be more than happy to guide you through our treatment process.

Monthly Board Meetings

Monthly Board meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m
(except for in November and December they are on the 3rd Thursday).

The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

WCCSD Board

- Judy Gower- President
- Bruce Nelson
- Joe O’Hara
- Tyler Holmes
- Ed Duggan

Definitions of some of the terms used in this report:

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of 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 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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) 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 technologically, and economically feasible.

Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

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

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

MFL: million fibers per liter

PPB: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

PPM: parts per million or milligrams per liter

ND: non detectable at testing limit

TDS: Total Dissolved Solids

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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 waste water 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

General Information on Drinking Water

All 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 individuals, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Water Quality Data- Microbiological Water Quality

Testing for bacteriological contaminants in the distribution system is required by State Regulations. Testing is done regularly to verify that the water system is free from coliform bacteria. The minimum number of tests required for our District is three per month. In our distribution system, we test once per week. We also take a sample once per month for source water bacteria. The District has met coliform standards within our distribution system.

Lead

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of action level may experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children may show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Lead and Copper Testing Results

Lead and copper testing of water from individual taps in the distribution system is required by State regulations. Our water system is required to sample every 3 years. The table below summarizes the most recent sampling for lead and copper.

| Test | Year tested | Number of Samples | Samples Required | 90 th PPB | Action Level |
|--------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Lead | 2017 | 10 | 10 | 3.0 | 15 |
| Copper | 2017 | 10 | 10 | 380 | 1300 |

Chemical sample results showing detected contaminants

The following tables list all detected chemicals in our water during the most recent sampling. Please note that not all sampling is required annually so in some cases our results are more than a year old. These values are expressed in PPM or PPB unless otherwise stated.

Contaminants with Primary MCLs

| Chemical Detected | Source of Sample | Year Tested | Level | MCL | Source of Chemical |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------|---------|------------------------------------|
| Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) | Distribution | 2017 | 8.9 | 80 PPB | Organic / Chlorine |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | Distribution | 2017 | 1.6 | 60 PPB | Organic / Chlorine |
| Nickel | Wells 2 & 4 | 2012 | 12 | 100 PPB | Natural Deposits |
| Radium 228 | Wells 2 & 4 | 2013 | 0.424 | 2 pCi/L | Natural Deposits |
| Chromium hexavalent (Chromium 6) | Composite Well | 2017 | 2.2 | 10 PPB | Natural Deposits / Chemical Plants |

Contaminants with secondary MCLs

| Chemical Detected | Source of Sample | Year Tested | Level | MCL | Source of Chemical |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------|----------|--------------------|
| Aluminum | Composite | 2012 | 53 | 1000 PPB | Natural Deposits |
| Arsenic | Wells 2 & 4 | 2012 | 2.5 | 7 MFL | Natural Deposits |
| Asbestos | Wells 2 & 4 | 2017 | 0.5 | 10 PPB | Natural Deposits |
| Chloride | Wells 2 & 4 | 2012 | 2.4 | 250 PPM | Natural Deposits |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) | Wells 2 & 4 | 2018 | 130 | 500 PPM | Natural Deposits |
| Sulfate | Wells 2 & 4 | 2012 | 12 | 250 PPM | Natural Deposits |
| Iron | Wells 2 & 4 | 2012 | 0.035 | 0.3 PPM | Natural Deposits |

Drinking Water Source Assessment

Our most recent water source assessment was completed by the State Water Resource Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, in August 2002.

Watershed Study

Our most recent watershed study was completed by Trinity Valley Consulting Engineers, Inc. May 2014

If you would like to view the complete assessment of our drinking water source, our address is 135 Willow Road in Willow Creek, CA or you may call our office at 530-629-2136 and ask for Susan O'Gorman, General Manager.

Downtown Wastewater Update

Steps Completed this Year

- We have received the final design funds to complete the wastewater project! We have received 5.3 million from the State Water Resource Control Board and 1.2 million from the USDA.
- The Engineers, Surveyors, and Geotechs have been hired and are busily working to complete the final design of the project.
- The wastewater service boundary of the system has been selected. As shown in the image to the right, the wastewater system is only in the downtown area.



Project Description

- The collection system will be gravity sewer lines with 2 small pump stations. The project will include working with land owners to remove their existing septic tanks and install new sewer lines to the main street lines.
- **THERE WILL NOT BE PONDS!** We continue to be asked about the pond locations. Our wastewater treatment plant will not have ponds. The treatment plant will be a recirculating gravel filter (similar to system in the community of Weott). See the picture below. The plant will have a very large septic tank (the tank is below the concrete slab with the orange cones on the right hand side of the picture). The tank will settle the solids, and the water is then pumped (recirculated) through gravel beds (2 beds, 80 feet by 80 feet, approximately 4 feet in depth). Micro-organisms will grow in the gravel and essentially clean and treat the water. A gravel bed is shown on the left hand side of the picture below. The building in the foreground is the control building which has computers and other monitoring equipment.
- After being treated, the water will be disposed into a large leach field. The water will not be dumped into the river. The leach fields will be very similar to a house hold leach field, just larger. The ground above the leach field will simply be a large lawn.
- The whole treatment process is very similar to what happens in a standard home septic system with the addition of the gravel beds to clean the water to state standards.
- To help with comparison, the treatment plant at Blue Lake is about 7 times larger than what the Willow Creek plant will be. The plant in McKinleyville is about 40 times larger!

Next Steps

- We haven't been able to negotiate the purchase of property for the treatment plant. But we are continuing to discuss options with a few land owners and investigating new options.
- Once the treatment plant property is determined, the sewer rates will be finalized. The District will then complete a Prop 218 process on the rate structure. The land owners within the sewer boundary will be asked if the rates are acceptable. If more than 50% say no, the project will have to be re-assessed.
- The annual budget for the new wastewater system will be paid by collecting monthly sewer rates from the properties that are connected to the system. Those outside of the service boundary and not connected to the system will not receive a bill.



~Wastewater Treatment Plant similar to what Willow Creek will have~

Questions ?

If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact the General Manager, Susan O'Gorman.



Our Parks are Fee Based !

If you would like to have a barbeque, birthday party, baseball or softball game, or other event at one of our parks, please contact the WCCSD Office at 530-629-2136.

Your spot will be reserved with your fee. Fees go towards trash bills, mowing, watering, supplies, and repairs.

This past year as the new General Manager has been very exciting! I have learned many new things and realized I still have lots more to learn. We started out the year with some electronic equipment failure at the treatment plant due to a power surge. This turned out to be a great learning lesson for me, as the plant had to be run manually while the computers were repaired. Then, throughout the year, we had a total of 15 water leaks, ranging from 1 inch services lines up to a 10 inch main line leak! See photo on the front cover, and below of the repair.

We are currently working on the preliminary design for a new water tank on Brannan Mountain Road. See the photo above for the tank location. This District already owns the property and the tank has been a dream of the District for many years. The water that

serves highway 96 is currently part of the water pressure system from the Willow Towers water tanks (across from Buddy's Auto). By having a water tank on Brannan Mountain, the District would have more water storage, allowing for a greater fire fighting capacity.

In the recreation department, we started to use a leaf vacuum system last fall that worked very well to collect the leaves downtown. This coming fall we will be modifying one of our trucks to be used to vacuum the leaves into, which will hold 4 times more than the tow behind trailer.

As I mentioned last year, I would like to welcome anyone to give me a call or stop by the District Office if they would like to ask questions or discuss District operations.

Sincerely, Susan O'Gorman

WCCSD Board of Directors

Board Chair: Judy Gower

Director: Bruce Nelson

Director: Joe O'Hara

Director: Tyler Holmes

Director: Ed Duggan



Your water utility is responsible for underground pipes from the street up to your water meter, but if your pipes leak after your water meter it is your responsibility to make repairs.



~10 inch main line repaired! ~



Payment Options

Cash , Checks, Money Orders, Visa, MasterCard, and Auto Payment

Lose something in the park? Sometimes lost items are turned into our office. Please check with us if you have lost something at 530-629-2136

