

*"Pride in Community Service"*

# VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

3757 Constellation Road • Lompoc, CA 93436 • Telephone: (805) 733-2475 • Fax: (805) 733-2109



## 20th Anniversary

On December 2, 2003, Vandenberg Village Community Services District celebrated 20 years of service to the residents of Vandenberg Village. At their anniversary celebration held on December 9, 2003, the District received a Certificate of Recognition from the California Senate for that dedication (above).

## Reminder - Water Pressure

Residents in the upper pressure zone (Burning Tree Way, Cypress Way, Doral Drive, Firestone Way, Greenbrier Road, La Costa Lane, Manzanita Way, Medinah Lane, Oakhill Drive, Oakhill Terrace, Tamarack Court and upper parts of St. Andrews Way) are supplied with water using pumps running continuously to maintain pressure. Customers on these streets are asked to refrain from watering their lawns between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. because the water pumps cannot maintain the pressure needed during those peak hours with the added demand from the water sprinklers. We encourage these customers to set their sprinkler timers on odd or even hours corresponding to the last digit of their street address at times throughout the day and night other than 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. This simple request helps the District better serve District ratepayers in the upper pressure zone and saves \$20,000 per year in electrical costs.

## Toilet Rebate Program Changed

At their November 4, 2003 meeting, the Board of Directors voted to remove the two toilet limit on toilet rebates. Funds are available to reimburse homes and businesses up to \$130 per toilet for all ultra low flow toilets that replace old, high consumption toilets. It is easy to get a rebate....just save your receipts documenting the purchase and installation and give us a call. We will tell you how to apply for a credit to your account or refund check.

## Irrigation Controller Pilot Program

In an attempt to stay on the cutting edge of water conservation, the District is starting a pilot program that offers a free, state-of-the-art, ET irrigation controller to select customers. These controllers automatically calculate a watering schedule based on our local weather conditions. This saves water by preventing overwatering and runoff. As part of the pilot program, the ET controller will be installed at no cost to you. If you use more than 80ccf per month for irrigation and are interested in participating in our pilot program, please contact Tina McManigal at 733-2475 for more information.



## New Finance Administrator

On June 2, 2003, Patricia LeCavalier (above) joined the Vandenberg Village Community Services District office staff as Finance Administrator. Patty was raised here in Vandenberg Village and graduated from Cal Poly with a B.S. in Business Administration.

**VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003**

**The District** routinely monitors for constituents in accordance with Federal and State laws. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. **THE DISTRICT HAS MET ALL STANDARDS.**

**Our water source** comes from 3 wells which draw from the "Lompoc Uplands Aquifer". Our wells are located at 702 and 704 Highway 1 about a 1/4 mile west of the "Wye" intersection.

In accordance with the State's Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program, a Drinking Water Source Assessment for all 3 District Wells has been completed April 2001. In summary District sources, wells 1B, 3B, and 3A are considered most vulnerable to the following activities **NOT** associated with any detected contaminants: NPDES/WDR permitted discharges, Septic systems - low density, and pesticide/fertilizer/petroleum storage and transfer areas. It is important to note that no contaminants have been detected.

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at:

**DHS Drinking Water Field Operations Branch  
1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200  
Carpenteria, CA 93013-2000**

or you may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting:

**Kurt Souza  
DHS District Engineer  
805-566-1326**

The Board of Directors hold a regularly scheduled Board meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in the District's office conference room at 3757 Constellation Rd. The public is encouraged to attend.

**TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:**

**MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level:** 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 are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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

**SDWS - Secondary Drinking Water Standards:** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**ND** - Not detectable at testing limit

**NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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 Environmental Protection Agency.

**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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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

**MFL** - Million Fibers per Liter: a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**ppm** - parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb** - parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**pCi/L** -: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**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 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the state Department of Health Services prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

**Microbiological Quality monitoring** is required of the VVCS Distribution system. Required samples are 2 per week. VVCS samples 3 per week. In 2003, we tested 159 samples; none were found to be positive. The District is in compliance with the Total Coliform Rule.

**Radiological Water Quality** Results of water sample analysis performed to measure radiological constituents: The District is in compliance. The level did not exceed 15 picoCuries per Liter (pCi/L). Results of the most recent tests for Gross Alpha was 1.1 - 1.3 pCi/L for the year 2002. The next radiological testing is due in 2006.

**Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4**, list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The Department requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper sampled: 9/2002	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	20	ND	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; discharges from industrial manufacturers.
Copper (ppm)	20	0.980	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Next round of sampling for lead and copper are to be done September 2005

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	1/16/02	70.2	72 - 69	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	1/16/02	315	460 - 220	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

Note: Divide the hardness level by 17.1 to obtain the grains per gallon (gpg) as used by the water softener industry, which in this case is 18.4 gpg.

TABLE 3 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic <sup>1</sup> (ppb)	1/16/02	5.7	2.1 - 8.1	50	na - (na)	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Asbestos (mfl)	09/2002	ND	System Sample	7	na - (7)	Internal corrosion of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO <sub>3</sub> ) (ppm)	1/16/02	ND	ND	45	45 - (na)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1/16/02	0.32	0.38-0.28	2	1 - (na)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

<sup>1</sup> USEPA has revised the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concerns that it may not be stringent enough. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations. On February 22, 2002 the arsenic in drinking water rule became effective; the date by which systems must comply with the new 10 ppb standard is January 23, 2006. The District is in compliance.

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Note: There are no PHG's or MCLG's for constituents with Secondary drinking Water Standards because these are not health based levels, but set on basis of aesthetics.

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Level Detected	MCL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (units)	<5	15	Naturally occurring organic materials.
Copper (ppm)	ND	1	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Iron (ppb)	<100	300	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	<50	50	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (TON -Threshold Odor number)	1	3	Naturally occurring organic material
Corrosivity	10.3 corrosive	12.0 non corrosive	Natural or industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water; affected by temperature and other factors
MBAS - Foaming Agents (ppb)	ND	500	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Turbidity - Clarity (ntu)	<0.1	5	Soil Runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	611	1000	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	1053	1600	Substances that form ions when in water
Chloride (ppm)	154	500	Run of/leaching from natural deposits, seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	150	500	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes

Note: Due to recent concerns regarding the contaminant MTBE (Methyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether), our wells were sampled in 2002 and **no MTBE** was detected. MTBE is a gasoline additive used to help reduce air pollution, however by doing so, MTBE is now polluting some of the country's underground water supply. Since MTBE is still currently being used, there are efforts to pass laws to ban this additive.

Tested for 37 **regulated Volatile Organic Compounds**, all 37 non-detectable.  
 Tested for 30 **unregulated Volatile Organic Compounds**, all 30 non-detectable.  
 (Sampled 01/16/2002, next required sampling is due 2005.) Results are available at the District Office.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS REPORT OR YOUR WATER QUALITY, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**MARTIN R. DAMWYK**

**PHONE: 733-2475**

**E-MAIL: [administration@vvcسد.org](mailto:administration@vvcسد.org)**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-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, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information about contaminants and potential health effects are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Wastewater Treatment Plant

We reported in our last newsletter that the City of Lompoc had begun to develop the Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plant (LRWRP) Master Plan due to State of California mandated upgrades. The Plan includes design and financing necessary to accommodate the required modifications to the LRWRP, which is scheduled to begin work to the plant in late 2004. We also reported that the total costs for all phases of modifications could exceed \$50 million and that because VVCSD owns 17.8% of the LRWRP capacity, the District's share of the total cost of the State mandated modifications could be approximately \$8.5 million.

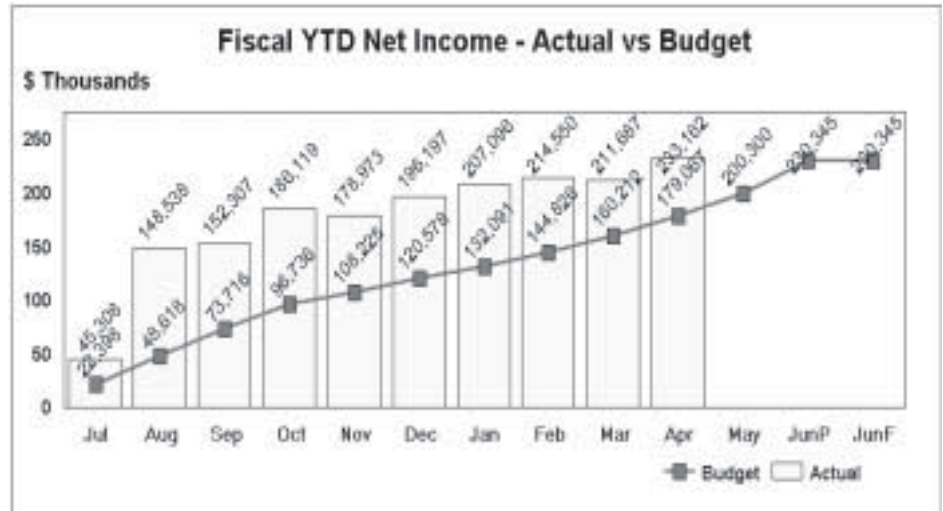
We have since learned that the City of Lompoc plans

to utilize State Revolving Funds (SRF), which are low interest loans available from the State to improve wastewater facilities. However, the City may utilize bonds to fund part or all of the modifications should the SRF monies not be available at the time of construction. Either way, the District will be required to cover its share of the cost in our sewer rate structure. The District has contracted with a consulting firm to prepare the State required documents to review our sewer rate structure.

As we previously reported, the District will use a portion of our wastewater reserves to help reduce the impact to the ratepayers. However, our rate structure will be affected by this project as early as FY 2004-2005.

# District Unimpacted by State Budget Crisis

As an independent special district, VVCSD does not depend on funds from the State or County. All of our expenses are paid out of rates collected from Vandenberg Village residents. Therefore, we are not being impacted by the budget crises that are plaguing other government agencies. However, there are rumors coming out of Sacramento that some would like to raid our coffers to help bail out the State. Because this is YOUR money, they cannot do this without your permission. Should a ballot in the near future propose this remedy, please vote NO.



## Water Improvement Study

In 2000, the VVCSD Board of Directors approved a Water Quality Improvement study to review the possibility of reducing the hardness in the water delivered to District rate-payers. There are several potentially environmentally and economically beneficial opportunities associated with the project. Any treatment process envisioned by the VVCSD would not utilize sodium or potassium, thereby, not adding salt to the water supply. As we reported in our Summer 2000 newsletter, if the hardness is removed and reduced to a certain level, then water ratepayers will no longer need water softeners at their residence or office. This would eliminate the monthly expenses associated with the water softener.

In addition, by improving the quality of wastewater delivered at the LWRWP, the cost of treating District wastewater may be reduced. Once the wastewater has been treated it is released into the river. With fewer chemicals in the wastewater delivered to the LRWRP, combined with

the need for fewer chemicals to be used in the treatment of the wastewater, the cleaner the treated water released into the river, which would be better for the environment.

We are now in our next stage of the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP). In our 2003 newsletter, we reported that we were studying the feasibility of a WQIP and that we had requested proposals from 10 engineering design firms. One of the proposals was selected for further study and now a pilot project is necessary to verify that this process will work in our area. The pilot project will analyze the water, the type of process to best achieve the desired level of hardness removed from the water without using sodium or potassium, the modifications to the existing facilities and the sizing of a potential hardness removal plant.

At the May 11 Board meeting, the Board voted to put the WQIP on hold until we know more about how the District will be impacted by upgrades to the LRWRP.

## PERS Audit

Last November, Vandenberg Village Community Services District reached a full and complete settlement with the California Public Employees' Retirement System regarding Finding #3 of the 2000 PERS Audit. This settlement provides that neither the District nor Mr. Keller will owe PERS contributions on any of the funds paid to Mr. Keller post-retirement nor will any administrative expenses be assessed. Moreover, PERS will not seek to reinstate Mr. Keller nor seek recovery of any of the retirement benefits he has previously received.

The District also avoids the cost associated with the scheduled February 4, 2004 hearing regarding this finding and any subsequent litigation regarding the outcome of that hearing.

## Public Vigilance

We encourage the residents of Vandenberg Village to be vigilant and report any suspicious activities to assist us in security protection of your water supply. Please report any suspicious activities to the local sheriff at 737-7737 or call the District at 733-2475.

## VVCS D HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Office will be closed the following dates :

**MEMORIAL DAY • MAY 31, 2004**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY • JULY 5, 2004**

**LABOR DAY • SEPTEMBER 6, 2004**

**VETERANS' DAY • NOVEMBER 11, 2004**

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

November 25 & 26, 2004

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

December 24, 2004 • Close at 1:00 p.m.

Closed December 27, 2004

**NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY**

December 31, 2004 • Close at 1:00 p.m.

Closed January 3, 2005

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR'S BIRTHDAY**

January 17, 2005

**PRESIDENTS DAY • FEBRUARY 21, 2005**



## VVCS D MISSION STATEMENT

*"To efficiently provide dependable drinking water delivery and wastewater collection services to Vandenberg Village residents, with a commitment to customer service."*

For personal assistance, the District office, located at 3757 Constellation Road, is open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

The VVCS D Web Page can be found at:

[www.vvcsd.org](http://www.vvcsd.org)

E-mail may be sent to: [info@vvcsd.org](mailto:info@vvcsd.org)

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