



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

10 Facts About How We Take Care of You & Your Water

1. SERVICE FACT: Everyday, the Water Department serves over 1.3 million people.
2. SERVICE FACT: The Water Department not only provides drinking water to the City of San Diego, but it also provides treated water to the City of Del Mar, and wholesale water to the California-American Water Company delivering water to Coronado, Imperial Beach, and portions of southern San Diego.
3. SERVICE FACT: The City is always monitoring your water to determine when the system might need a treatment change.
4. CHLORAMINES FACT: Chloramines (a combination of chlorine and ammonia) are used to treat water and are a longer-lasting disinfectant than using chlorine by itself.
5. CHLORAMINES FACT: The ammonia in chloramines feed some non-harmful bacteria. Over time, these bacteria can impact the water system and water quality. Bacterial build up in the water distribution system can be removed by temporarily using chlorine instead of a combination of chlorine and ammonia.
6. CHLORINE FACT: Many cities in the nation treat their water with chlorine. Up to 1981, the City of San Diego also treated their water with chlorine only. We changed to chloramines in response to the anticipated new Environmental Protection Agency regulations.
7. CHLORINE FACT: This temporary change from chloramines to chlorine is part of normal system maintenance.
8. CHLORINE FACT: The Water Department has performed similar periodic maintenance using chlorine.
9. CHLORINE FACT: Chlorine is injected into the water in the form of gas.
10. CHLORINE FACT: After January 19, 2006, the City will return to using chloramines as its everyday treatment.