



Irvine Water Sources, Quality & Safety

*Irvine's
drinking
water is safe.*

*IRWD's
wells are
several miles
from the
affected
area.*

Water Safety

Drinking water in Irvine is safe. It comes from the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) and meets, or exceeds, all state and federal water quality regulations. California's drinking water standards are among the most stringent in the nation and in many cases are more demanding, and therefore surpass, federal requirements. IRWD maintains a state-certified water quality laboratory that annually performs more than a quarter of a million tests on our water supply to ensure this quality is maintained. All IRWD customers receive a printed water quality report by July 1 each year. To request a copy of the latest water quality report, call IRWD at (949) 453-5500 or visit their website at www.irwd.com to view the report online.

Water Sources

Sixty-five percent of Irvine's overall water supply comes from IRWD's local groundwater wells located west of the 55 Freeway. These wells extract high quality water from the Orange County Groundwater Basin managed by the Orange County Water District (OCWD).

Approximately 35 percent of Irvine's drinking water is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This imported water comes from the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aqueduct and from Northern California via the State Water Project.

Irvine Desalter Project

IRWD, OCWD and the Department of the Navy have designed a joint program to clean up a deep underground plume of trichloroethylene (TCE) pollution coming from the former El Toro Marine Base. TCE is a chemical contained in solvents used to clean airplane engine parts. The pollution resulted from past disposal and waste management practices on the base that were common before the development of stricter environmental regulations in the 1970s.

The Irvine Desalter Project will pump water from the polluted area and use a separate purification plant to remove the TCE. Once cleaned, this water will supplement the community's recycled water system, not its drinking water.

IRWD's wells are monitored annually for TCE by the OCWD. In addition, IRWD monitors its aggregate supply of well water more frequently. All of these test results are reported directly to the California Department of Health Services, the agency that regulates drinking water. The drinking water in Irvine meets, or exceeds, all health standards and is safe to drink.

Further Information

Irvine Ranch Water District	(949) 453-5500	www.irwd.com
Orange County Water District	(714) 378-3351	www.ocwd.com
City of Irvine	(949) 724-6424	www.cityofirvine.org
Dept. of Navy	(619) 532-0963	www.navy.mil
Department of Health Services	(916) 449-5556	www.dhs.ca.gov