IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Sunnyslope County Water District Has Levels of Hexavalent Chromium Above the Drinking Water Standard

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

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN EMERGENCY.

ESTE NOTICIA NO ES UNA EMERGENCIA.
(Este aviso se puede encontrar en el sitio web de Sunnyslope: www.sunnyslopewater.org/hexavalent-chromium)

As our customers, you have a right to be informed regarding actions your water provider is taking to protect your water supply.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Water sample results received between December 22, 2025 and July 27, 2026 from Sunnyslope's Well 7 and Well 2 showed the running annual average of hexavalent chromium levels of 10.93 ug/L and 10.75 ug/L, respectively.

These results reflect naturally occurring hexavalent chromium in the Hollister aquifer and do not represent external contamination. This is above the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10.0 micrograms per liter (ug/L) (10 parts per billion also written as "ppb"). **At an MCL of 10 ppb, it is estimated that a person who drinks two liters of water daily for 70 years could have a 1-in-2,000 chance of developing cancer.**

We are working with the State Water Resources Control Board to address this exceedance and comply with the MCL within a compliance timeline.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative water supply (e.g., bottled water).**
- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many decades may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

- Hexavalent Chromium naturally occurs and has existed throughout the environment.
- Before October 1, 2024, hexavalent chromium had been regulated under the total chromium MCL of 50 ug/L and Hollister water supplies have always remained well below that number.
- On October 1, 2024, a new Hexavalent Chromium MCL of 10 ppb became effective.
- Hexavalent chromium was detected at levels that exceed the new MCL. However, a water system of our size is not considered in violation of the Hexavalent Chromium MCL if operating under an approved Hexavalent Chromium Compliance Plan.

- Sunnyslope County Water District has prepared a Hexavalent Chromium Compliance Plan and Operation Plan that is under review by the State Water Resources Control Board.
- We are working with the State Water Resources Control Board to address this exceedance and comply with the MCL. Sunnyslope has been providing groundwater blended with treated water from the San Luis reservoir since 2018. When blended, the water delivered to our customers is significantly below the new MCL of 10ppb. Sunnyslope is currently conducting a feasibility study to continue this practice as a way of always providing water that is compliant with State standards.
- After receiving approval from Division of Drinking Water (DDW), Sunnyslope County Water District will immediately implement the treatment to our water sources.

For more information, visit our website at https://www.sunnyslopewater.org/hexavalent-chromium, please contact us at 831-637-4670 or billing@sunnyslopewater.org.
Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you are a school or school system, the owner or operator of residential rental property, or the owner or operator of a business property, then you are legally required to notify the following people of the information in this notice within ten days of your receipt of this notice:

- SCHOOLS; You must notify school employees, students, and parents (if students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): You must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: You must notify employees of businesses located on the property.
- If you fail to notify the above people, you may be civilly liable up to $1,000 per day for each day that you fail to notify them. (Health & Saf. Code, §§ 116450, subd. (g); 116650, subd. (e).)

This notice is being sent to you by Sunnyslope County Water District.
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