

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este aviso contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable, por favor lea el aviso en español si va aquí incluido. Si el aviso en español no va incluido aquí, contacte al sistema de agua para pedir una copia.

## Heritage Ranch Community Services District water has levels of Haloacetic Acids above drinking water standards.

Our water system recently failed a drinking water standard. This is **not** an emergency. As our customers you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we are doing to correct this situation. We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received for the first quarter of 2024 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Haloacetic Acids, which are disinfection process byproducts. The MCL standard for Haloacetic Acids is 60 parts per billion. Results reported are based on a locational running annual average by calendar quarter (LRAA) at two sample locations. The most recent LRAA are shown below:

Sample Location	HAA5 LRAA	Meets Standard?
<i>Wood Duck LN &amp; Egret LN</i>	50.75	YES
<i>Black Horse LN &amp; Heritage RD</i>	61.58	NO

We exceed the standard at one location but are within the standard at the other. This is a significant change and is reflective of the work efforts of staff, including what is outlined in the “what was done” section below. As mentioned above, the reportable data required by the Division of Drinking Water is the Locational Running Annual Average by calendar quarter for each location.

However, over the last eight months we have been within the standards at both locations, but because of the annual running average by quarter method we do not meet the standard at both locations yet. For your information, the individual monthly sample data for HAA5 at each location over the last 12-months is shown below. (The average of the monthly data for each location equals the LRAA shown above.)

Sample Location	Q1 2023			Q2 2023			Q3 2023			Q4 2023			Q1 2024		
<i>Wood Duck LN &amp; Egret LN</i>	67	66	64	64	81	46	83	50	30	31	25	51	47	44	57
Meets Standard?	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<i>Black Horse LN &amp; Heritage RD</i>	68	86	64	110	74	66	100	52	40	43	53	43	51	48	59
Meets Standard?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

### What happened? What was done?

As previously mentioned, this is not an immediate health risk. Organic levels in Nacimiento Reservoir and Nacimiento River have substantially increased over time exacerbated by drought (low reservoir levels), climate, and long-term effects of the Chimney Fire resulting in higher levels of haloacetic acids created from the treatment process, specifically the use of chlorine for required disinfection.

We are actively pursuing projects and options to lower the organics and the haloacetic acid MCL’s within the system including but not limited to: implementing a granular activated carbon project pilot study; adjusting the water treatment and distribution system processes; maintaining a robust waterline flushing program; and have recently completed a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrade project, renovation of the Water Treatment Plant filters, testing of different chemicals to improve removal of organics, and constructed a raw water vertical intake facility. An additional vertical intake is currently in the design phase.

## What should I do?

- **You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.**
- This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids more than the MCL over many years 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 can you do at home?

[Reverse osmosis](#) filters have been shown to reduce HAA5 but are expensive.

[Activated carbon](#) filters such as Brita and PUR filters can also reduce HAA5 levels. There are different types from simple pitchers to under sink models and are very affordable.

(Consumers should verify which products are NSF/ANSI 42 and/or 53 certified to remove HAA5.)

For more information, please contact the office at 805-227-6230, or via email at [contact.us@heritageranchcsd.ca.gov](mailto:contact.us@heritageranchcsd.ca.gov), or by mail at 4870 Heritage Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446.

## Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **SCHOOLS:** Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

## **This notice is being sent to you by the Heritage Ranch Community Services District water system.**

*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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*