Dear EMID Customer,

The City of Foster City/Estero Municipal Improvement District (EMID) is pleased to provide you with the Annual Water Quality Report for 2016. On the following pages, you will find important information about the origin of your water, the quality of your water, and the steps taken to protect the water supply.

Of special note: Governor Brown recently rescinded the Water Emergency Declaration. However, certain water use prohibitions will be made permanent. Governor Brown is encouraging Californians to remain water-wise and make water conservation a way of life.

As the purveyor of your drinking water, we are proud to be able to state that the water we provide is of the highest quality, meeting or exceeding all primary drinking water standards set by the United States Environmental Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

EMID purchases all of its water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The following pages contain the source water information prepared by the SFPUC Water Quality Bureau. In addition to the monitoring and testing performed by SFPUC, EMID does its own monitoring and testing to ensure that the water quality in the distribution system meets or exceeds all drinking water standards. If there are any questions about the water, please call the SFPUC Water Quality Bureau at (877) 737-8297 or visit the website at www.sfwater.org. Any other questions about the water system should be directed to EMID Public Works Manager, Norman Dorais at (650) 286-8140.
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, oceans, 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. Such substances are called contaminants, and may be present in source water as:

- **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, which 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**, which can be naturally occurring, or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.
2016 WATER QUALITY DATA

The table on the following page lists all 2016 detected drinking water contaminants and the information about their typical sources. Contaminants below detection limits for reporting are not shown, in accordance with regulatory guidance. The SFPUC holds a SWRCB-DDW monitoring waiver for some contaminants, therefore, their monitoring frequencies are less than annual.

The following are definitions of key terms referring to standards and goals of water quality noted on the table:

**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.

**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 the 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 economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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

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

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Turbidity:** A water clarity indicator that measures cloudiness of the water, and is also used to indicate the effectiveness of the filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

**Cryptosporidium:** A parasitic microbe found in most surface water. The SFPUC regularly tests for this waterborne pathogen and found it at very low levels in source water and treated water in 2016. However, current test methods approved by the USEPA do not distinguish between dead organisms and those capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may produce symptoms of nausea, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

FLUORIDATION AND DENTAL FLUOROSIS

Mandated by State law, water fluoridation is a widely accepted practice proven to be safe and effective for preventing and controlling tooth decay. The SFPUC’s fluoride target level in the water is 0.7 milligrams per liter, consistent with the May 2015 State regulatory guidance on optimal fluoride level. Infants fed formula mixed with water containing fluoride at this level may still have a chance of developing tiny white lines or streaks in their teeth. These marks are referred to as mild to very mild fluorosis and are often only visible under a microscope. Even in cases where the marks are visible, they do not pose any health risk. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) considers it safe to use optimally fluoridated water for preparing infant formula. To lessen this chance of dental fluorosis, you may choose to use low-fluoride bottled water to prepare infant formula. Nevertheless, children may still develop dental fluorosis due to fluoride intake from other sources such as food, toothpaste, and dental products.

Contact your health provider or SWRCB-DDW if you have concerns about dental fluorosis. For additional information about fluoridation or oral health, visit the CDC website [www.cdc.gov/fluoridation](http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation) or SWRCB-DDW website [www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml).
Footnotes:
(1) All results met State and Federal drinking water health standards.
(2) These are monthly average turbidity values measured every 4 hours daily.
(3) There is no turbidity MCL for filtered water. The limits are based on the TT requirements for filtration systems.
(4) This is the highest locational running annual average value.
(5) Total organic carbon is a precursor for disinfection byproduct formation. The TT requirement applies to the filtered water from the SWTWP only.
(7) In May 2015, the SWRCB recommended an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 ppm be maintained in the treated water. In 2016, the range and average of the fluoride levels were 0.5 ppm - 0.8 ppm and 0.6 ppm, respectively.
(8) The natural fluoride level in the Hetch Hetchy supply was ND. Elevated fluoride levels in the SWTWP and HTWP raw water are attributed to the transfer of fluoridated Hetch Hetchy water into the local reservoirs.
(9) This is the highest running annual average value.
(10) Aluminum also has a primary MCL of 1,000 ppb.
(11) The most recent Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2016. 0 of 31 site samples collected at consumer taps had copper concentrations above the AL.
(12) The most recent Lead and Copper Rule monitoring was in 2016. 0 of 31 site samples collected at consumer taps had lead concentrations above the AL.
(13) The detected chlorate in the treated water is a degradation product of sodium hypochlorite used by the SFPUC for water disinfection.

Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) as mandated by USEPA was performed in 2014. Data may be found at:

Note: Additional water quality data may be obtained by calling the City of Foster City/EMID at (650) 286-8140

| Footnotes |
CONSERVATION ALERT: EMID is encouraging customers to continue to conserve even with the recent wet winter. EMID is working to help spread the Governor’s message that says: “Make water conservation a California way of life.”

Supplied by the San Francisco Regional Water System (SFRWS) which is owned and operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), our major water source originates from spring snowmelt flowing down the Tuolumne River to storage in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. The well protected Sierra water source is exempt from filtration requirements by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State Water Resources Control Board’s Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB-DDW). Water from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir receives the following treatments to meet appropriate drinking water standards: disinfection by ultraviolet light and chlorine, corrosion control by adjustment of the water pH value, fluoridation for dental health protection, and chloramination for maintaining disinfectant residual and minimizing disinfection byproduct formation.

The Hetch Hetchy water is supplemented with surface water from two local watersheds. Rainfall and runoff from the 35,000-acre Alameda Watershed in Alameda and Santa Clara counties are collected in the Calaveras and San Antonio Reservoirs and delivered to the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant (SVWTP). Rainfall and runoff from the 23,000-acre Peninsula Watershed in San Mateo County are stored in the Crystal Springs, San Andreas, and Pilarcitos Reservoirs and delivered to the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant. In addition to these local sources, the SWRCB-DDW approved the SFPUC to use surface water collected in Lake Eleanor, Lake Cherry, and the associated creeks all conveyed via the Lower Cherry Aqueduct, Early Intake Reservoir and Tuolumne River (collectively known as Upcountry Non-Hetch Hetchy Sources, or UNHHS) as additional drinking water sources to the SFRWS. UNHHS water, if used, will be treated at the SVWTP prior to service to customers. In 2016, the SFRWS did not use UNHHS. Water at the two local treatment plants is subject to filtration, disinfection, fluoridation, and pH adjustment for corrosion control optimization.

WATERSHED PROTECTION

The SFPUC conducts watershed sanitary surveys for the Hetch Hetchy source annually and local water sources every five years. The last local sanitary survey was done in 2016. The SFPUC conducted a special watershed sanitary survey for UNHHS in 2015 as part of its drought response plan efforts. These surveys evaluate the sanitary condition, water quality, potential contamination sources, and the results of watershed management activities. The surveys were completed with support from partner agencies, including the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service.

These surveys identified wildlife, stock, and human activities as potential contamination sources. You may contact the San Francisco District office of SWRCB-DDW at (510) 620-3474 for the review of these reports.
DRINKING WATER AND LEAD

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. There are no known lead service lines in the SFRWS. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at others because of plumbing materials used in your property.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. You can minimize the potential for lead exposure, when your water has been sitting for several hours, by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes (or until the water temperature has changed) before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead levels in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791, or at www.epa.gov/lead.

SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The EMID President and Board of Directors are the governing authority of the EMID water system. They meet on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Foster City Council/Board Chambers located at 620 Foster City Blvd., Foster City, California. An agenda for each EMID meeting is posted on the City of Foster City website at http://www.fostercity.org/citygovernment/AgendasandMinutes.cfm

The SFPUC meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the San Francisco City Hall, Room 400. The public is invited to participate in these meetings.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

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

此份水質報告，內有重要資訊，請找他人為你翻譯和解說清楚。