

Fluoridation FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FLUORIDATION

Does Olivenhain Municipal Water District currently have fluoride in its water?

All water has naturally occurring fluoride. OMWD's water contains approximately 0.24 parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

How do I know if my child or I need fluoride supplements?

OMWD treats the majority of water delivered to its customers at the David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant, and this source has no additional fluoride added at this time. OMWD also receives a portion of its treated drinking water from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. **On December 3, 2007**, Metropolitan began fluoridating its water; therefore OMWD customers are now receiving a blend of fluoridated water.

Effective December 3, 2007 as a result of this blend, fluoride levels of the water in OMWD's distribution system will be less than 0.6 mg/l. According to the California Department of Public Health guidelines, an Average Annual Fluoride Concentration (AAFC) below 0.6 mg/l is considered to be a non-fluoridated source.

All customers who use fluoride supplements are encouraged to contact their dental service providers to evaluate whether to continue taking fluoride supplements.

Will OMWD add fluoride to its water in the future? If so, when?

California State law—**AB 733 (1995), Health & Safety Code §116409-116415**—requires all public water systems to fluoridate their water once funds become available. In order to comply with this law, and to provide consistency in OMWD's system to match Metropolitan fluoridation levels, OMWD will begin fluoridating its water **in 2012**. This will allow OMWD to achieve optimal fluoridation levels as recommended by the California Department of Public Health. Once OMWD begins fluoridating, the AAFC will be 0.8 mg/l – 0.9 mg/l. A separate notification of all customers will occur in advance of this change.

For more information on fluoridation, please visit the following websites:

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Phone: (213) 217-6930

<http://www.mwdh20.org/>

Under the "Highlights" section, click on fluoridation.

California Department of Public Health

Phone: (916) 445-4218

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/pages/fluoridation.aspx>

San Diego County Water Authority

Phone: (858) 522-6600

www.sdcwa.org