



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

SAFE DRINKING WATER - INCREASED ALGAE BLOOM TO BLAME FOR TASTE AND ODOR – SEPTEMBER 18, 2015- The South San Luis Obispo County water agencies listed below want their customers to know that despite an earthy taste or odor in their drinking water, the water meets all regulatory requirements and is *safe to drink*.

- City of Arroyo Grande
- City of Grover Beach
- City of Pismo Beach
- Oceano Community Services District
- Avila Beach Community Services District
- Avila Valley

The earthy taste or odor is due to a recent and temporary increase in blue-green algae, in both Lopez Lake and State water, which will likely continue over the next few weeks. Both of these water sources provide surface water to many south county residents. Water monitoring and testing are routinely performed to ensure south San Luis Obispo County water customers continue to receive safe drinking water that meets water quality standards.

Customers can alleviate some of the taste and odor issues in their drinking water by utilizing carbon water filters, which can be purchased at most grocery, hardware or drug stores; or by adding lemon to help mask any unpleasant taste and odor.

For questions regarding the quality of drinking water, customers should contact their local water agency.

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