



# Neighborhood News

Indian Hills General Improvement District  
3394 James Lee Park Rd. #A, Carson City, NV 89705  
Phone #: (775) 267-2805 Fax #: (775) 267-3510  
[www.indianhillsnevada.com](http://www.indianhillsnevada.com)

## Tap Water versus Bottled Water

### Board of Trustees

Chairman  
Brian Patrick

Vice Chairwoman  
Laura Lau

Secretary/Treasurer  
Denise Pierini

Trustee  
Bill Eisele

Trustee  
Kathryn Clark-Ross

General Manager  
Dennis Longhofer

### Inside This Issue

Tap Water versus Bottled Water	1
Water Quality 2006 "Consumer Confidence Report"	2
Water Quality 2006 "Consumer Confidence Report Continued"	3
Water Quality 2006 Testing Results	4
Water Quality 2006 Definitions	5
Source Water Assessment Program Summary Sheet	6
Community Barbecue and Swap Meet	7



Bottled water is the fastest growing drink choice in the United States. Americans drink it because they prefer its taste or think it is safer than tap water. All drinking water (both tap and bottled) either comes from sources we see, such as rivers and lakes or from sources we can not see, such as underground aquifers.

The taste and quality of bottled and tap water depends on the source and quality of the water, including its natural mineral content and how, or if, the water is treated. Bottled and tap water can 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. To make sure all drinking water is safe, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Food Administration (FDA) set drinking water standards. EPA sets standards for tap water provided by public water suppliers. FDA sets standards for bottled water based on EPA standards. Bottled water and tap water are both safe to drink if they meet these standards. FDA regulates bottled water as a packaged food under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and has established standards of identity and quality for bottled water. FDA has also established good manufacturing practice requirements for processing and bottling drinking water.

### Know what you are buying

Bottled water is much more expensive, per gallon, than tap water. Consider whether you are buying it as a healthy alternative to bottled beverages, for its taste, or for other reasons. One of the key differences between tap water and bottled water is due to how the water is disinfected. Tap water may be disinfected with chlorine, chloramines, ozone or ultraviolet light to kill disease causing germs. Bottled water that is disinfected is typically disinfected using ozone or other technologies such as ultraviolet light or chlorine dioxide. Other common bottled water treatments include distillation, micron filtration and reverse osmosis. To learn about the quality of bottled water, begin by reading the label. In addition to the volume of water, any pertinent nutritional claims, and other contact information for the bottler, the label may include the type of bottled water, its source, and the way in which it is treated.

### Type of water and source

Bottlers use standard identifiers, prescribed by FDA regulations, to describe their water. "Spring water" can be collected at the point where water flows naturally to the earth's surface or from a borehole that taps into the underground source. Other terms used such as "glacier water" or "mountain water" are not regulated standards of identity and may not indicate that the water is necessarily from a pristine area. The term "purified" refers to the processes that remove chemicals and pathogens. "Purified water" is not necessarily free of microbes. The following terms are also used on bottle water labels to describe the water's characteristics, sources and methods of treatment. Other terms used are distilled water, drinking water, mineral water and sterile water. Carbonated water, soda water, seltzer water, sparkling water and tonic water are considered soft drinks and are not regulated as bottled water.

### Certification

Neither EPA nor FDA certify bottled water. However, consumers may notice a logo or seal from other organizations on the label. The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) is a trade organization for water bottlers. IBWA members must meet the organization's "model code" and are subject to annual inspections by an independent third party. Bottled water certified by NSF International undergoes additional testing by unannounced annual plant inspections. NSF certifications mean that the bottler complies with all applicable FDA requirements, including good manufacturing practices. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) is an independent accredited testing and certification organization that tests bottled water to FDA, state and IBWA model code requirements.

For more information on bottled water, contact the bottler directly, ask for its latest testing results and compare these results with EPA's tap water standards ([www.epa.gov/safewater/mcl.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/mcl.html)).

Information from [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

# Water Quality 2006 Consumer Confidence Report



Annually at this time, the Indian Hills General Improvement District (IHGID) is required to present to all District water system customers a "Consumer Confidence Report" which includes, among other information, a listing of all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2006 calendar year. That listing is provided as the "Water Quality 2006 Testing Results."

## Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards with the exception of Arsenic which the District is working on. IHGID vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

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. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Where does my water come from?

IHGID uses groundwater drawn from a total of nine wells which draw from the Kimmerling aquifer, Mottsville aquifer, and from the Indian Creek aquifer.

## Source water assessment and its availability

The Bureau of Safe Drinking Water conducted a source water assessment on wells in the Indian Hills General Improvement District, and generated a report dated May 26, 2006. A summary of the report is included in this water quality report.

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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:

- x Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- x Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- x Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- x 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, and septic systems.
- x 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## How can I get involved?

If you want to learn more, you can call the IHGID Water Treatment Plant, or attend our regularly scheduled Board meetings. You can also support the District by continuing to conserve water. In addition, if you see any unusual or suspicious activities around any of the District water facilities, do not hesitate to call 911.

# Water Quality 2006 Consumer Confidence Report

## Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations

During 2005, IHGID submitted all the samples required on our Schedule A given to us by the State of Nevada Bureau of Safe Drinking Water. However, Fluoride, being both a secondary and primary contaminate in the State of Nevada, was not listed on the schedule A as a secondary to be tested nor was it included separately as a primary contaminate to be tested for. As a rule, Fluoride is commonly included in secondary contaminate sampling testing. The District's testing laboratory did not include Fluoride levels from our secondary contaminate samples which were sent in 2006. Voluntary Fluoride samples were sent in for Brown's well and Hobo well and those results are contained in this report. However, Fluoride levels were not reported at the remaining wells which we use. Historically, Fluoride levels at these wells have not exceeded .5 ppm. Additional Fluoride samples will be taken in 2007 at all our well sites to resolve this issue.

## Variance and Exemptions

The IHGID applied for and was granted an exemption for arsenic removal effective January 1, 2006 until January 23, 2009. The District is currently performing a pilot study and investigating financial alternatives to design and build a suitable arsenic removal process that will be cost-effective and reliable in meeting the new arsenic levels. The Nevada State Environmental Commission approved our application for an exemption for the following three reasons.

1. "Because of compelling factors, including economic considerations, the public water system is unable to comply or to implement measures to develop an alternative source of supply.
2. The granting of the exemption will not result in an unreasonable risk to health; and
3. Management of restructuring changes, or both, cannot reasonably be made that will result in compliance with the primary drinking water standards or, if compliance cannot be achieved, improve the quality of the drinking water."



## Health Information About Water Quality

Some people who drink water containing arsenic of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

For more information, please contact:

Indian Hills General Improvement District, Dave Wright

3394 James Lee Park Rd. #A

Carson City, NV 89705

Main Office: (775) 267-2805, Water Treatment Plant (775) 267-9860

Main Office Fax: (775) 267-3510, Water Treatment Plant Fax: (775) 267-9325

Website: [www.indianhillsnevada.com](http://www.indianhillsnevada.com)

E-mail: [ihgidfieldtech@indianhillsnevada.com](mailto:ihgidfieldtech@indianhillsnevada.com)



# Water Quality 2006 Testing Results

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM, TOTAL (TCR)	In the month of October, 1 sample(s) returned as positive	MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month - No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	9/27/2005	20	13 - 20	ppb	10.000		Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM	4/21/2003	0.04	0.03 - 0.04	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	8/9/2006	1.8	1.4 - 1.8	ppm	2.0	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (AS N)	9/13/2006	2.5	1 - 2.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TURBIDITY	3/24/2003	0.9	0.6 - 0.9	NTU	5.0		Soil runoff

Disinfection By-Products	Monitoring Period	RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2005	20	12 - 27	ppb		0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	2005	38	29 - 51	ppb	80.000	0.000	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Date	90 <sup>TH</sup> Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2005 - 2007	0.091		ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2005 - 2007	4		ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
GROSS ALPHA, INCLDNG RA & U, EXCLDNG RN	2/14/2005	25	2 - 25	pCi/L	15		Decay of natural and man-made deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	2/14/2005	10.1	3.1 - 10.1	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
RADIUM, COMBINED (226, 228)	6/28/2005	2.3	0.4 - 2.3	pCi/L	5		Erosion of natural deposits
URANIUM, COMBINED	2/14/2005	26	1.1 - 26	µg/L	30		Erosion of natural deposits

# Water Quality 2006 Definitions

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS	
Term	Definition
ug/L	Ug/L: Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
positive samples/month	Positive samples/month: number of samples taken monthly that we found to be positive.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS	
Term	Definition
MCLG	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 allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
RAA	RAA: Running Annual Average
Variance and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

VIOLATIONS AND EXCEEDANCES
<p><b>Arsenic</b></p> <p>Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. IHGID has arsenic levels at Brown's well, which is our primary water source, of 13 to 20 ppb. The arsenic levels detected run throughout the year. IHGID is studying treatment alternatives for arsenic and are currently performing a pilot study to ascertain the most effective and cost-effective method of arsenic treatment.</p>
<p><b>Alpha emitters</b></p> <p>Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.</p> <p>Opalite well near Vista Grande was sampled on February 2, 2005 after sitting idle since October 2004. As we were required to test all of our wells quarterly for Radionuclides it was necessary to test this well at that time. We only operate this well during the summer months. We flushed this well prior to taking the sample but obviously did not flush long enough with the sample result being higher than the MCL. At no time did this water enter the distribution system as the well was off for the winter season. The sample results for the following three quarters averaged 11.9 pCi/L, below the MCL.</p> <p>After four quarters of testing, for all of our wells, the averaged results were below the MCL for Radionuclides and IHGID asked for and was granted a reduced monitoring schedule. Future Radionuclide sampling will be on a three year schedule. This well is flushed and tested before it is valved into the distribution system.</p>

# Nevada Source Water Assessment Program Summary Sheet

State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Summary Date: 5/26/2006

Assessor: State

The federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was amended in 1996 to require states to develop and implement Source Water Assessment Programs (SWAP) to analyze existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water throughout the state. The 1996 Amendments also required a summary of the findings of the assessment to be included in the water system's annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The 1996 Amendments specifically required states to delineate areas that are sources of public drinking water, identify potential contamination sources within the delineated area, assess the water system's susceptibility to contamination, and to inform the public of the results. These results are summarized below.

## Water System Contact Information

Water System Name: INDIAN HILLS GID	County: Douglas	
BSDW System ID Number: NV0000355	Number of Connections: 1,810	Population Served: 5,800
Owner's Rep: DAVE WRIGHT	Address 3394 JAMES LEE PARK RD. NO. A, Carson City, NV 89705	
Telephone: (775) 267-2805	Fax: (775) 267-3510	E-Mail: ihgidfieldtech@indianhillsnevada.com
Operator: DAVE WRIGHT	Address 3394 JAMES LEE PARK RD. NO. A, Carson City, NV 89705	
Telephone: (775) 267-9860	Fax: (775) 267-3510	E-Mail: ihgidfieldtech@indianhillsnevada.com

## Federal and State Water Quality Standards Compliance

.. If checked, the above referenced water system is in compliance with all State of Nevada and federal water quality standards. If not, then explain:

THE INDIAN HILLS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM UTILIZES SEVEN WELLS AND HAS SIX INACTIVE WELLS. ONE WELL HAS A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF FLUORIDE; HOWEVER, THE WATER SYSTEM HAS A BLENDING FACILITY TO REDUCE THE FLOURIDE LEVEL TO BELOW THE MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL OF 2 MILLIGRAMS PER LITER. THE WATER SYSTEM SERVES A GROWING POPULATION AND MAINTAINS A STAFF OF WELL-TRAINED PROFESSIONALS WHO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE SYSTEM. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 23, 2006, THE ARSENIC MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) FOR PUBLIC DRINKING WATER WAS REDUCED FROM 50 PARTS PER BILLION (ppb) TO 10 ppb. PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS WITH A MAXIMUM ARSENIC CONTAMINANT LEVEL THAT IS LESS THAN 51 ppb AND GREATER THAN 10 ppb ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION. IF GRANTED THE EXEMPTION ALLOWS THE WATER SYSTEM UNTIL JANUARY 23, 2009 TO COME INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE 10 ppb STANDARD. THIS WATER SYSTEM'S WELLS CURRENTLY EXCEED THE 10 ppb STANDARD. THE WATER SYSTEM HAS APPLIED FOR AN EXEMPTION THAT IS PENDING APPROVAL BY THE NEVADA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

## Water System Contamination Vulnerability

.. If checked, the above referenced water system is considered to have low vulnerability potential from contamination.

The above referenced water system is considered potentially vulnerable to the following contaminant groups:

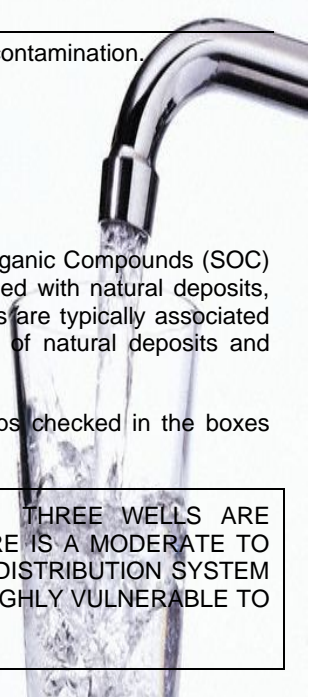
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)     Inorganic Compounds (IOC)     Microbiological   
Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC)     Radionuclides

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) are typically associated with gas stations and dry cleaners; Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC) are typically associated with herbicides and insecticides; Inorganic Compounds (IOC) are typically associated with natural deposits, fertilizers, septic systems, and asbestos components in the distribution system; microbiological contaminates are typically associated with lakes, streams, and animal holding facilities; and radionuclides are typically associated with erosion of natural deposits and industrial activities.

The water system is considered vulnerable to the activities/sources associated with the contaminant groups checked in the boxes above for the following reasons:

ONE WELL IS CONSIDERED TO BE MODERATELY VULNERABLE TO VOC CONTAMINATION. THREE WELLS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE MODERATELY VULNERABLE TO MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINATION. THERE IS A MODERATE TO LOW RISK FOR ASBESTOS TO CONTAMINATE THE DRINKING WATER. PORTIONS OF THE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED USING ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPE. ONE WELL IS CONSIDERED TO BE HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO ARSENIC AS THE WATER IT PRODUCES EXCEEDS THE ARSENIC MCL.

A copy of the complete assessment is available for viewing at the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW) Carson City office between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. It is suggested that an appointment be made if you are interested in viewing a report. The BSDW office is located at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada 89701. Telephone 1-775-687-9520



## YARD IMPROVEMENTS CONTEST



Residents that enter the contest might be eligible to receive donations from one of our participating sponsors. To participate, all you need to do is tidy up and improve your front and / or back yard, complete the entry form and submit requested items such as before and after photos. Pick up an entry form at the District's main office or on the District's website at [www.indianhillsnevada.com](http://www.indianhillsnevada.com).

**DEADLINE TO ENTER IS  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2007!**



**COMMUNITY BBQ & SWAP MEET  
SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2007  
11:00 A.M.  
JAMES LEE PARK**

# Community Barbecue & Swap Meet

Join us on Saturday, June 23, 2007 at 11:00 A.M. at James Lee Park. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy the activities.

Stroll through and purchase items with several vendors while listening to great music.

- J Live Music
- J Kids Bounce House
- J Swap Meet
- J Barbecue – Potluck
- J Margaritas



J MUCH MORE!

The District will provide hot dogs and burgers. Please bring a side dish. "



Inside this Issue....

TAP WATER VERSUS  
BOTTLED WATER

WATER QUALITY 2006  
"CONSUMER  
CONFIDENCE REPORT"

WATER QUALITY 2006  
TESTING RESULTS

WATER QUALITY 2006  
DEFINITIONS

SOURCE WATER  
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
SUMMARY SHEET

COMMUNITY BARBECUE AND  
SWAP MEET

Members of the community are always welcome to attend the IHGID Board of Trustees monthly meeting which is usually held the third Wednesday of each month.