

From: Therese <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 4:34 PM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Water-Fluoridation Support

Name: Therese

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dr. Abely and I am a pediatric dentist local to the area. I want to share my support for the water fluoridation of your water supply. Water fluoridation has been proven over and over to be a safe and effective way to combat dental caries in a community. It is a true public health measure as it benefits everyone. Caries, the disease that causes cavities, is the number one disease that affects children. It is more common than asthma, and more common than hay fever. In fact, millions of children every year in the United States miss school due to dental pain.

I cannot guarantee that every child has access to toothpaste and a toothbrush, but as long as everyone has access to fluoridated water, they have access to the best preventative measure available to fight dental infection. Fluoride helps prevent demineralization of enamel, remineralizes lost tooth structure, and is antimicrobial. At a 0.7ppm amount in the water supply, fluoride is safe. Fluoride was ranked the second most important public health measure of the 20th century in helping improve the overall health of our population, only second to seatbelts.

I urge you to not cause harm to the people in your community by removing the minimal yet important amount of fluoride from the water supply. Taking fluoride out of the water supply will only serve to cause pain, caries infection, and potential deaths.

Thank you for your time,
Therese Abely, DMD

From: Alex Neal <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 4:06 PM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Please stop Fluoridation

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Alex Neal

Email:

Message:

I strongly urge the board to request an exemption to the state's fluoridation mandate. Fluoridating water is an outdated practice introduced 80 years ago when tooth decay was a widespread health issue. Tooth decay is barely prevalent in our community today; the vast majority of people brush their teeth daily using fluoride. This was not the case 80 years ago. Furthermore, the fluoride added to drinking water is a manufacturing byproduct from the production of fertilizer. There are many potential harmful side effects of this industrial fluoride, especially for children. For these reasons, I think the board is justified in pursuing an exemption from the states fluoride mandate.

From: Carolyn Lawson <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 12:41 PM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Carolyn Lawson

Email:

Message:

It is irresponsible to consider stopping the addition of fluoride to our water. You did it for a reason! And the reason still exists! To help prevent tooth decay and give our children stronger teeth. I'll bet this cost is a minuscule part of your budget. Find savings elsewhere.

It worries me that the Board may be acquiescing to political pressure from government Health & Services Dept. where they are promoting false narratives and scare tactics about fluoride. Don't fall for it!

From: William Lee Vanderburgh <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 11:56 AM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Keep flouride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: William Lee Vanderburgh

Email:

Message:

From the data I've been able to find online, fluoridating water in our district would cost only about \$2 per resident per year. That is clearly very affordable, and given how important fluoride is to health, it is clearly excellent value for money. Don't let anti-science conspiracy theorists try to bamboozle you.

From: Lee Winters <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2025 10:51 AM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Continue fluoridation please

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Lee Winters
Email:

Message:
As a 23-year resident of the La Costa area, I request that you please continue to fluoridate our water for the sake of our children's dental and overall health. To stop fluoridation with the excuse that it costs \$160,000 makes no sense, that amount of money is nothing to the residents of this area, just charge us.

From: Sharon Kumpf <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2025 12:14 PM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Oppose adding fluoride to water

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Sharon Kumpf

Email:

Message:

Hello, I want to add my name to the opposition to adding fluoride to our drinking water. Fluoride is now so readily available in toothpastes and rinses that it is no longer a public health concern for fighting dental caries. As a matter of freedom and personal choice, you can not remove the fluoride without a reverse osmosis water filtration unit. That is less affordable than buying a tube of toothpaste. It is always best to let people exercise their own decisions regarding their health. The added benefit of saving money to the taxpayer should make the decision an easy one.

From: Lupe Armas <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2025 5:25 PM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Lupe Armas

Email:

Message:

KEEP FLUORIDATION! Science overwhelmingly points to fluoridation being a positive dental health factor. When compared to other price increases in wholesale water prices and OMWD's wages, the \$160K cost for fluoridation is a very small price to pay for the significant benefits that fluoridated water brings to us the OMWD customers.

From: [Janet Mitchell](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Please remove fluoride
Date: Monday, October 27, 2025 1:40:24 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Janet Mitchell

Email:

Message:

Regarding OMWD's consideration at the upcoming January 2026 meeting whether to request an exemption to the requirement to add fluoride to OMWD's drinking water, please go forward with that request.

Our household had to separately purchase drinking water for several years and then, finally, we installed an RO system 5 years ago to specifically eliminate the fluoride that OMWD puts into our drinking water.

Fluoride is toxic when it is ingested. Fluoride should only be used topically, in toothpastes, if, at all.

Please do the right thing and request the exemption.

Thank you, Janet Mitchell

From: Kathi Reynolds <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 8:08 AM
To: WaterSaver
Subject: Contact Form: No Fluoride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Kathi Reynolds

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please do not add chemical filled fluoride to our water. There is nothing healthy about fluoride and should not be added to our water system. Thank you

From: [Mark and Debbie Dervaes](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:52:46 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Mark and Debbie Dervaes

Email:

Message:

We do not mind having the fluoride added to our water. Thank you.

The Dervaes Family

From: John Lin <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 5:08 PM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Floride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: John Lin

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

We should continue to source fluoride and support public health.

From: [Johanna Marcelino](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Continue fluoridating our water!
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 9:54:18 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Johanna Marcelino

Email:

Message:

Hello,

I just saw that you are considering removing fluoride from our water supply. These unfounded scare tactics being spread by a man who has absolutely zero medical or scientific background can NOT begin hurting our community. Please research what happened in Calgary, Canada, regarding fluoride in the water supply. They removed it for a decade, found they had made the WRONG choice for public health and added it back in. As an OMWD customer, I am requesting you vote NO to remove fluoride from our water supply.

Thank you,
Johanna Marcelino

From: [Brian Sodeman](#)
To:
Cc: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: RE: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of discontinuing adding fluoride
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 10:21:55 AM

Hi Richard,

Thank you for your comments. Please find a response to your questions below. Your comments and this response will be shared with the board. Feel free to give me a call at 760-230-1858 if you would like to further discuss. Thanks!

1. Correct. Discontinuing fluoridation as part of the water treatment process would not eliminate naturally occurring fluoride.
2. OMWD has not performed an analysis on the cost for a household to maintain oral health. Customers with oral health concerns would need to discuss potential treatments and costs with their healthcare provider.
3. Yes. OMWD consulted with the municipalities that receive OMWD treated water and received confirmation that they would be able to accept OMWD treated water irrespective of OMWD's fluoridation practices.

Best regards,

Brian Sodeman
760-230-1858
bsodeman@olivenhain.com
Customer Service and Public Affairs Supervisor
Olivenhain Municipal Water District

From: Joe Jansen <jjansen@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:23 PM
To:
Cc: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: RE: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of discontinuing adding fluoride

Hi Richard,

Thank you for your comment. It will be shared with the board of directors.

Best regards,

Joe Jansen
Administrative Analyst
Office: (760) 632-4641
Mobile: (442) 888-0911
www.olivenhain.com

From: Richard <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:04 PM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of discontinuing adding fluoride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Richard
Email:

Message:
You say the benefit is saving the direct cost of fluoridation. However,

1. Previously you wrote that fluoride will still be present in the water, which will not satisfy opponents of fluoridation.
2. Previously you agreed that "fluoridating public drinking water is not only safe and effective, it is the best method of improving oral health in a community". How much will it cost a household to maintain oral health?
3. Will you still be able to operate the Water Treatment Plant at full capacity? If not, what will that cost? Previously you wrote that "Establishing regional consistency allows OMWD to provide water treated at its David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant to these municipalities, thus allowing OMWD to operate its treatment plant at full capacity to the benefit of its customers."

Your old web page:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20200928151343/https://www.olivenhain.com/your-water-supplies/potable-water/fluoride/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Sodeman <bsodeman@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:29 AM
To: Richard <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]
Cc: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: RE: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of discontinuing adding fluoride

Hi Richard,

Thank you for the additional comments. They will be shared with the board for consideration.

Best regards,

Brian Sodeman
760-230-1858
bsodeman@olivenhain.com
Customer Service and Public Affairs Supervisor Olivenhain Municipal Water District

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:08 AM
To: Brian Sodeman <bsodeman@olivenhain.com>; [REDACTED]
Cc: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Re: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of discontinuing adding fluoride

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Thank you for the answer. Would you consider amending the your web page
<https://www.olivenhain.com/your-water-supplies/potable-water/fluoride/> ?

Regarding point 2,

(a) from my perspective the best answer to the question on the website "Why is OMWD adding fluoride to its water?" is promoting dental health, not because state law requires it. That is the best answer because that is the impetus for the state law and because it is not really required by state law if one can obtain an exemption.

The current web page emphasizes state law.

The old web page had a mishmash of answers: a timely financial grant, neighbors serving fluoridated water, operating the treatment plant to full capacity, and removal of an exemption.

(b) The current web page says "Given large wholesale rate increases that have been imposed in recent years by the San Diego County Water Authority, OMWD is exploring all angles to reduce costs to its ratepayers."

If there are additional dental treatment costs to ratepayers after fluoridation is terminated in an effort to reduce drinking water costs, then we will have been careful with small amounts of money but wasteful with larger sums, leading to greater costs in the long run.

Here are some numbers from OpenEvidence.com

The expected additional dental costs after community water fluoridation is terminated are approximately \$9.8 billion over 5 years in the United States, primarily due to increased rates of tooth decay and associated dental treatment needs among children.[1] This estimate is based on a cost-effectiveness analysis using nationally representative data and microsimulation modeling, which projects a 7.5 percentage point increase in dental caries prevalence and 25.4 million additional cases of decayed teeth over 5 years following cessation of fluoridation.[1]

The increase in dental costs disproportionately affects publicly insured and uninsured children, reflecting exacerbation of oral health inequities.[2][1] Over a 10-year period, the projected additional dental costs rise to \$19.4 billion, with 53.8 million more decayed teeth.[1] These findings are consistent with observational studies in Canada and systematic reviews, which show that cessation of community water fluoridation leads to increased dental caries, especially in primary teeth, and worsens disparities in dental health outcomes.[3][4][2][5]

The American Academy of Pediatrics emphasizes that water fluoridation is a cost-effective preventive measure, with the lifetime cost per person being less than the cost of a single dental restoration.[6] When fluoridation is discontinued, alternative preventive strategies (such as fluoride varnish or supplements) may partially mitigate increased caries risk, but do not fully offset the population-level cost savings and equity benefits provided by community water fluoridation.[6][7]

Would you like me to summarize the evidence on the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of alternative caries prevention strategies (such as fluoride varnish, supplements, or school-based programs) in communities where water fluoridation has been discontinued?

References

1. Projected Outcomes of Removing Fluoride From US Public Water Systems.
Choi SE, Simon L. JAMA Health Forum. 2025;6(5):e251166.
doi:10.1001/jamahealthforum.2025.1166.
2. Fluoridation Cessation and Oral Health Equity: A 7-Year Post-Cessation Study of Grade 2 Schoolchildren in Alberta, Canada.
McLaren L, Patterson SK, Faris P, et al. Canadian Journal of Public Health = Revue Canadienne De Sante Publique. 2022;113(6):955-968.

doi:10.17269/s41997-022-00654-4.

3. Does Cessation of Community Water Fluoridation Lead to an Increase in Tooth Decay? A Systematic Review of Published Studies. McLaren L, Singhal S. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. 2016;70(9):934-40. doi:10.1136/jech-2015-206502.
4. Fluoridation Cessation and Children's Dental Caries: A 7-Year Follow-Up Evaluation of Grade 2 Schoolchildren in Calgary and Edmonton, Canada. McLaren L, Patterson SK, Faris P, et al. *Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology*. 2022;50(5):391-403. doi:10.1111/cdoe.12685.
5. Exploring the Short-Term Impact of Community Water Fluoridation Cessation on Children's Dental Caries: A Natural Experiment in Alberta, Canada. McLaren L, Patterson S, Thawer S, et al. *Public Health*. 2017;146:56-64. doi:10.1016/j.puhe.2016.12.040.
6. Maintaining and Improving the Oral Health of Young Children. Krol DM, Whelan K. *Pediatrics*. 2023;151(1):e2022060417. doi:10.1542/peds.2022-060417.
7. Economic Evaluation of Community Water Fluoridation: A Community Guide Systematic Review. Ran T, Chattopadhyay SK. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 2016;50(6):790-796. doi:10.1016/j.amepre.2015.10.014.

On 10/30/2025 10:21 AM, Brian Sodeman wrote:

> Hi Richard,
>
> Thank you for your comments. Please find a response to your questions
> below. Your comments and this response will be shared with the board.
> Feel free to give me a call at 760-230-1858 if you would like to
> further discuss. Thanks!
>
> 1. Correct. Discontinuing fluoridation as part of the water treatment
> process would not eliminate naturally occurring fluoride.
> 2. OMWD has not performed an analysis on the cost for a household to
> maintain oral health. Customers with oral health concerns would need
> to discuss potential treatments and costs with their healthcare
> provider.
> 3. Yes. OMWD consulted with the municipalities that receive OMWD
> treated water and received confirmation that they would be able to
> accept OMWD treated water irrespective of OMWD's fluoridation practices.
>
> Best regards,
>
> Brian Sodeman
>
> 760-230-1858
>
> bsodeman@olivenhain.com <mailto:bsodeman@olivenhain.com>
>
> Customer Service and Public Affairs Supervisor
>
> Olivenhain Municipal Water District
>
> *From:*Joe Jansen <jjansen@olivenhain.com>

> *Sent:* Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:23 PM
> *To:* [REDACTED]
> *Cc:* WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
> *Subject:* RE: Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion
> of discontinuing adding fluoride
>
> Hi Richard,
>
> Thank you for your comment. It will be shared with the board of directors.
>
> Best regards,
>
> Joe Jansen
>
> Administrative Analyst
>
> Office: (760) 632-4641
>
> Mobile: (442) 888-0911
>
> www.olivenhain.com <http://www.olivenhain.com>
>
> *From:*Richard <customerservice@olivenhain.com
> <mailto:customerservice@olivenhain.com>>
> *Sent:* Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:04 PM
> *To:* WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com
> <mailto:watersaver@olivenhain.com>>
> *Subject:* Contact Form: We would appreciate a fuller discussion of
> discontinuing adding fluoride
>
>
>
> *CAUTION:*EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments
> unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and
> know the content is safe.
>
> Name: Richard
> Email: [REDACTED]
> <mailto:[REDACTED]>
>
> Message:
> You say the benefit is saving the direct cost of fluoridation.
> However,
>
> 1. Previously you wrote that fluoride will still be present in the
> water, which will not satisfy opponents of fluoridation.
> 2. Previously you agreed that "fluoridating public drinking water is
> not only safe and effective, it is the best method of improving oral

> health in a community". How much will it cost a household to maintain oral health?
> 3. Will you still be able to operate the Water Treatment Plant at full
> capacity? If not, what will that cost? Previously you wrote that
> "Establishing regional consistency allows OMWD to provide water
> treated at its David C. McCollom Water Treatment Plant to these
> municipalities, thus allowing OMWD to operate its treatment plant at
> full capacity to the benefit of its customers."
> Your old web page:
> <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fweb.archive.org%2Fweb%2F20200928151343%2Fhttps%3A%2F%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cbsodem%40olivenhain.com%7Caf2b5508abb43d4de0d08de17df4963%7C755ce0b15fe14bab8c8e80903906355%7C0%7C0%7C638975196543585994%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIYiOiiwLjAuMDAwMCIsIiAiOijXaW4zMilslkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUijoyfQ%3D%3D%7C40000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qc9%2FSPTeCraNqR3hx1rsQ4GwNphzHbXZ1bLyxgi5skA%3D&reserved=0>
> www.olivenhain.com/your-water-supplies/potable-water/fluoride/
> <<https://web.archive.org/web/20200928151343/https://www.olivenhain.com/your-water-supplies/potable-water/fluoride/>>
> r-
> supplies/potable-water/fluoride/>
>

From: Jeffrey Rocker <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:16 AM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: fluoride removal

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Jeffrey Rocker

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Our family is 100% behind eliminating the fluoride in our water. We spend a lot of money to filter our whole house to remove the fluoride. The studies show that Fluoride is a neurotoxin and is not beneficial to our health.

Thank you for considering eliminating the fluoride.

Sincerely,

Jeff Rocker and family

From: Sheila Locko <customerservice@olivenhain.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 1:40 PM

To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>

Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride removal

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Sheila Locko

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please remove fluoride from our water supply!

From: [Mary Anderson](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: fluoride
Date: Friday, November 7, 2025 10:47:46 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Mary Anderson

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

I am against adding fluoride to our water. There is no need for it .

Mary Anderson

From: [Pat](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Removing fluoride from drinking water
Date: Saturday, November 8, 2025 8:31:29 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Pat

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As a senior citizen who is now going through the pain and expense of removing and replacing filings I received as a child after living in places that did NOT have fluoride in its water, I can't imagine why, as a public health agency, any municipality would want to remove that resource for their citizens. I realize there are many factors contributing to dental carries and currently there is some "information" about health risks with consuming fluoride but excess fluoride in Olivenhain water does not seem to be an issue. Moreover, for those who may be overly concerned, there is easy access to inexpensive filtered water in so many local shopping areas. Please don't deny the citizens fluoride!

From: [Alexa Rogers](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride removal
Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 10:07:36 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Alexa Rogers

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

This message is in support of removing fluoride from water.

Thank you.

From: [Gerald Bordin, MD](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Continue adding fluoride to OMWD water
Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 6:07:48 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Gerald Bordin, MD

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Fluoridation of public water is a safe and effective as well as a proven public health measure. It is effective and significantly decreases dental cavities in children and adults. It benefits our neighbors who may not have regular access to a dentist. Fluoridation of OMWD water should not be discontinued.

A JAMA Health Forum publication in June, 2025 reported that defluorination could increase rates of tooth decay by 7.5% within 5 years, translating to a loss of 2.9 million quality adjusted life years and a \$9.8 billion increase in dental care costs. This report notes that maintaining optimal fluoridation reduces tooth decay in children aged 0 to 19 years.

Thank you for maintaining fluoridation of OMWD drinking water to maintain our community's dental health

From: [Christine Miller](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: NO FLUORIDE PLEASE
Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 11:34:08 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Christine Miller

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please request an exemption to the requirement to add fluoride to our drinking water. Adding a substance to the public water supply, without the consent of everyone affected, is wrong. Fluorosilicic acid and sodium fluorosilicate, which are the chemicals added to our water, are used because they are byproducts of the phosphate fertilizer industry. This should be extremely disturbing to anyone paying attention. Not to mention that community water fluoridation simply to prevent cavities is an unnecessary delivery method when fluoridated toothpaste is widely available. PLEASE HELP US TO GET FLUORIDE OUT OF OUR DRINKING WATER! Thank you.

The Miller family, 4S Ranch.

From: [Patricia Cerdá](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoridation
Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 11:18:15 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Patricia Cerdá
Email: [REDACTED]

Message:
Please continue to add fluoride to our water.

From: [Cherri Christiansen](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Sunday, November 16, 2025 12:53:42 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Cherri Christiansen

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

I oppose the mass fluoridation of our drinking water. I don't pipe much rather be in control of What fluoride my family and I consume and would like to request that this practice is stopped. It costs \$160,000 a year which is wasteful spending.

Please stop adding fluoride to the water.

From: [Mary Jo Preti](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Keep the fluoride!
Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 9:20:20 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Mary Jo Preti

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please keep fluoridating the water. The increase in dental bills alone would probably pay for the fluoride. Your description was incomplete. In addition to telling us the fluoride would cost an additional \$160000 you should have let us know approximate amounts on how much each household would pay. Frankly The \$160,000 sounds like money well spent for the community. You are being pennywise and pound foolish.

Please do not be swayed by the incompetent Healthcare appointees at the Federal level. They are decimating the CDC. Stay strong!

From: [Matthias Schefer](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Stop fluoridation
Date: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 8:55:12 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Matthias Schefer

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

dear board

I urge you to stop the toxic fluoridation immediately.

It is known to lower the IQ of children. See <https://fluoridealert.org/news/breaking-new-study-linking-fluoride-to-lower-iq-in-children-sparks-renewed-calls-to-end-water-fluoridation/>

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Report found fluoride to be neuro toxic.

In February 2023, as a result of months of legal motions, subpoenas, and extensive negotiations in the Fluoride Lawsuit, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) agreed to publicly release the NTP's completed fluoride monograph, as well as comments from representatives of various agencies within HHS, and the NTP's responses to them, after being served a court order.

The results of the report showed why the dental lobby was so intent on its suppression. The report found:

52 of 55 studies found lower IQ with higher fluoride exposures, demonstrating remarkable consistency.
Of the 19 studies rated higher quality, 18 found lowering of IQ.

The meta-analysis could not detect any safe level of fluoride exposure.

https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/sites/default/files/ntp/about_ntp/bsc/2023/fluoride/documents_provided_bsc_wg_031523.pdf

Best regards,

Matthias Schefer

From: [Leslie Hofherr](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Concern regarding Fluoridation Exemption
Date: Thursday, November 27, 2025 2:47:30 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Leslie Hofherr

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello Board of Directors,

Fluoridation is one of the top ten public health interventions. It benefits all members of the public and has been shown to be safe.

Without fluoride in our drinking water families and individuals will have more out of pocket costs for dental needs and be subjected to continual dental work that could have been avoided. As far as cost, members of the public will pay either way -- for fluoridation or for cavities and other dental problems. Maintaining teeth that have had cavities is very expensive. For example, fillings have to be replaced, teeth crack because of the fillings, and other dental issues occur. It is not right to put this burden on the members of the public when it can easily be prevented. Do the right thing by keeping fluoride in our potable water supply.

Thank you for the opportunity for commenting,

Leslie

From: Matthew Haines <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 11:44 AM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Please stop adding fluoride

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Matthew Haines

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

Please put me down as a vote to remove the fluoride from our drinking water.

<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/risk-prevention/chemicals/water-fluoridation-and-cancer-risk.html>

<https://ysph.yale.edu/research/information-sheets/fluoride/>

From: [Charles M Bernstein](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Comment regarding "Watching Water" Dec 2025
Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 4:01:01 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Charles M Bernstein

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Your article is essentially making only a financial argument against a public health issue that is supported by reputable scientific bodies around the world. While unvoiced in the article, removing fluoride also has an invogue, but minority, political motivation which is, again, contrary to current scientific and public health experts.

We prefer that the OMWD Board votes NO on considering an exception to current fluoridation practices as required by state and federal agencies.



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 206, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2417
(619) 515-6555

ELIZABETH A. HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.
INTERIM DEPUTY CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

PATTY KAY DANON
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

December 8, 2025

Olivenhain Municipal Water District Board of Directors
Olivenhain Municipal Water District
1966 Olivenhain Road
Encinitas, CA 92024

Dear Olivenhain Municipal Water District Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter in support of Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD) continuing community water fluoridation (CWF) to their customers. For 12 years, OMWD has provided CWF, a health intervention that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identified as one of the ten great public health achievements of the 20th century¹ and has contributed to the nearly 22 million people in California served by fluoridated public water supplies.²

Tooth decay is one of the most common chronic diseases in children and adults.³ For those who have the time, money, and resources, a cavity is simply an annoyance. For many children and adults, tooth decay can more seriously affect daily quality of life and can contribute to more serious health consequences. For children, chronic pain due to toothaches is associated with difficulty in eating, sleeping, learning, and proper nutrition.⁴ Among adults, untreated cavities and tooth loss can have negative effects on an individual's self-esteem and employability. Nearly one-third of low-income adults in the U.S. have a hard time interviewing for a job due to the condition of their mouth and teeth.⁵ In addition, tooth decay has been shown to be a risk factor for strokes and mortality, especially among African Americans.⁶

In fact, due to the increase in decay rates and need for related dental treatments under general anesthesia, some jurisdictions, including Calgary, Canada, have decided to re-introduce CWF after discontinuing in 2011.^{5,6}

For the five elementary schools serviced by OMWD, 14% of the children have experienced dental decay and 7% have untreated dental decay,⁷ putting them at risk for quality-of-life issues, as well as emergency department visits and hospitalizations for more serious health concerns when dental decay remains untreated. Evidence shows that school children living in communities where there is CWF, on average, have 2.25 fewer decayed teeth compared those children living in areas without community water fluoridation.⁸

At a time when so many families lack dental insurance or struggle to pay their household bills, fluoridation offers an easy, inexpensive preventive strategy that everyone benefits from simply by turning on their tap. For most cities, every \$1 invested in water fluoridation gives a return on investment of \$20 and saves individuals \$32 annually by avoiding dental treatment cost and missed

Letter to Continue Community Water Fluoridation

December 8, 2025

Page 2 of 3

school and work days.¹¹ Community water fluoridation is the most cost-effective, evidence-based oral health practice, benefiting people of all ages and income levels. By continuing CWF, OMWD can be part of the solution to combat chronic disease in children and adults and increase your community members' quality of life.

We look forward to continuing to work together for the health of the community. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



SAYONE THIHALOLIPAVAN, MD, MPH
Public Health Officer
Public Health Services
County of San Diego
Health & Human Services Agency
E: [REDACTED]



FADRA WHYTE, DMD, MPH
Chief Dental Officer
Medical Care Services
County of San Diego
Health & Human Services Agency
E: [REDACTED]

Reference:

1. Ten Great Public Health Achievements—United States, 1900-1999. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 1999; 48(12); 241-43: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Accessed November 21, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056796.htm>
2. University of California San Francisco. California Oral Health Technical Assistance Center. Water Fluoridation. Accessed November 21, 2025. <https://oralhealthsupport.ucsf.edu/our-programs/fluoridation>
3. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. Dental Caries (Tooth Decay). Last updated November 2022. Accessed November 21, 2025. <https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/research/data-statistics/dental-caries>
4. American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Policy on school-entrance oral health examinations. The Reference Manual of Pediatric Dentistry. Chicago, Ill.: American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry; 2024:119-21.
5. McLaren L, Patterson SK, Faris P, et al. Fluoridation cessation and children's dental caries: A 7-year follow-up evaluation of Grade 2 schoolchildren in Calgary and Edmonton, Canada. *Community Dent Oral Epidemiol*. 2022;50:391–403.
6. Yazdanbakhsh E, Bohlouli B, Patterson S, et al. Community water fluoride cessation and rate of caries-related pediatric dental treatments under general anesthesia in Alberta, Canada. *Can J Public Health*. 2024; 115: 305–314.
7. 2024-2025 Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Data; California Department of Education.
8. Community Preventive Services Task Force. Dental caries (cavities): community water fluoridation. The Community Guide. Accessed January 30, 2024. <https://thecommunityguide.org/findings/dental-caries-cavities-community-water-fluoridation.html>
9. American Dental Association. Oral health and well-being in the United States. Health Policy Institute. Infographic. 2016. Available from: <https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/resources/research/hpi/us-oral-health-well-being.pdf>. Accessed March 7, 2025.
10. Sen S, Logue L, Logue M, et al. Dental caries, race, and incident ischemic stroke, coronary heart disease, and death. *Stroke*. 2024;55:1 40-9.
11. Cost Savings of Community Water Fluoridation,” U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated May 2024. Accessed on November 23, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/oral-health/php/infographics/roifluoridatedwater.html#:~:text=Return%20on%20Investment%20Optimally%20Fluoridated%20Water%20%7C%20Oral%20Health%20%7C%20CDC>

From: [John W Fisher III](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: OMWD Fluoridation Practices Decision
Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 4:51:31 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: John W Fisher III

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

SUBJECT: Maintenance of Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) in the Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD)

PURPOSE: To provide the OMWD Board of Directors and stakeholders with a summary of the public health and economic justifications for maintaining the current water fluoridation program, specifically addressing the board's consideration of an exemption at the January 21, 2026, meeting.

1. Executive Summary

OMWD currently fluoridates its water to a target level of 0.7 mg/L in compliance with California Health & Safety Code §§116409-116415. While the District is considering a state exemption to save an estimated \$160,000 annually, the long-term health and economic costs to the community far outweigh these operational savings. Continued fluoridation remains the most equitable and cost-effective method to prevent dental disease for OMWD's ~87,000 residents.

2. Public Health Impact in San Diego County

The "Dental Crisis": Local health data indicates that San Diego County faces a persistent challenge with pediatric oral health. Nearly 1 in 4 children entering school in the county have untreated tooth decay.

Proven Prevention: CWF is proven to reduce cavities by 25% across all age groups.

Discontinuing this service would likely lead to a measurable spike in preventable dental emergencies, particularly among the approximately 216,000 children in San Diego County who lack dental insurance.

Vulnerable Populations: Fluoridation is unique in its ability to reach residents who may not have regular access to a dentist, including low-income families, seniors, and homebound individuals.

3. Economic Reality: Cost vs. Benefit

Municipal Cost: The current program cost of \$160,000 equates to roughly \$1.84 per resident per year.

Community Savings: National averages show that for every \$1 spent on water fluoridation, the community saves \$20 to \$38 in dental treatment costs.

The Price of Inaction: The average cost of a single dental filling is \$100–\$250, and emergency room visits for dental pain (which often result from untreated decay) can cost thousands of

dollars—costs that are ultimately borne by taxpayers and residents through higher insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses.

4. Addressing OMWD's Specific Concerns

Supply Chain & Funding: While OMWD notes supply chain vulnerabilities and a lack of outside grant funding, these are short-term operational hurdles. Public health measures should be viewed as essential infrastructure, similar to water disinfection or filtration, rather than optional additives dependent on external grants.

State Compliance: California law mandates fluoridation for systems with over 10,000 connections. While exemptions are legally possible when funding is unavailable, pursuing an exemption sets a precedent that prioritizes minor budgetary relief over a foundational pillar of modern public health.

5. Safety and Scientific Consensus

Optimal Levels: The current target of 0.7 mg/L is the precise level recommended by the U.S. Surgeon General and the CDC to maximize dental benefits while protecting against dental fluorosis.

Broad Endorsement: Maintaining fluoridation aligns OMWD with the American Dental Association (ADA), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the San Diego County Medical Society.

6. Conclusion

The proposal to discontinue fluoridation represents a "false economy." The \$160,000 saved by the District will effectively be transferred to the residents in the form of increased dental bills, pain, and lost school/work hours. Continued fluoridation is an essential investment in the community's health and the only way to ensure all OMWD customers, regardless of socioeconomic status, have basic dental protection.

RECOMMENDATION: The OMWD Board of Directors should reject the request for a fluoridation exemption and continue to allocate ratepayer funds to maintain the program at the recommended 0.7 mg/L level.

From: [Matt Hahn](#)
To: [Kim Thorner](#); [Stephanie Kaufmann](#)
Subject: FW: Water Fluoridation for OMWD
Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 7:45:33 PM

FYI

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:36 AM
To: Matt Hahn <mhahn@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Water Fluoridation for OMWD

You don't often get email from drstyrt@drstyrt.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Dear Matthew,

I am writing in regards to OMWD's consideration to discontinue community water fluoridation. I'm not sure why this is the case but I do know that as a customer of OMWD and as a Harvard trained Public Health graduate that water fluoridation is proven to be cost effective and one of the best ways to prevent tooth decay. Decades of research has shown water fluoridation to be safe and effective. I hope you and the Board will look at the evidence and decide to maintain water fluoridation for OMWD.

Professionally yours,

Dr. Paul J. Styrt
Specialist in Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry
Harvard School of Dental Medicine
UCLA Dept. of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry
Harvard School of Public Health



9339 Genesee Avenue, Suite 270
San Diego, CA 92121
Ph: 858-458-1088
www.DrStyrt.com

From: [Steven Golden](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Please remove Fluoride and also chloramines
Date: Friday, December 19, 2025 3:58:31 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Steven Golden

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

I was very happy to hear that you want an exemption from adding fluoride to our water supply.

Fluoride is one of the most toxic elements on Earth and is a neuro-toxin.

Chloramines are also a problem and is very difficult for water filters to remove.

Removing chloramines and fluoride would mean that residents can attach a simple carbon block filter to the kitchen faucet (undercounter or above counter) which will mean less need for bottled water.

From: [Rina Vinetz](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: KEEP THE FLOURIDE
Date: Saturday, December 20, 2025 7:32:23 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Rina Vinetz

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Kids will have rotten teeth requiring painful and costly repairs. The addition of fluoride to our water supply is a public health win. Ironically, Those campaigning for its removal are all beneficiaries of the fluoridated water they consumed as children.

From: Corey Buchanan <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2025 3:26 PM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Full support of fluoride exemption

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Corey Buchanan

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hi, as a resident, I'm in full support of the OMWD board seeking an exemption to adding fluoride to the drinking water, both because it is unnecessary with the availability of fluoride toothpaste and because it increases water costs. If the OMWD board participates in any efforts to advocate for this requirement to be removed from state law, I'd love to know how I can help.

From: [Jayne Haines](#)
To: [Stephanie Kaufmann](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Monday, December 22, 2025 9:20:11 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Jayne Haines

Email: j [REDACTED]

Message:

Please, please remove this toxic substance from our water.

From: Jonathan Thor <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 23, 2025 1:18 PM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoridation in the Water

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Jonathan Thor

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello, my name is Jonathan Thor and I am a dentist that lives in 92009 (and uses water from the Olivenhain Municipal Water District). I am strongly in favor of continuing Fluoridation practices in our water for the future. The cost to put fluoride in the water is minimal to every tax payer (I see sources saying <\$5 a year). We do not want the kids in our community developing cavities which harms their teeth and could be harmful to their overall health. In extreme cases of parental negligence, cavities in children that aren't dealt with could lead to serious systemic health issues. The 0.7 mg/L Fluoride dosage in the water has been proven to be safe and extremely cost effective in terms of money-to-health benefit. It would be extremely disappointing as a professional regarding this topic to see Olivenhain abandon the needs of children and be substandard when it comes to providing their patrons with the best water possible.

From: [Kristine Escalle](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Please keep fluoride in our water
Date: Wednesday, December 24, 2025 9:23:13 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Kristine Escalle

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please keep the fluoride in our water. It helps those who do not have regular access to dental cleanings.

From: [Eric Porter](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride in the Water
Date: Thursday, December 25, 2025 6:54:20 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Eric Porter

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

I'm a long time customer of OMWD. I read the agency talking points about fluoridation, and I do not believe the agency is being transparent. \$160,000 a year from \$87,000 members is not an excessive cost. I am certainly willing to pay my share of the cost for the benefits of fluoridation. Please read the evidence - <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/fluoride-in-drinking-water-is-safe-heres-the-evidence/>

I strongly suspect the board has fallen for the misinformation from dangerous frauds like Robert F. Kennedy who want us to believe that fluoride is dangerous. Fluoride is used in municipal water systems because it is known to improve dental health, especially for kids who can't afford quality dental care. Please learn from the experience of the City of Calgary. They chose to end fluoridation due to cost, and it was a mistake - <https://www.calgary.ca/water/drinking-water/fluoride.html>. Don't be the butt of the joke in Dr. Strangelove - <https://youtu.be/ttIuyMFwRw?si=bEonsXnefwPI5De3>.

Thank you,

Eric Porter

From: [Judy OConnor](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: DO NOT Add Fluoride to the Water
Date: Saturday, December 27, 2025 8:27:06 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Judy OConnor

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please do not add fluoride to our drinking water. If people want more fluoride, they can get it in toothpaste. We must stop putting all these chemicals in our bodies; we don't know the long-term effects.

Judy OConnor
Carlsbad CA

From: [Maura Sheehan](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Yes to fluoride exemption
Date: Sunday, December 28, 2025 6:44:26 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Maura Sheehan

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello,

I have been a resident of Encinitas for 25 years. I was disappointed when OMWD started adding fluoride to our water. I support OMWD requesting an exemption from adding fluoride to our water supply, especially since doing so will save so much money.

Thank you,
Maura Sheehan

From: customerservice@olivenhain.com
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Wednesday, December 31, 2025 11:33:23 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name:

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please STOP adding fluoride to our water.

From: [John Barbour](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Please Stop Putting Fluoride in the Water
Date: Saturday, January 3, 2026 12:51:36 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: John Barbour

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please stop putting fluoride in the water it is not necessary; we all have fluoride toothpaste.

From: [David Banks, DDS](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Request for OMWD to end fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 4, 2026 1:27:34 PM

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Name: David Banks, DDS

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hello OMWD Board members,

I am writing to encourage you to take the opportunity to end fluoridation of the OMWD water supply. As a long time member of the biological dental group, IAOMT and representative of San Diegans for Safe Drinking Water, I have long been aware of the risks for human health inherent with the addition of synthetic fluoride compounds in drinking water. I spoke to the board in 2011 along with several other knowledgeable individuals, but at the time of the meeting the board had already made a decision to fluoridate based on funding mandates that no longer apply.

Since the 2011 decision even more evidence of the potential harm from fluoridation has come to light. The evidence for cognitive impairment in children raised in fluoridated areas or born to women drinking fluoridated water is now overwhelming. As I pointed out to the board 15 years ago, not everyone drinks the same amount of water, so there can absolutely be no control over the dose individuals receive. I am sure the board is aware of the recommendation not to feed a baby formula mixed with fluoridated water, but what percentage of young mothers are aware of this risk? Of course infants have a much higher percentage of water intake to body weight as do diabetics and athletes or construction workers. Here is a brief video that will provide information on dosage: https://youtu.be/l84eU7oQatI?si=VwGl8TTh_CaAQiTV

I would encourage board members to read through the article on reasons to end water

fluoridation on the Fluoridealert.org site: <https://fluoridealert.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Reasons-to-End-Water-Fluoridation.pdf>

Of course the evidence that fluoride, if it works at all, works topically not systemically to reduce tooth decay is also overwhelming. Systemic ingestion only increases risk for cognitive decline, arthritis, reduced kidney function, bone fracture and dental fluorosis. Also worth noting is the fact that naturally occurring fluoride occurs as Calcium Fluoride which has a much higher safety profile than the synthetic fluorides delivered in water systems.

Utah and Florida have already banned water fluoridation with more states to follow. My family has lived in Olivenhain for over 40 years. Personally, I have had to spend multiple thousands of dollars on filtration systems and delivered water to insure my family is not drinking fluoridated water since the 2011 decision. It is my hope and prayer that the board will take the opportunity to reverse the previous decision and return to their previous policy of unadulterated water delivery.

Thank you,

David Banks, DDS

Retired Biological Dentist, IAOMT member

Past president Preventive Dental Association

Member, San Diegans for Safe Drinking Water

From: [Kevin O'Malley, M.D.](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Monday, January 5, 2026 1:04:56 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Kevin O'Malley, M.D.

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please continue to add fluoride to our water, as it is a negligible cost in comparison to the benefit for dental health and academic performance. It is well known fluoride reduces cavities and new evidence shows communities with fluorinated water have higher academic performance. Both of these support continued use of fluoride in our water, as the benefits outweigh the costs. Thank you.

From: [Harriet Seldin](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: water fluoridation - please keep Fl in the water!
Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 12:45:23 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Harriet Seldin
Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As a resident of the District, and as a Dentist, I am requesting that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. Pennies a day to maintain the positive impact of fluoridation. For the health of residents, especially children and the elderly. I very much appreciate the water district soliciting ratepayer input, and hopefully continuing fluoridation.



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

ELIZABETH A. HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.
INTERIM DEPUTY CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MEDICAL CARE SERVICES
PO BOX 939000, SAN DIEGO, CA 92193-9000
(858) 514-3260

JENNIFER M. TUTEUR, MD, FAAFP
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

JAMIE L. BEAM, MPA
DIRECTOR

December 8, 2025

Olivenhain Municipal Water District
1966 Olivenhain Rd
Encinitas, CA 92024

Dear Mr. Randall and Mr. Bartlett-May,

In our meeting this past June, inconsistent sourcing of bulk sodium fluoride from China and safety around handling the bulk sodium fluoride was given as a reason for Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD) to discontinue community water fluoridation.

This is supported in the February 19th, 2025 Board of Director's Meeting Board Packet that states "OMWD currently sources its supersacks of NSF-60 Sodium Fluoride out of China, as the only source available" and "the bags of fluoride often arrive torn or damaged from China, which is of concern due to the inhalation hazard associated with the chemical in its dry form".

To address the single supply source and safety concerns, the California Dental Association (CDA) has shared with us two domestic suppliers of bulk sodium fluoride. Both suppliers mentioned below ship to California.

Hawkins

Univar Solutions

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by email at

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Fadra Whyte

FADRA WHYTE, DMD, MPH, Chief Dental Officer
Medical Care Services

Board of Directors
Matthew R. Hahn, President
Neal Meyers, Vice President
Christy Guerin, Secretary
Scott Maloni, Treasurer
Ebin Lanfried, Director



General Manager
Kimberly A. Thorner, Esq.
General Counsel
Alfred Smith, Esq.

December 31, 2025

County of San Diego Health and Human Services
Fadra Whyte, DMD, MPH, Chief Dental Officer
Medical Care Services
PO Box 939000
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Whyte,

I am writing in response to your letter dated December 8, 2025 concerning alternate suppliers of bulk sodium fluoride for Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD).

While we appreciate your office's attempt to address the supply source and safety concerns that OMWD faces, please note OMWD does solicit bids for sodium fluoride on an annual basis from a number of sources, including Univar Solutions. In both 2024 and 2025, Univar chose against submitting proposals for sodium fluoride by the Request for Proposal deadline, advising OMWD that they are unable to offer the 2,200-lb supersacks that OMWD's system is designed to use.

Staff had not solicited proposals from Hawkins prior to your letter. A subsequent inquiry to Hawkins confirmed that, while they are able to source the 50-lb bags of sodium fluoride, they do not have 2,200-lb supersacks readily available, and they also are unaware of any domestic suppliers for these supersacks.

As the 50-lb bags present additional safety risks to staff and no viable domestic supplier of supersacks has been found, OMWD's concerns shared in the February 19, 2025 staff report remain. We thank you for your continued support and assistance as we navigate this challenge.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly A. Thorner".

Kimberly A. Thorner
General Manager



1966 Olivenhain Road • Encinitas, CA 92024 • 760-753-6466 • www.olivenhain.com

A Public Agency Providing Water Wastewater Services Recycled Water Hydroelectricity Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve



From: Jane Baker <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 11:09 AM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Should fluoride in water supply be discontinued

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Jane Baker

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

I feel fluoride should be kept in drinking water. I have read articles about how much fluoride has reduced the amount of cavities over the many years it has been used and had a positive effect on better dental health compared to what it was before fluoride was used in water systems

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Regarding the exemption to remove the fluoridation in the water, I offer these facts and opinions.

Firstly, the \$160k cost should NOT be shouldered by your customers. The costs of water is already some of the highest in the country and with the increases being implemented this year and next year, the costs are prohibitive at best. The savings of the \$160k fee for the addition of fluoride in our water should be the main objective.

Secondly, the EPA has determined fluoride in the drinking water is unnecessary and unhealthy especially to children and young adults. Fluoride is a known neurotoxin at higher levels, which are close to the approved levels for drinking water here in the US. With naturally occurring fluoride in the water, the toxic levels have exceeded the regulations for safe drinking water.

The risks to people, especially to children, outweigh the benefits. There are case studies that prove fluoride decreases the IQ in children. Ongoing exposure to fluoride can cause fluorosis, which can discolor the teeth and cause bone fractures. It does harden the teeth, but it also hardens and calcifies other organs and glands. Fluoride was discovered as an industrial waste product and was never intended for use in humans. The health risks are real.

Additionally, with some toothpastes containing fluoride, it being added to the water is redundant. If people choose to fluoridate their children and themselves, that is their option, but to force this poison on the entire population, some of which do not have the ability to filter the fluoride out, is deliberately harmful.

Please take into consideration not only the financial burden you are placing on your customers but also the health risks you are exacerbating that will affect us all.

Thank you

Jennifer Makshanoff-Duke

From: Karen Becerra Matthews <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 11:20 AM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Public comment — Please maintain community water fluoridation

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Karen Becerra Matthews
Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Dear Board Members, I am Dr. Karen Becerra Matthews, DDS, MPH, Chair of the Legislative Committee of the San Diego County Dental Society. I strongly urge you to retain community water fluoridation. Fluoridation is safe, effective, and prevents tooth decay for everyone—especially children, seniors, and families with limited access to dental care. At less than \$2 per ratepayer per year, it is one of the most cost-effective public health measures available. Ending it would increase preventable cavities, widen health disparities, and shift costs to families least able to absorb them. We ask you to protect the health of the community and maintain this vital preventive program. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely, Dr. Karen Becerra Matthews, DDS, MPH

From: Tooka Zokaie <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 11:19 AM
To: WaterSaver <watersaver@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Community Support for OMWD Water Fluoridation Program

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Tooka Zokaie

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Dear OMWD Board of Directors,

We, as 115 Olivenhain ratepayers, dental professionals and community members practicing and/or residing within the OMWD service area, are united in strong opposition to the proposed discontinuation of Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) which stems from a projected \$157,000 budget shortfall needed to fully fund the program. Covering this gap would cost less than \$2 per ratepayer per year, an amount already included in current rates, and represents a minimal investment with a profound impact on the health of our entire community.

CWF is one of the most effective, equitable, and evidence-based public health measures available to prevent tooth decay and improve overall oral health. As dentists, we have seen firsthand the difference fluoridated water makes in reducing cavities, especially among children and underserved populations. As patients and residents, we have benefited personally from this protection and want it preserved for future generations.

Eliminating fluoridation would disproportionately harm the most vulnerable in our community who may not have regular access to dental care due to lack of insurance, transportation, mobility, etc. This decision would widen existing health disparities and undermine decades of progress in disease prevention.

It also risks putting the district out of step with public health recommendations. Major public health authorities including the CDC and California Department of Public Health continue to endorse CWF as safe, effective, and essential.

We urge the Board to vote against this proposal and continue funding Community Water Fluoridation. Maintaining this program is a shared responsibility and a vital commitment to

the well-being of everyone in the OMWD community.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your ongoing service to the public.

Sincerely,

92009

Michael Yokoyama

Jaye Venuti

Joanne Young

Arina Adourian

Randy Garland

Jonathan Thor

Darshan Dabir

Tyler Nelson

Leah Walker

92011

Leonard Bernstein

Craig Malin

92014

Sohrab Aalam

92020

Thomas J Olinger, Former Chief Dental Officer, San Diego County

Gary J. Wokuluk, DDS (Former Chief Dental Office, San Diego County)

92021

Samar Atto

92024

Gelareh Asadi

Shivali Gohel Garg

Harriet Seldin, DMD

Jeffery Schaefer, DDS, MSD

Steve Horne

Chelsea Hope

Tracy Evans

Geoffrey Baynes
John Griffing
Justin Tiemeyer
Mary A. Walsh-Cole, DMD
Ankur Garg
Megan Dietz
Brian David Evans
Tracy Evans
Saba Saremi

92025
Christo Mallakis
Joseph Lee Sigala, DDS, MSD

92026
Christo Mallakis
William Jungman, DDS
Julian A. Wade

92027
Robert J. Hanlon Jr. DMD

92029
Karen B. Matthews-Penagos, DDS, MPH

92037
Josh Gibson
Rana Isaqi

92056
Behdad Javdan

92058
Kristina Padilla

92064
Kwang Jin Kim, DDS

92067

Donald A Thor, DDS

Ronald E Fritz, DDS, MPH

92075

Alexander Erwin

Jeff Taylor Knutzen

Jessy Sidhu

Robert Rosengeld

Thomas Fitzpatrick

92078

Jeff Allred

Sandra Primosch

92083

Ronald R. Garner, DDS

92084

Barbara Clyburn

92091

Alexander George

92101

Lydia Humes, DDS

Caitlin Grogan, DMD

92103

Sussi Yamaguchi

Megan Clarke

Anne Kim

92106

David P. De Rosier, DDS

92108

Marc Dentico-Olin

92109

Brian Fabb

Nicholas Dovey

Samantha Schaller, DMD

92115

Arielle Canoza

92116

Roslyn Joseph, DMD

Jenna McDonald

92117

Hemamalini Srinivasan

Tessa Miller

92118

Tessa Miller

Robert B. Jacob

Howard R. Dixson

92119

Donald L. Anderson, DDS

Ashley A. Goodman, DDS

92120

Truska Mahmood

Barbara Kabes, DDS, MS

92121

Faith Barreyro

Jeff L. Muehl, DDS

Faith-Roselle Barreyro

92122

Adina Manolescu

92123

Allen Job
Robert Bey, DDS

92126
Rosa Le
Tracy Truong

92127
Virginia Mattson, DMD
Tian Yuan
Rachelle Joy Magtanong-Madrid
Nathan Christensen
Yolanda Garcia Loret
Breanne Reid
Dana Veis
Robert Gramins

92128
Zeynep Barakat
Lori Good, DDS

92129
Kaitlyn Neglerio
Karthika Kandala
Jennifer Pierce

92130
Patrick Tellez, MD, MPH
Carol Tellez
Willie S. Chao
Jennifer Pierce
George J. Stratigopoulos, DDS

92131
Douglas Cassat, DDS

91902
Steven H. Ferriot, DDS

91903

Jenniger Pilby

91910

Cherilyn Kasperian

91941

Kurt Stomberg

John E Kramer, DDS

Yo Imai-Marshall

91942

Meghan Toland

91945

Tiffany Carroll

From: [DR. ANN MINEO KANIA](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride
Date: Friday, January 9, 2026 1:07:26 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: DR. ANN MINEO KANIA

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

My name is Dr. Ann Mineo Kania. I practice dentistry in Encinitas. I have served dental needs for this community since 2006. I am concerned with the proposal to discontinue city water fluoridation. I understand that there is a cost to continue water fluoridation. However, there is a significant cost savings in tooth decay prevention with water fluoridation. Citizens that have financial barriers to profession care and doctor prescriptions will suffer the most.

Respectfully,

Dr. Kania

From: [Kirstie Pfeifer](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Keep Fluoride in the water- cost effective and safe
Date: Friday, January 9, 2026 5:39:55 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Kirstie Pfeifer

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Hi,

As an OMWD resident, I encourage you to keep fluoride in the water. I have seen research in public health that it is safe and it's cost effective. It's a very small part of the OMWD budget. It's also a health equity issue. Communities with fluoridated water save an average of \$44 per person each year in dental treatment costs.

Thank you,

Kirstie Pfeifer

From: [Patrick Tellez](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Consideration by OMWD re: Fluoridation
Date: Saturday, January 10, 2026 4:31:30 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Patrick Tellez

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

The earliest publication citing the effects of fluoridation in water in the U.S. comes from 1931. In that year, Dr. Frederick S. McKay published his findings in a paper titled "Mystery of Dental Caries," where he discussed the relationship between fluoride in water and dental health. This marked one of the first scientific reports linking fluoride exposure through drinking water to improved dental health outcomes.

This work laid the groundwork for later studies and the eventual adoption of water fluoridation as a public health measure in the U.S.

Building upon 75 years of demonstrated safety and effectiveness, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services enhances its Healthy People 2030 objectives. The updated goal is to elevate "the proportion of people with the recommended amount of fluoride in their water systems" to 77.1%. [1]

In the meantime, what we now understand:

- Evidence shows that schoolchildren living in communities where water is fluoridated have, on average, 2.25 fewer decayed teeth compared to similar children not living in fluoridated communities. [2]
- Peer reviewed evidence has been published that showed a decrease in new dental caries after community water fluoridation began and an increase in new dental caries when it stopped.
- Combined evidence showed a median decrease of 15.2 percentage points in caries after community water fluoridation began (12 studies)
- Included studies showed that community water fluoridation reduced the prevalence of dental caries across socioeconomic groups. More than 70% of U.S. residents who rely on community water systems receive fluoridated water (CDC, 2013)

Summary of Economic Evidence

A review of ten studies have reviewed the economic cost-benefit of fluoridation. Monetary values are presented in 2013 U.S. dollars.

Intervention cost:

- For urban communities, per capita annual cost ranged from \$0.11 to \$4.92 (6 studies)
- Population size was the main cause of variation; as the size of a community's population went up, the cost per person went down

Intervention benefit:

- Studies that provided benefit and cost information reported a per capita annual benefit of community water fluoridation that ranged from \$5.49 to \$93.19 (6 studies)

Benefit cost ratio:

- Benefit cost ratios ranged from 1.1:1 to 135.0:1 (6 studies)
- Lower benefit cost ratios generally were associated with small community population sizes,

with ratios increasing as community population size increased

Summary:

In consideration of the 87,000 residents of San Diego County served by the OMWD (which is estimated to include over 30,000 children), there is an abundance of health evidence to reassure us that continuation of the fluoridation of water, by OMWD:

- Will likely yield a benefit to cost ratio of 3:1 based upon available published studies and an estimated cost of fluoridation less than \$200,000/year.
- Will result in positive preventive health oral health outcomes for all – especially the children in our community for whom we wish to bequeath a healthful community and the very best chances for a healthful future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Tellez, MD, MPH, MSHA
OMWD Customer

References:

- 1) “Timeline for Community Water Fluoridation”; Center for Disease Control, May 15, 2024; Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/timeline-for-community-water-fluoridation/index.html>
- 2) Community Preventive Services Task Force. Dental caries (cavities): community water fluoridation. The Community Guide. Accessed January 30, 2024.; Source: <https://thecommunityguide.org/findings/dental-caries-cavities-community-water-fluoridation.html>
- 3) Dental Caries (Cavities): Community Water Fluoridation: A Systematic Review, Findings and Recommendations; The Community Guide, Community Services Task Force, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); April 2013
Source: <https://thecommunityguide.org/findings/dental-caries-cavities-community-water-fluoridation.html>

From: [Rana Isaqi](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Community water fluoridation
Date: Saturday, January 10, 2026 7:54:13 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Rana Isaqi

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Community Water Fluoridation is safe, effective, and widely endorsed by public health authorities

Eliminating it would widen existing health disparities

The cost to maintain it is minimal, but the benefit to community health is profound

As a resident of the District, and as a Dentist, I am requesting that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. Pennies a day to maintain the positive impact of fluoridation. For the health of residents, especially children and the elderly, I very much appreciate the water district soliciting ratepayer input, and hopefully continuing fluoridation.

From: [Donald Anderson](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Water Fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 2:26:52 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Donald Anderson

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As a San Diego Dentist since 1972, and the beneficiary of Public Water Fluoridation I can attest to the benefits of it.

Community Water Fluoridation is safe, effective, and widely endorsed by public health authorities

Eliminating it would widen existing health disparities

The cost to maintain it is minimal, but the benefit to community health is profound

As a resident of the District, and as a Dentist, I am requesting that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. Pennies a day to maintain the positive impact of fluoridation. For the health of residents, especially children and the elderly, I very much appreciate the water district soliciting ratepayer input, and hopefully continuing fluoridation.

Donald L. Anderson DDS

From: [Dr. Faith-Roselle Barreyro](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Protect Community Water Fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 7:57:22 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Dr. Faith-Roselle Barreyro
Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Community water fluoridation is safe, effective, and widely endorsed by public health authorities. Eliminating it would widen existing oral health disparities, particularly for vulnerable populations. The cost to maintain fluoridation is minimal, literally pennies per day, while the benefit to community health is profound.

As a resident of the District and as a dentist, I respectfully urge the OMWD Board to vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. For the health of all residents, especially children and the elderly, I sincerely appreciate the Water District's effort to solicit ratepayer input and strongly encourage the continued support of fluoridation.

Thank you for the consideration!

From: [Gelareh Asadi](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Please maintain community water fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 7:56:10 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Gelareh Asadi

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Dear Board Members,

I am Dr. Gelareh Asadi, a practicing dentist and resident serving patients in Encinitas at Glee Dentistry. I respectfully urge the Board to continue community water fluoridation.

Decades of strong, peer-reviewed scientific evidence demonstrate that community water fluoridation is safe, effective, and one of the most cost-efficient public health measures available to prevent tooth decay. It benefits all residents, particularly children, seniors, and underserved populations who may face barriers to regular dental care.

The cost to maintain fluoridation is minimal, while the long-term health benefits and cost savings to the community are substantial. Eliminating fluoridation would disproportionately harm vulnerable populations and widen existing oral health disparities.

As a local dentist who sees the real-world impact of preventive care every day, I respectfully request that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation for the health and well-being of our community.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gelareh Asadi, DDS, MS
Glee Dentistry
Encinitas, CA

From: [jeffery schaefer](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Community Water Fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 5:56:51 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: jeffery schaefer

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As an oral health professional serving this community, I strongly oppose removing fluoride from our water supply. Community water fluoridation is one of the most effective, safe, and equitable public health measures we have to prevent tooth decay—especially for children and underserved families who may not have consistent access to dental care. Decades of scientific evidence show that fluoridated water reduces cavities without posing health risks at recommended levels. Removing fluoride would disproportionately harm our most vulnerable residents and increase long-term healthcare costs. I urge the Board to keep fluoride in our water to protect community oral and overall health.

From: [Jenna McDonald](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Do not eliminate water fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 8:20:47 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Jenna McDonald

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Community Water Fluoridation is safe, effective, and widely endorsed by public health authorities

Eliminating it would widen existing health disparities

The cost to maintain it is minimal, but the benefit to community health is profound

As a resident of the District, and as a Dentist, I am requesting that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. Pennies a day to maintain the positive impact of fluoridation. For the health of residents, especially children and the elderly, I very much appreciate the water district soliciting ratepayer input, and hopefully continuing fluoridation.

From: [MARC DENTICO-OLIN](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 7:45:35 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: MARC DENTICO-OLIN

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Water fluoridation is one of the most effective public health policies ever instituted and will help children grow up with fewer cavities and prevent long lasting and costly oral health issues. Choosing not to fluoridate water would be not only a mistake but in my mind borders on malice, allowing a health problem develop in countless children because you want to save a small amount of money.

From: [Ronald E. Fritz DDS MPH, FACD, FICD](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Community Water Fluoridation Yields Health
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 1:33:44 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Ronald E. Fritz DDS MPH, FACD, FICD

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As a dental professional for 54 years, I would like to emphasize that communities need optimal water fluoridation as discontinuing will yield even more health inequalities:
The Largest U.S. Study to Date

In late 2025, researchers published what to date is the most comprehensive U.S. epidemiological investigation into fluoride exposure and cognitive outcomes. The “Childhood fluoride exposure and cognition across the life course” study examined data from the nationally representative High School and Beyond cohort, comprising 26,820 students from more than 1,000 high schools across the United States. Investigators assessed fluoride exposure from conception through adolescence and linked it with standardized cognitive performance measures in secondary school and later-life assessments around age 60. Contrary to concerns that fluoride might impede neurodevelopment, the study found that exposure to fluoride at levels typical in U.S. community water fluoridation was associated with modestly better cognitive performance in adolescence, including reading, mathematics, and vocabulary outcomes. By late adulthood (~60 years), cognitive differences converged and were statistically indistinguishable, suggesting no long-term detrimental effects attributable to typical fluoride exposure. The authors concluded that within the range of recommended fluoride concentrations, water fluoridation is not associated with reduced IQ or adverse cognitive outcomes.

From: [Samar](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Water fluoridation
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 10:39:01 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Samar

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

It is really important and effective. Much better than no water fluoridation, then people use fluoride tablets and that is where get them in trouble for not getting the recommended dose as it will hard to count .

From: [Tyler Nelson](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Fluoride is a necessity
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 5:24:23 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Tyler Nelson

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

As an oral surgeon, I've had tremendous service opportunities to assist in healthcare through the world. These "medical missions" have taken me to Mexico, Peru, Brazil and underserved areas throughout the US. In many cases, I am limited to extracting teeth, due to limited resources, and arriving too late.

Being able to give the local communities a fighting chance through dental hygiene education, and strengthened teeth through fluoride are among the most powerful tools we have to offer them.

Fluoridation is a proven, evidence-based public health measure that protects everyone, especially children and underserved populations who face barriers to dental care. Please do everything in your power to preserve this protective and valuable treatment for our community.

From: [Shivali Gohel Garg](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Water fluoridation is essential
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 6:45:13 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Shivali Gohel Garg

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Community Water Fluoridation is safe, effective, and widely endorsed by public health authorities

Eliminating it would widen existing health disparities

The cost to maintain it is minimal, but the benefit to community health is profound

As a resident of the District, and as a Dentist, I am requesting that the OMWD Board vote to continue optimal community water fluoridation. Pennies a day to maintain the positive impact of fluoridation. For the health of residents, especially children and the elderly, I very much appreciate the water district soliciting ratepayer input, and hopefully continuing fluoridation.



Board of Directors

Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Dear Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Dental Society (SDCDS), we write to you not only as dental professionals, but as neighbors, parents, caregivers, and members of the communities you serve. We respectfully and strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed discontinuation of Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) within the Olivenhain Municipal Water District.

As clinicians, we see every day what statistics alone cannot fully capture. We witness the pain of preventable tooth decay, the anxiety of parents whose children need treatment they cannot afford, and the long-term health consequences that can begin with something as simple as untreated cavities. Community Water Fluoridation quietly protects families long before they ever sit in a dental chair. When it is removed, the effects are not theoretical—they are immediate, personal, and lasting.

We understand that the proposal stems from a projected \$157,000 budget shortfall. However, the cost to preserve fluoridation amounts to less than \$2 per ratepayer per year. This is an investment already built into current rates. For this minimal cost, fluoridation delivers extraordinary value, especially for children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and families who face barriers to accessing regular dental care. Eliminating this program would shift the burden from a shared public health solution to individual families least able to absorb it.

The consequences of discontinuing fluoridation would fall hardest on children whose teeth are still developing, seniors on fixed incomes, and working families balancing healthcare decisions against rising costs of living. Once fluoridation is gone, disparities widen, preventable disease increases, and communities feel the impact for generations.

Community Water Fluoridation is supported by decades of science and the lived experience of dental professionals across the country. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and leading medical and dental organizations continue to affirm that fluoridation is safe, effective, and one of the most equitable public health measures ever implemented. Ending it would place the District out of alignment with these recommendations and reverse progress that has taken decades to achieve.

We ask you to view this decision not solely through a budgetary lens, but through the lens of stewardship and community care. Maintaining Community Water Fluoridation is a statement about the values we hold as a community. It shows that you believe prevention matters, equity matters, and that we are willing to protect the most vulnerable among us.

We respectfully and sincerely urge you to continue funding Community Water Fluoridation. This decision has the power to safeguard health, reduce suffering, and affirm your commitment to the long-term well-being of every resident served by the Olivenhain Municipal Water District.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your thoughtful consideration of this deeply important issue.

With respect and hope,

Karen Becerra Matthews, DDS, MPH

Karen Becerra Matthews, DDS, MPH

Chair, Legislative Committee,

San Diego County Dental Society

From: [WaiYin Chan](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Keep fluoride in the community water
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 5:00:38 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: WaiYin Chan

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

The continuation of fluoridation of Olivenhain's water supply is gravely important to the oral health of the residents. I am a dentist and serve patients with low income who can't afford or access dental care easily. I have grave concerns about the health equity issue that discontinued water fluoridation will bring. People who have limited access to oral health resources would suffer the most; any savings purported regarding the cost of fluoridation will be more than negated by the increased burden of dental caries borne by low income residents. Keep fluoride in the water; keep residents' oral health optimized!

From: [Kelly Motadel](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Do Not Stop Fluoridation, please!
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 5:17:04 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Kelly Motadel

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Fluoridation is one of the most effective, equitable, and evidenced-based public health measures available to prevent tooth decay and improve overall oral health. As a pediatrician, I have seen firsthand the difference fluoridated water makes in reducing cavities, especially among children and underserved populations.

Fluoride slows or stop cavities from forming and I have seen this in patients that I have cared for many years ago (before 2013), some of who lived in your water district. I rejoiced when fluoridation began universally around the North County. Supplementing with oral fluoride had too many children falling between the cracks of our health care system.

By fluoridating water, tooth decay can be reduced up to 30-50%. Children in fluoridated communities had 50-60% fewer decayed permanent teeth. Adults had 20-30% less caries. It makes children's teeth stronger and strengthens the enamel, promoting enamel remineralization and reducing enamel demineralization. Fluoride also inhibits bacterial metabolism and acid production. It can even reverse or stop early caries lesions.

The only proven risk of fluoride use is the development of fluorosis, but this does not occur at the levels OMWD currently has its fluoridation. Claims that standard levels of fluoride, such as that in OMWD water, leads to kidney disease, bone cancer, and compromised IQ have been disproven.

Please don't harm the children of OMWD by stopping the fluoridation of our water. It is an easy and safe way to improve the health and lives of the children and adults in our community.

Thank you.

From: [Stacie Newbill Henderson](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: OMWD fluoridation
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 7:56:26 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Stacie Newbill Henderson

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Please maintain OMWD Fluoridation for disease prevention and cost savings.
you'll be saving the needy pain and money in dental issues.

From: [Susan Fisher-Owens](#)
To: [WaterSaver](#)
Subject: Contact Form: Background information for Board Packet
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 10:13:59 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

Name: Susan Fisher-Owens

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Dear Board Members,

I am a practicing pediatrician and Professor of Pediatrics and of Dentistry at the University of California, San Francisco, who has trained and mentored several of the doctors and dentists who live and work in your area, and published extensively on oral health. Today I write to correct two errors from the Board Meeting in October, and share new information that you and your ratepayers will want to know before making a decision on fluoridating Olivenhain Municipal Water District water.

There were two errors in the October 15th meeting. One was that Ms. Thorner said I was wrong when I stated that the MCL for fluoride in California is 2 ppm. She quoted 4 ppm, but that is actually the federal level; California already uses the more conservative level of 2, the federal SMCL level. Please see

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.html

The second misrepresentation was that there was waning interest in fluoride because there was no one physically in attendance at that meeting, and that there was not much concern before. Materials were not clear that in July there were multiple speakers, in addition to the letter with more than 50 signatures from respected community members who opposed removal of fluoride. At that time, the discussion had been that the topic would be postponed until the new year; thus, people were not anticipating fluoride being discussed in October. I know there are many health advocates who look forward to discussing this with you later this month.

Critical new information has been published on fluoride in the last few months, showing higher rates of cognitive achievement for adolescents who have lived in an optimally fluoridated location all or part of their lives, as compared to those who never have (Warren 2024. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.adz0757>) While this contrasts with recent headlines about safety concerns with fluoride you may have seen, those were studies done in other parts of the world with higher levels of background fluoride, higher water consumption, not controlled for known neurodevelopmental causes like arsenic, coal, and tobacco smoke, and not peer-reviewed scientifically. This new paper, by Warren et al, is the only study to have been conducted in the United States; it has better scientific rigor (balanced for different circumstances and published in the prestigious Science Advances of the American Association for the Advancement of Science) and is far larger than other studies (almost 58,000 youth at baseline). Given this new information, it would be a disservice to your community to remove fluoride from the water.

Note that another large (~15,000) study has come out of the United Kingdom recently also showing better outcomes for children living in fluoridated areas; large studies from Australia

(Do 2024 <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11843800/>), New Zealand (Broadbent 2015 <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4265943/>), and Spain (Ibarlueza 2022 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935121014821?via%3Dihub>) also show no worse intelligence in fluoridated areas.

We all know the many health benefits that fluoride offers, to children and adults, at minimal cost—a fraction of the rate paid overall. I am sure that others will discuss the benefits of water fluoridation, particularly to oral health and to school attendance, so I will highlight what happened in cases when fluoride was removed from water. In Juneau, Alaska, the number of dental treatment procedures more than doubled, as well as increases in cost of care. (Meyer 2018 <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12903-018-0684-2>) The same happened in Israel (Tobias 2022 <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s13584-022-00514-z>) In Calgary, Canada, the rates of cavities went up markedly, despite similar fluoride toothpaste use (McLaren 2021 <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9542152/>), showing toothpaste alone is not sufficient. Rates of need for intravenous antibiotics and hospital admissions increased too, such that Calgary reinstated water fluoridation in July 2025.

While much of this research involves children, the benefits of water fluoridation extend to adults as well. Healthy teeth in children are the best predictor of healthy teeth in adults. We know there are countless circumstances or illnesses wherein adults require more costly care and still have worse outcomes if they have poor oral health, including diabetes, CVD, renal disease, dementia, pregnancy, and more.

We respect and support your desire to be responsive to the concerns of your staff; still, they are skilled professionals who are specifically trained on safety with minerals and chemicals. You can continue to support your staff, without risking harm to your community by removing fluoride. Our team offers free continuing education on fluoride (including safe management) and remains ready to help trouble-shoot your concerns, working with AWWA and the State Water Resources Control Board to find alternatives, and/or putting you in touch with the many other systems in California that also use sodium fluoride in their water.

In summary, I encourage you to listen to your community leaders who want you to continue to provide the benefits of fluoride. I respectfully request the Board deny the motion to discontinue water fluoridation.

I remain available for any questions,

Sincerely,

Susan A. Fisher-Owens, MD, MPH,
Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and of the American Preventive Medicine Board
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics
Clinical Professor of Preventive and Restorative Dental Sciences
University of California, San Francisco

Chief Consultant, California Fluoride Technical Assistance Program
Member, California/Nevada American Water Works Association

From: [Stephanie Kaufmann](#)
To: [Joe Jansen](#)
Subject: FW: Water fluoridation
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026 8:56:57 AM

From: Jill Tarwid-Aguilar [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 9:24 PM
To: Stephanie Kaufmann <skaufmann@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Water fluoridation

You don't often get email from itarwidaguilar@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To whom it may concern-

Community water fluoridation is a vital, proven public health success, preventing costly dental disease for all. As a dental hygienist, I strongly advocate for its continuation. Ending this essential service would undeniably increase health risks and financial burdens for OMWD families.

Cordially,
J. Tarwid- Aguilar, RDH

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Stephanie Kaufmann](#)
To: [Joe Jansen](#)
Subject: FW: Contact Form: Comments on Jan 21 Board item - Fluoridation
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026 8:57:42 AM

From: Mark J. Bartson <customerservice@olivenhain.com>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 5:58 PM
To: Stephanie Kaufmann <skaufmann@olivenhain.com>
Subject: Contact Form: Comments on Jan 21 Board item - Fluoridation

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Name: Mark J. Bartson

Email: [REDACTED]

Message:

Dear Members of the Board

I work for the UCSF Fluoride Technical Assistance Program which promotes and supports fluoridation by public water systems in California. My role in this work is to provide technical expertise to operators and managers to help ensure the continued overall success of fluoridation in California. I am a registered Civil Engineer in California, with over 35 years of experience in the drinking water field in California. I will attend the January 21, 2026 Olivenhain MWD Board meeting in person.

I have the following comments for your consideration:

1. We wish to be sure that you are aware of at least one manufacturer (with NSF-certification of the product) that sells directly into the California market: George S. Coyne Chemical Co., Inc. Their contact info can be obtained through the NSF listing site:

<https://www.nsf.org/certified-products-systems>

2. In California, there are about 20 public water systems that use Sodium Fluoride in their fluoridation process. This is based on data from the State Water Resources Control Board Electronic Annual Report. It appears that most of these systems obtain their supply through companies that resell from NSF-certified manufacturers. I can provide you with a list of these other public water systems using sodium fluoride in California.

3. The safety of the water treatment operators is of obvious importance in the handling of the various chemicals used in the water treatment processes. We know that certified operators, in conjunction with robust, industry-standard procedures, mitigate the hazards and risks of the various treatment processes. My professional opinion is that the hazards and risks associated with the fluoridation process are of a similar level to those of other chemical processes used in a typical water treatment plant.

Additional background information

The UCSF Fluoride Technical Assistance Program works closely with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water. Our work is funded by the California Department of Public Health. I keep myself up-to-date on of issues related to fluoridation treatment such as supply chain problems and operator/manager training needs. I teach in operator training forums sponsored by the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association.

There are upcoming water treatment and operator forums taking place at the April, 2026 AWWA Section Conference in San Diego. The forums provide an opportunity to discuss challenges and issues such as supply chain disruptions and operator/manager concerns. Most likely your operators are already aware of these forums.

As a final note, UCSF promotes the online continuing education program “Fluoridation Learning Online” which offers free continuing education to operators who complete the course. It is available at <https://oralhealthsupport.ucsf.edu/cdc-fluoridation-learning-online>

Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] or via email me at [REDACTED]
Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Bartson, P.E.
UCSF Fluoridation Technical Assistance Program
[REDACTED]