



# Public Works Department



## Bottled Water

Thousand Oaks tap water, which meets or exceeds all federal and state water quality standards, is one of the best buys in the world at less than one cent per gallon. The average Thousand Oaks household uses about 500 gallons each day.

### Average Cost Per Gallon

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Municipal Tap Water .....          | Less than 1¢ |
| Milk .....                         | \$3.47       |
| Private label bottled water .....  | \$4.52       |
| Cola.....                          | \$5.30       |
| Beer .....                         | \$16.00      |
| Designer label bottled water ..... | \$23.13      |

### Tap Water Facts

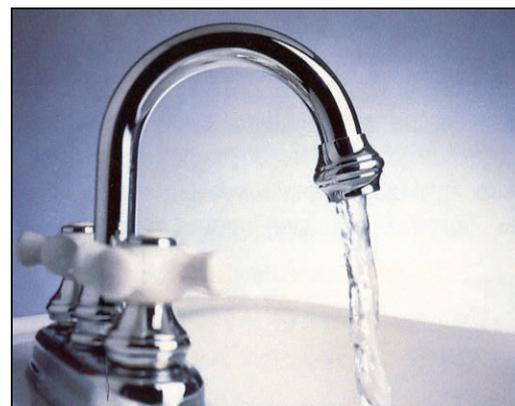
- Many water bottling companies that advertise nature and mountain springs use water from municipal treated sources.
- The City and other municipal water systems provide annual water quality reports to advise consumers what is in their water. Private bottled water companies do not have this requirement.
- Bottled water is the single largest growth area among all beverages, that includes alcohol, juices and soft drinks. Per capita consumption has more than doubled over the last decade from 10.5 gallons in 1993 to 22.6 in 2003.
- Only about 12% of "custom" plastic bottles, a category dominated by water, were recycled in 2003. That's 40 million bottles a day that went into trash or became litter. In contrast, the recycling rate for plastic soft drink bottles is about 30%.
- The PET plastic bottle recycling rate has declined to an 11 year low of 22%. The five-year decline persisted despite the continued growth in curbside recycling.

In 2005, at the Berkeley Springs Best Tasting Municipal Water Competition, the Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) was recognized for having the **best tasting municipal tap water in the United States**. The City of Thousand Oaks distributes up to 15 million gallons of award winning water each day to over 16,000 customers. Water delivered by the City is purchased from the Calleguas Municipal Water District, a member of Metropolitan. Thousand Oaks water meets or exceeds all federal and state water quality standards.

Metropolitan provides water to a 5,200 square mile service area, from Ventura County to the Mexican border and inland to Riverside and San Bernardino. Metropolitan's major water sources are the Colorado River and Northern California rivers.

The City uses its bottled water to educate the community about the quality and value of our local water supply as compared to commercially packaged bottled water.

To learn more, visit the Public Works Department page at [www.toaks.org](http://www.toaks.org) or call (805) 449-2400.



Sources: [www.bottledwaterblues.com](http://www.bottledwaterblues.com)  
[www.bottledwaterweb.com](http://www.bottledwaterweb.com)  
<http://www.calleguas.com>  
[www.watereducation.org](http://www.watereducation.org)  
[www.beveragemarketing.com](http://www.beveragemarketing.com)