

# Annual Consumer Confidence Report

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YOUR WATER DISTRICT:  
[www.ParadiseIrrigation.com](http://www.ParadiseIrrigation.com)

For water testing performed in 2016

*Paradise  
Irrigation  
District*

6332 CLARK ROAD  
PARADISE, CA 95969  
530/877-4971

Your water—  
Clean. Fresh. Pure.

## Learn about our community's great water quality!

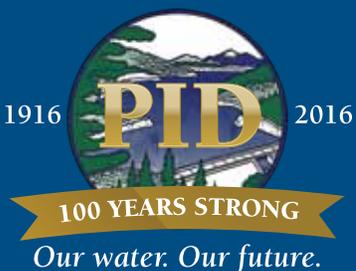
*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

*At Paradise Irrigation District we're committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, water source protection and security, water conservation and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of our water users.*

*We're proud to present our annual "consumer confidence" water quality report covering all testing performed between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2016, or earlier. The State Water Board allows certain chemicals to be monitored less than on a yearly basis because the concentrations of the substances are not expected to change significantly. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.*

*Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with high quality drinking water.*

*Please share your thoughts with us on the information in this report. And, if you have any questions or concerns, we're here to help. Call (530)877-4971.*



# Where does your water come from?

Customers of the Paradise Irrigation District are fortunate because we enjoy a high-quality water supply from the upper portion of the Little Butte Creek Watershed (about 7,400 acres). Water which falls within this watershed (mostly via rain, though a little from snow) flows into either Paradise Lake and/or Magalia Reservoir. These two reservoirs are owned and operated by the District for the purpose of storing water for the residents of the District.

The PID treatment plant draws water primarily from Paradise Lake throughout the year, and secondarily from Magalia Reservoir for short periods throughout the year when needed; together they hold a total of 12,293 acre-feet of water. Runoff is collected over 11.2 square miles of watershed located primarily north of Paradise Lake and Magalia Reservoir. This watershed is heavily forested and sparsely populated, which contributes to the high-quality water we serve. PID's water treatment plant provides average flows in the winter and summer of 3 million gallons per day (MGD) and 8 MGD, respectively.

The District drilled and developed a ground water source at the D Tank site. This well produces up to 450 gallons per minute (gpm) and is used as a drought management and emergency source (e.g., large pipeline break). This source was used 23 days in December 2016 and pumped 11.71 million gallons of water. Water quality testing has been done to qualify it as an approved source.

# How is your water treated?

Untreated "raw" water is conveyed from Paradise Lake or Magalia Reservoir to the water treatment plant (located just below Magalia Dam) via either the Magalia Reservoir Bypass Pipeline, which is water from Paradise Lake, or the intake structure at Magalia Reservoir. Typically the majority of the water treated at the plant comes from the Bypass Pipeline; Magalia Reservoir is used for short periods of time, typically in the fall and winter, but could be any time.

The treatment process consists of pre-chlorine addition for disinfection, followed by coagulation, up-flow clarification, gravity filtration, and chlorine contact time.

1. Chlorine is added (1.5 to 1.7 ppm) to kill or inactivate disease-causing organisms which may be present in the water (disinfection), control the growth of algae and assist with coagulation.
2. Coagulation consists of adding aluminum sulfate, aluminum chlorhydrate and two polymers to the raw water to chemically bond very small particles (turbidity) into larger particles (floc).
3. Most of these larger floc particles are removed from the raw water as they pass through a bed of coarse, granulated media in the up-flow clarifiers.
4. The clarified water then flows downward through tri-media filters (consisting of anthracite, sand and fine garnet) to remove additional (turbidity and floc) particles which may still be in the water.
5. After the two filtration processes the water is well below the State requirements for turbidity (0.2 NTU). The water is

routed through a treated water storage tank which provides sufficient chlorine contact time to thoroughly disinfect the water. A minimum amount of chlorine remains (1.0 ppm) in the treated water to ensure the California health requirements are met in the distribution system so the potable water is delivered safely to the consumer at all times.

6. Finally, as the treated water leaves the plant, zinc orthophosphate (a corrosion inhibitor) is added. This is added to minimize corrosion of the District's steel pipelines, and minimize lead and copper leaching from customers' pipes and faucets.

*Fluoride is **not** added to the District's drinking water; fluoride concentration in the raw water is not detectable.*

Wastewater is generated during the daily cleaning of the up-flow clarifiers and gravity filters. About eight to ten percent of the daily raw water is used to clean the clarifiers and filters (about 600 acre-feet per year). The wastewater is stored temporarily in a holding tank at the plant, dechlorinated and a polymer is added. This water is transferred to the settling ponds for liquid/solids separation. Clarified water is discharged to the Magalia Reservoir, and regulated with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The



settled solids in the ponds are dried when the ponds are taken out of service and drained. Dried solids are analyzed per landfill requirements and transported by the District to the local Neil Road Landfill.

The treatment plant was constructed in 1994 and went online in 1995. The plant has the flexibility to operate with computer or manual control. The automated operating system includes over 40 different alarms to monitor and advise the plant operators of unusual conditions. Operating information is archived both as part of the computer control system and recording charts. The plant includes an emergency generator that will operate the plant during a power outage. The treatment plant has plenty of capacity (flow tested at 22.8 million gallons/day) to meet current maximum daily and future demand. At times water is treated and delivered to the Del Oro Water Company, using water that they added to Paradise Lake.

## Who operates the treatment plant?

The treatment plant is operated and managed by personnel that are certified by the State of California's Drinking Water Program. All plant personnel have passed stringent state examinations regarding water treatment technology to become certified. Ongoing classroom training (contact hours) is required to renew their certification every three years.



**Bill Taylor**  
Treatment Operations Supervisor

## PID employee stands out from the crowd

Bill Taylor is a professional. In his 18 years at Paradise Irrigation District, where he currently is Treatment Operations Supervisor, Taylor has worked hard to ensure that consumers have the highest quality water, produced safely and efficiently.

Now Taylor's peers know of his great work, too; he was presented with the Exemplary Operations Supervisor Award by the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) at the organization's conference; the two-states covered in this regional section include more than 5,500 members. Taylor is the only one who received an award in that category at the conference.

"This award recognizes operators working in a supervisory position for dedication toward compliance with public health standards, plant maintenance, development of new ideas, training, and outstanding achievement beyond normal operating responsibilities," according to a news release from AWWA's California-Nevada Section.

Taylor and his wife, Dara, live in Magalia with their two daughters, Emilee (15) and Baylee (8). A 24-year member of Butte County Search and Rescue, Taylor enjoys spending time with his family and four-wheeling.

## Source Water Assessment available at office

PID's 2016 Source Water Assessment is available at our office for your review. This is an assessment of the area of influence around our listed "raw" water sources through which contaminants, if present, could reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the area and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources including:

### Ground Water Supply (Well at D Tank):

High-density septic systems and automobile repair shops.

### Surface Water Supply (Little Butte Creek Watershed):

High-density septic systems and historic mining operations.

*A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) Valley District Office, 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 101, Redding, CA 96002, Attention: Reese Crenshaw, (530) 224-4861, or at the Paradise Irrigation District Office, 6332 Clark Road, Paradise, CA 95969, (530) 877-4971.*

## Does your water smell or taste a bit "off" sometimes?

As you turn on the tap in the late fall and early winter months you might notice a bit of a musty odor or an earthy "flavor" to your usually sparkling glass of PID water.

While water quality tests tell us our water is safe to drink and meets all EPA standards, we're not any happier than you are with water that doesn't meet our usual high flavor standards.

Two compounds released from soil and algae, methylisoborneol (MIB) and Geosmin, can be detected by humans at levels of less than 10 parts per trillion (one part per trillion would compare to one inch in 16 million miles).

MIB is most commonly found in the bottom layers of lakes; Geosmin is the same substance that gives soil its "dirt" smell. Together, these two lend a temporary and undesirable "bouquet" to our PID water when levels are high in the water we use from Magalia Reservoir. Paradise Lake, because it's deeper, hasn't so many issues because the water is colder and therefore "fresher" in odor and taste.

When the seasonal rains begin in late fall, the District goes to work at refilling our reservoirs. It becomes a complex balancing act of slowing the discharge from Paradise Lake (so it can refill for the next year) and using a blend of water from the lake as well as Magalia Reservoir to supply the treatment plant—and our users.

When we have an early rainstorm, the runoff water entering the bypass pipeline overwhelms the amount of water and changes its chemistry. State health standards force us to use water from the reservoir (which remains treatable) but there are taste and odor issues even though the water is safe to drink and use.

## PID seeks community participation

You're invited to participate in our public meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water, or any matter of concern. Your PID Board of Directors meets the third Wednesday of each month, beginning at 6:30 pm, at 6332 Clark Road, Paradise. Each meeting is also streamed live (and archived) on the district's Facebook page ([facebook.com/PIDwater](https://facebook.com/PIDwater)) As always you can call the District's General Manager any time if you have any questions regarding District business, any concern or complaint at (530) 877-4971.



## ...and here's how the treated water gets to your meter:

The treated water from the plant flows by gravity through a 42-inch pipeline to a central reservoir in the Town of Paradise. From there water is distributed by gravity to four water storage tanks (emergency storage) located at different elevations throughout town. There is one pressurized (pumped) zone at the upper portion of the town, this area also includes a tank for emergency storage.

The tanks were installed in the late 1960s. Ongoing annual inspection and periodic rehabilitation work to maintain the tanks were accomplished in 2004 and 2012 and more work is expected soon.

There is a network of 2-inch to 30-inch pipes throughout the Town of Paradise which total about 172 miles. About 2/3 of the pipe material is steel; the remainder is plastic and a small amount of asbestos cement (less than 2% of the total system). There are about 4,000 valves and 1,100 hydrants in the system. The hydrants are maintained by the Town of Paradise and

the valves by the District.

More than 26,000 ridge residents receive PID water through 10,550 service connections to their meter. The water service pipes to homes

and businesses are comprised primarily of high density polyethylene (HDPE), galvanized steel and copper. There is no lead pipe used in the distribution system or the water service connections.



### **Health information for medically-vulnerable residents**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking treated water from their health care providers.

The US EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

### **PID resources to help you:**

Do you have questions about the water you drink and use? You don't have to go to a huge utility company to get the answers you need—Paradise Irrigation District is a public agency. It is operated to benefit water consumers in our area and governed by local people you've elected.

Unlike privately-owned utility companies, PID makes all of its decisions right here in our community.

PID actively seeks citizen input and has a variety of free resources listed below to help you. For more information, call 877-4971 or go to [ParadiseIrrigation.com](http://ParadiseIrrigation.com)

- Monitor your water use and receive leak alerts with AquaHawk alerting
- Online bill payment
- Monthly newsletters
- [VisitParadiseLake.com](http://VisitParadiseLake.com)
- [ParadiseSavesWater.com](http://ParadiseSavesWater.com)



**FISHING BOATING HIKING**  
PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

[VISITPARADISELAKE.COM](http://VISITPARADISELAKE.COM) – LAKE CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

**GAZEBO & PICNIC AREA RENTAL**  
PICTURESQUE FOR PARTIES & WEDDINGS: 873-1040

*UNDER SPECIAL USE PERMIT WITH THE FOREST SERVICE*

## Substances that could be in drinking water...

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 plants, animals or from human activity.

To make sure our tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the State Water Resources Control



Board (State Board) prescribe regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same level of protection for public health. 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. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Additional information on bottled water is available on the California Department of Public Health website (<http://archive.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/fdbBVW.aspx>).

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 can 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 which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or can 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Lead and copper and your drinking water

Federal regulations require Paradise Irrigation District to sample for lead and copper in your drinking water and then the state reviews those samples for compliance. Based on the sampling results, there is no reason for concern. The samples show no lead and only minimal results for copper—and those levels are well below

the action level for concern. However, if you are concerned about lead and/or copper in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead and copper in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or a Quick

Reference Guide at <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=60001N8P.txt> or call the district at 530/877-4971.

New regulations require the district to test for lead in the drinking water at all Paradise schools if requested.

### DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT:

**RAL (Regulatory Action Level)**: Concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter)**: A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary (health-related) 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 aesthetic appearance and use of the 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 USEPA.

**MFL (million fibers per liter)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)**: 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)**: 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.

**NA**: Not applicable.

**ND (Not detected)**: The substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS**: No standard.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units)**: Measurement of the clarity/cloudiness—or turbidity—of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard)**: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect

health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

**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 EPA.

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

**ppm (parts per million)**: One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter). Imagine one ping-pong ball in an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

**ppb (parts per billion)**: One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter). Imagine one ping pong ball in 1,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter)**: A measurement of radioactivity.

## Sampling results

Paradise Irrigation District has taken thousands of regulated and unregulated water samples during the past years to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile and synthetic organic contaminants and monitor the treatment process. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water; some that were not detected are listed because our customers may be interested in seeing the results. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change significantly. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

PRIMARY HEALTH STANDARDS		Surface Water Supply			Groundwater Supply			MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCL	YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
<b>INORGANIC</b>								
Chromium (Total) (ppb)	50	2013	ND	ND	2014	3.4	3.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium Hexavalent (ppb)	10	2015	0.11	0.11	2014	3.4	3.4	Oxidized Chromium.
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	10	2016	ND	ND	2016	0.23	0.23	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks or systems.
Fluoride (ppm)	2	2013	ND	ND	2014	ND	ND	Natural occurring substance.
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL</b>								
Cryptosporidium (prior to treatment)	0	2016	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	Human and animal fecal waste.
Giardia (prior to treatment)	0	2016	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	Human and animal fecal waste.
Total Coliforms	5% or 2 samples	2016	1.25%	0%-2.5%	2016	ND	ND	Naturally present in the environment.
<i>No more than 5% of all samples taken during a single month may be positive for total coliform</i>								
<b>CLARITY</b>								
Turbidity (NTU) (prior to treatment)	~	2016	4.7	0.40-9	2016	0.18	0.18	Soil runoff.
Turbidity (NTU) (TT) (treated water)	0.2	2016	0.06	0.03-0.08	NA	NA	NA	Soil runoff.
<i>Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water. Turbidity measurement is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. PID's permit with State Drinking Division requires PID to deliver water with no more than 0.2 NTU.</i>								
<b>RADIOLOGICAL</b>								
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	2008	0.55	0.55	2008	0.8	0.8	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>DISINFECTANT</b>								
Chlorine, Free Residual as Cl <sub>2</sub> (ppm) (TT)	4	2016	0.8	0.2-1.4	NA	NA	NA	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS</b>								
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	~	2016	3.2	2.9-3.6	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
Chloroform (Trichloromethane) (ppb)	~	2016	34.8	29-44	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
Trihalomethanes, Total (ppb)	80	2016	40.5	33-48	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
Dichloroacetic Acid (DCAA) (ppb)	~	2016	12.3	6.8-20	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
Trichloroacetic Acid (TCAA) (ppb)	~	2016	19.8	14-28	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids, Total (ppb)	60	2016	33.5	24-43	NA	NA	NA	Drinking water disinfection.
<b>DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCT PRECURSOR</b>								
Total Organic Carbon (prior to treatment)	~	2016	1.2	1.1-1.3	NA	NA	NA	Decay of natural organic matter.

## LEAD & COPPER ANALYSES

Every three years PID is required to sample at the customers' faucets for lead and copper. This monitoring ensures our water is not too corrosive and does not leach unsafe levels of these metals into your drinking water. Compliance measurements are from the 90th percentile (the level measured at 90% of homes sampled). See "Corrosivity" section.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	VIOLATION?	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90 <sup>TH</sup> %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm at the 90th percentile)	2014	No	1.3	0.3	0.26	0/30	Internal corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead (ppb at the 90th percentile)	2014	No	15	0.2	ND	0/30	Internal corrosion of household plumbing.



For a tour of the Water Treatment Plant or for more information about these tables or how your water is treated, call the PID Water Treatment Plant at 530/877-3554.

**SECONDARY AESTHETIC STANDARDS**

CHEMICAL (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCL	Surface Water Supply			Groundwater Supply			MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
		YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Chloride (ppm)	500	2011	2.5	2.5	2014	1.3	1.3	Natural occurring substance.
Hardness (ppm)	~	2016	28	28	2014	76	76	Natural occurring substance.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	500	2016	43	43	2014	150	150	Natural occurring substance.
<b>CORROSIVITY</b>								
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	1600	2016	77	77	2014	160	160	A measurement of water's conductance.
Langelier Saturation Index *	Non-Corrosive	2016	-1.7	-1.7	NA	NA	NA	Indicator of corrosiveness of water.
Aggressive Index	Non-Corrosive	2016	10	10	NA	NA	NA	Indicator of corrosiveness of water.
Zinc (ppm)(TT)	5	2016	0.5	0.3-0.6	2014	ND	ND	Water additive used to control corrosion.
Orthophosphate (ppm)(TT)	~	2016	1.4	1.2-1.6	NA	NA	NA	Water additive used to control corrosion.

\* The Langelier Saturation and Aggressive Indices and Specific Conductance are tests to measure the corrosivity of water. The results indicate that PID water is mildly corrosive. Zinc orthophosphate (ZOP) is added at the treatment plant to reduce the corrosiveness of the water on metallic pipes.

**UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**

CHEMICAL (UNIT OF MEASURE)	Surface Water Supply			Groundwater Supply			MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
	YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	YEAR SAMPLED	AVERAGE DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Alkalinity as CaCO3 (ppm)	2016	32	32	2014	81	81	Natural occurring substance.
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2016	39	39	2014	99	99	Natural occurring substance.
Calcium (ppm)	2016	5.8	5.8	2014	15	15	Natural occurring substance.
Magnesium (ppm)	2016	3.4	3.4	2014	9.3	9.3	Natural occurring substance.
Sodium (ppm)	2011	1.9	1.9	2014	5.1	5.1	Natural occurring substance.
Chlorate (ppb)	2015	260	120-400	NA	NA	NA	Sodium Hypochlorite used for disinfection.
pH	2016	7.3	7.2-7.4	2016	7.3	7.3	Slightly basic water.

*This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Beginning April 1, 2016, all water systems are also required to comply with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. The new federal rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (e.g., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system.*

# Watch for these during water outages or periods of low water pressure:

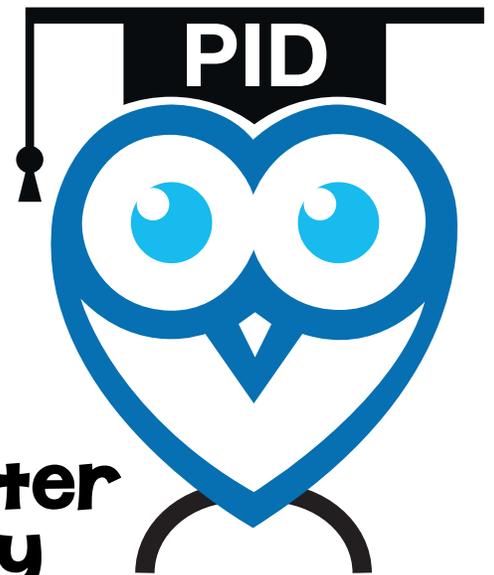
1. If you are experiencing water outages or low water pressure, immediately discontinue any non-essential water use. This includes all outdoor irrigation and car washing. Minimizing use will reduce the potential for the water system to lose pressure or run out of water. Please notify your water system if you experience an outage or low pressure.
2. If the water looks cloudy or dirty, you should not drink it. Upon return of normal water service, you should flush the hot and cold water lines until the water appears clear and the water quality returns to normal.
3. If you are concerned about the water quality or are uncertain of its safety, you may add eight drops of household bleach to one gallon of water and let it sit for 30 minutes or alternatively, if you are able, water can be boiled for one minute at a rolling boil to ensure it is safe for consumption.
4. Use of home treatment devices does not guarantee the water supply is safe after low pressure situations.
5. Do not be alarmed if you experience higher than normal chlorine concentrations in your water supply since the California Department of Public Health is advising public water utilities to increase chlorine residuals in areas subject to low pressure or outages.
6. The California Department of Public Health has also advised public water systems to increase the bacteriological water quality monitoring of the distribution system in areas subject to low pressure. This may include collecting samples in your area to confirm that the water remains safe for consumption. You will be promptly advised if the sampling reveals a water quality problem.
7. Your water system is committed to ensuring that an adequate quantity of clean, wholesome, and potable water is delivered to you. We recommend that you discuss the information in this notice with members of your family to assure that all family members are prepared should water outages or low water pressure occur.

## Water conservation: It's for life!

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference—try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers—a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.ParadiseSavesWater.com](http://www.ParadiseSavesWater.com) or [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

**Use  
our water  
wisely**



# Paradise fourth graders learn about our water

Dozens of Paradise fourth graders enjoy hands-on learning about water when Paradise Irrigation District sponsors its annual Wet Festival at local elementary schools in May.

Sure, it may look like a lot of plain old fun with water brigades, lots of “accidental” splashing and even a craft project to make a bracelet. But a lot more is happening than simple fun.

The morning event includes activity centers featuring information about water sources, the water cycle, conservation, water treatment and even a try at repairing a leaky PID pipe.

It’s hands-on learning of the best type and PID works closely with local fourth grade teachers to provide background and suggested pre-activities as well as the instruction on the day of the event to educate a new generation of water users about the importance of our water.

California fourth graders already study the water cycle; the PID-provided Water Education for Teachers (WET) curriculum develops that further, weaving in science, social studies and geography.

PID offers everything so the program doesn’t cost the school district or teachers anything. In addition to the curriculum, the projects and the take-home items like pencils and booklets, the district covers the cost of the school bus up to the treatment plant.

Teaching students about local water and how to conserve it is an effort that continues be-



## Educating a New Generation of Water Users

*Hands-on learning at the Wet Festival at Paradise schools*

yond the day’s event. Teachers share with the district that students are much more aware of where their water comes from and the importance of conservation after participating.

When the student shares what they’ve learned with their family, the program’s message can

carry throughout the whole community.

Participating schools most years include Paradise Elementary, Ponderosa Elementary, Achieve Charter and Childrens Community Charter.

### *Tips for protecting our source water:*

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. You can help protect your community’s drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Properly maintain your septic system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer with a watershed or wellhead protection organization. Use US EPA’s Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network’s How to Start a Watershed Team.

### *Save money and stop worrying—*

- *Sign up for AquaHawk*
- *Tell us how to contact you and we’ll notify you if you have a leak!*

Leave your phone number, text number and/or e-mail address with us and we’ll have it on file in case our automated leak monitoring system detects a leak at your home or business.

We’ll contact you as soon as we know about the leak so you can save money and water from going down the drain!

Call our friendly customer service representatives (530/877-4971) or include the information when you mail in your next bill.

Your information will remain confidential and will only be used by Paradise Irrigation District.

Registering for PID’s free leak alert and water monitoring system, **AquaHawk**, is free. Sign up today to keep an eye on your water use; you can even set an “allowance” for water or money spent monthly—you’ll receive an alert when you’re use is approaching the limits you’ve set. Get more information at [ParadiseIrrigation.com](http://ParadiseIrrigation.com)

