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Burbank Water & Power Newsletter June 2007

June 6, 2007

FINAL DRAFT

How to Contact Us.

Customer Service: (818) 238-3700

Water Services: (818) 238-3500

Electric Services: (818) 238-3575

Conservation Services: (818) 238-3730

Street Light Outages: (818) 238-3575

After-hours Emergency: (818) 238-3778

Currents Editor: Jeanette Meyer,
jmeyer@ci.burbank.ca.us

Visit us on-line at:
www.BurbankWaterAndPower.com

BWP is located at 164 W. Magnolia Boulevard
and is open Monday through Friday from
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Water Sources

Use **Recycled Water**

BWP's Water Festival

Drinking Water **Fluoridation**
Project Share

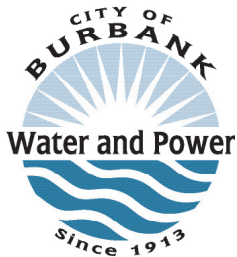
Important Water-Related Web Links:

California Department of Health Services
(CDHS): www.dhs.ca.gov

California EPA: www.calepa.ca.gov

EPA (Groundwater and Drinking Water):
www.epa.gov/safewater

California Department of Water Resources:
www.dwr.water.ca.gov



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energy
wisely.**



June 2007

Burbank's Newsletter for Information Regarding Your Water and Power Department.

Currents



2006 BWP The Annual Water Quality Report

Burbank Water and Power (BWP) provides water service for the citizens of Burbank.

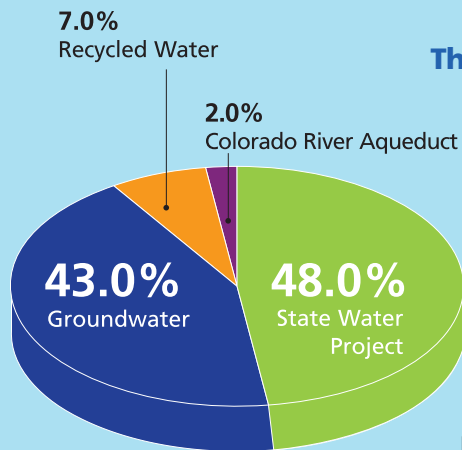
The purpose of this report is to share the results of BWP's and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) sampling efforts and to meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. This report compares those tests with State and/or Federal standards and explains the different sources of water that BWP serves to the citizens of Burbank. Together, MWD and BWP, look for more than 136 constituents and are required to list only those constituents that are actually found. Our water, as in the years past, meets all EPA and state drinking water standards. One important section of this report includes educational information and precautions for people with health issues that require them to avoid certain contaminants. If you have any questions about this report, please call Albert Lopez at (818) 238-3500. For questions regarding water conservation, please contact BWP's Conservation Services group at (818) 238-3731 or visit BWP online at www.BurbankWaterandPower.com. You can also attend BWP Board meetings held at 164 W. Magnolia (BWP Administration Building). The BWP Board typically meets on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to participate in these meetings.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Այս տեղեկագիրը կը պարունակէ կարեւոր տեղեկութիւններ ձեր խմած ջուրին մասին: Հարցերը կարդալ կամ թարգմանել տալ:

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

Water Sources



The water supply for Burbank comes from three different sources: local groundwater, the Colorado River, and the State Water Project.

Our groundwater source comes from wells in Burbank and is treated to remove volatile organic contaminants such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) before it is put into our distribution system. Burbank has two treatment facilities, the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Plant and the Burbank Operable Unit (BOU) Plant. For the year 2006, 43% of our total water supply came from groundwater, located within the San Fernando Valley Basin.

The Colorado River and the State Water Project are imported water supplies purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). MWD operates treatment facilities for these surface water supplies before delivering it to Burbank. For the year 2006, 48% of the City's water came from the State Water Project and 2% came from the Colorado River Aqueduct.

An additional water resource for the City is recycled water. It is a reliable supply for the irrigation of our parks and golf courses as well as cooling water at our Power Plant. In 2006, 7% of the city's total water supply came from recycled water.

A source water assessment was completed in December 2002 for both the groundwater and surface water supplies. The groundwater source is considered most vulnerable to the known contaminant plume that resulted in the construction of the BOU Plant. Possible contaminating activities include automobile repair shops, petroleum pipeline, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitted discharges, metal plating, underground storage tanks, plastics producer, airport, military installation, and automobile gas stations. The groundwater report is available for public review at the Water Engineering Office located in the BWP Administration Building at 164 West Magnolia Blvd.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

MICROBIOLOGICAL	Units	MCL	MCLG	Highest No. of detection	No. of months in violation	Typical Source of Organism
Total Coliform Bacteria (a)	%	5.0%	0%	0.93%	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E coli	(b)	(b)	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC) (j)	CFU/mL	TT	0	TT	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Cryptosporidium (l)	Oocysts/200L	TT	0	TT	NA	Human and animal fecal waste
Giardia (l)	Cysts/200L	TT	0	TT	NA	Human and animal fecal waste
Total Culturable Viruses (l)	P or A/1000L	TT	0	A	NA	Human and animal fecal waste

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

CONSTITUENT	No. of samples	Action Level	Public Health Goal	90th percentile level detected	No. Sites exceeding AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) (c)	33	15	2	3.2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm) (c)	33	1.3	0.17	0.15	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	Running Annual Average	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (i)	ppb	80	NA	16.0	7.4 – 42.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (i)	ppb	60	NA	4.7	ND – 15.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Chlorine Residual (i)	ppm	(4)	(4)	1.82	1.9 – 2.2	Drinking water disinfectant added

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
ORGANIC CHEMICALS:						
Acrylamide	NA	TT	(0)	NA	TT	Water treatment from chemical impurities
Epichlorohydrin	NA	TT	(0)	NA	TT	Industrial discharges; impurity of some water treatment chemicals
INORGANIC CHEMICALS:						
Aluminum (e)	ppb	1000	600	48.9	ND – 190	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	1	2	0.04	ND – 0.11	Discharges from oil and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	50	(100)	3.6	1 – 6.6	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (e)	ppm	AL=1.3	0.17	2.1	ND – 54.8	Natural deposits erosion; internal corrosion of pipes
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	0.32	0.22 – 0.46	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive for tooth health
Nickel	ppb	100	12	0.43	ND – 4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharges from metal factories
Nitrate (as N) (f)	ppm	10	10	4.4	ND – 5.6	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Nitrate and Nitrite (as N) (f)	ppm	10	10	4.4	ND – 5.6	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; sewage; natural erosion
Selenium	ppb	50	(50)	0.24	ND – 3.4	Refineries, mines and chemical waste discharges; runoff
RADIONUCLIDES:						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (g) (n)	pCi/L	15	NA	0.27	ND – 4.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	pCi/L	50	NA	1.8	ND – 4	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Combined Radium (h)	pCi/L	5	NA	0.16	ND – 0.34	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (n)	pCi/L	20	.5	6.3	1.1 – 15.1	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Aluminum (e)	ppb	200	600	48.9	ND – 190	Residue from water treatment process; erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	500	NA	45.7	35 – 98	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color	Units	15	NA	1	1 – 4	Naturally occurring organic materials
Iron	ppb	300	NA	7.1	ND – 1170	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Manganese	ppb	50	NA	1.0	ND – 31.6	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Odor	Units	3	NA	0.3	ND – 4	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	µS/cm	1600	NA	566	411 – 829	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	ppm	500	NA	73	55 – 162	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1000	NA	351	236 – 481	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Turbidity	NTU	5	NA	0.15	0.06 – 1.09	Soil runoff

OTHER PARAMETERS OF INTEREST TO CONSUMERS

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source
Alkalinity	ppm	NA	NA	152	63 – 170	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	ppm	NA	NA	63	24 – 72	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorate	ppb	NA	NL=800	NA	26 – 85	By-product of drinking water chloramination; industrial processes
Corrosivity	AI	NA	NA	13	12 – 12.8	Elemental balance in water
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (k)	ppm	NA	NA	316	110 – 550	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	pH units	NA	NA	7.9	7.4 – 8.4	Acidity and alkalinity of water
Magnesium	ppm	NA	NA	18.8	11 – 21.8	Erosion of natural deposits
N- Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	ppt	NA	3	NA	ND – 3.0	Industrial processes; by-product of drinking water chlorination
Potassium	ppm	NA	NA	4.4	2.3 – 4.7	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff/leaching from fertilizer use
Sodium	ppm	NA	NA	33.4	34 – 91	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING

PARAMETER	Units	State MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Burbank Water (d)	Lowest – Highest (m)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Boron (n)	ppb	NA	AL=1,000	154	100 – 210	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Chromium VI	ppb	NA	NA	3.2	1.2 – 4.8	Industrial waste discharge
Vanadium (n)	ppb	NA	AL=50	1.8	ND – 5.0	Naturally occurring; industrial waste discharge

Abbreviations:

AL = Regulatory Action Level; **NA** = Not Applicable; **CFU/mL** = Colony-Forming Units per milliliter; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level; **ND** = None Detected; **MCLG** = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; **NL** = Notification Level; **NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units; **MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; **µS/cm** = microSiemen per centimeter; **PHG** = Public Health Goal; **P or A** = Presence or Absence; **ppb** = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L); **HAA5** = Haloacetic Acids (five); **ppm** = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L); **ppt** = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L); **AI** = Aggressiveness Index ; **TT** = Treatment Technique

Detailed definitions to the above can be found later in this newsletter.

Educational Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/ Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.**
- **Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.**
- **Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.**
- **Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.**
- **Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.**



Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Nitrate:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 45 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Footnotes:

(a) MCL for total coliform is no more than 5% of monthly samples are positive.

(b) Fecal coliform / E.coli MCLs: The occurrence of 2 consecutive total coliform-positive samples, constitutes an acute MCL violation. The MCL was not violated in 2006.

(c) Lead and copper compliance based on 90th percentile being below the Action Level. Samples were taken from customer taps to reflect the influence of household plumbing. 33 homes were sampled in November 2000, none exceeded the action level for lead or copper.

(d) Value shown is the average of the blended water (MWD water and local groundwater)

(e) Aluminum, copper, MTBE and thiobencarb have primary and secondary MCL's.

(f) State MCL for Nitrate of 10 mg/L as N is equivalent to 45 mg/L as Nitrate.

(g) State MCL for Gross Alpha excludes radon and uranium. Compliance is based on adjusted gross alpha where radon and uranium are deducted.

(h) Standard is for Radium-226 and -228 combined.

(i) Compliance is based on Running Annual Average which is the average of the last four quarters.

(j) All distribution samples collected for 2006 had detectable total chlorine residuals and no HPC's were required.

(k) Hardness in grains/gallon can be found by dividing the ppm by 17.1. 230 ppm is equivalent to 13.5 grains/gallon.

(l) Metropolitan Water District 's plant effluents had no detectable *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia* or Total Culturable Viruses.

(m) The highest and lowest values from individual source of water.

(n) Results based on 2003 – 2006 monitoring programs

Conserving the Vital Resource of Drinking Water by Using **Recycled Water**

The City of Burbank has been using recycled water since 1967 for power plant operations. Burbank's recycled water is approved for all uses except drinking and is available for the landscape requirements of all commercial properties located on recycled water pathways. Burbank's recycled water infrastructure will continue to grow over the years, allowing BWP to provide this service to many more businesses.

BWP's Water Division asked for customer feedback regarding their experience using recycled water. Here is what customers shared with us:



Victor Gill, Director of Public Affairs and Communications Bob Hope Airport

It's been over a year and a half since we started utilizing recycled water for landscape irrigation. Not only have we been able to save at least 15% on our utility bill, it has also been a great experience working with BWP staff and helping our community to provide a more sustainable environment. We are glad to be part of a City that provides its businesses with such great opportunities.

Silvano Sanchez, Operations Manager Burbank Town Center

The recycled water we have been receiving since 1994 is of good quality and is cost effective. We are proud to be one of the first privately owned developments taking part in preserving the limited resource of potable water. We continuously receive compliments and positive feedback from customers and business owners for supporting such a noble goal.



Aaron Moore, Assistant General Coach The Great Indoors



We consider ourselves lucky for having the opportunity to utilize recycled water for our on-site irrigation system. We have been using recycled water since 2004 and are proud to participate in saving the vital resource of potable water in our community. Furthermore, we have some of the greenest grass in Burbank!

Other current users of recycled water are: Circuit City, El Pollo Loco, Corner Bakery, Office Depot, AMC Theatres, Costco, Empire Center, Media Studios North, Burbank Unified School District, DeBell Golf Course and Burbank's Water and Power, Public Works, and Park, Recreation and Community Services Departments.

For more information about BWP's existing recycled water system and expansion opportunities, please call Lena Babayan at (818) 238-3500.

The following definitions may be helpful in your understanding of our Water Quality Report:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

BWP's Water Festival Makes a Big Splash!

On May 12th Burbank Water and Power celebrated our first ever Water Festival. We hooked up with the Burbank Fire Department's annual Fire Service Day (thanks BFD!), taking over a large chunk of Third Street with several booths and a large theater canopy. Over 700 people came to see and learn about water, water conservation, BWP career opportunities, our special rebate programs and other water related booths and exhibits. Special water-saving items such as drip irrigation kits, buckets, low-flow shower heads and aerators were provided to attendees.

We also had two performances of "A Boatload of Trouble" by the National Theatre for Children. This fun performance taught children the value and importance of water and water conservation. A packed theater echoed the excitement and enthusiasm of children who watched the performances!

Thanks to all who attended and worked the event. It was a huge success!



A happy Burbank resident leaves the Water Festival with water-saving Drip Irrigation Kits, provided free by BWP!



(above left) A young and very cute participant from the audience helps teach the "Boatload of Trouble" pirates and the crowd that saving every drop of water counts! (above right) Several hundred people enjoyed BWP's Water Festival event.



Drinking Water Fluoridation

The State of California requires that water agencies serving more than 10,000 customers fluoridate their drinking water supplies if outside funding is provided. At this time, the City has not received sufficient outside funding to pay for a fluoridation system that would cover our entire distribution area. However, we do report a small amount of fluoride in our water supply, which occurs naturally due to erosion.

Please note that Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has elected to begin fluoridating their drinking water supplies beginning in October 2007. Because MWD provides treated water in addition to the water treated at the City's groundwater treatment plant, there will be times that fluoride levels will vary throughout the water system depending on percentage of source water used. For more information on MWD's fluoridation program, please call (213) 217-5709 or visit www.mwdh2o.com.

Project Share and the Community it Affects...

In February of 1999, BWP, in partnership with the Burbank Temporary Aid Center, originated a wonderful, much needed community-based program called Project NOEL (Neighbors Offering Emergency Love) to assist customers who found themselves facing an unexpected financial emergency such as loss of a job, a family medical emergency, or a death in the family. Over the years, the community donated generously to the program. In 2004, the name was changed to Project Share and, in keeping to its original premise of assisting those in need, the program was expanded to all who qualified based on specific income guidelines, once a year. As expected, this change has led to a speedier depletion of annual resources and we still rely heavily on donations from within the community.



If you've ever wondered exactly how your donations are helping others, here are a couple of past circumstances:

- A local businesswoman, who regularly conducted food drives for BTAC and even made personal monetary donations, experienced serious problems with her company, negatively affecting her own income for more than six months. Falling behind on her mortgage and utility bills, BWP referred her to BTAC for Project Share assistance when her electricity was about to be shut off. Understandably embarrassed to go asking for help at an agency where she was known as a donor, she swallowed her pride and went in anyway. BTAC was able to give her a voucher from the Project Share program. Her lights stayed on, her business misfortunes worked themselves out, and today she is once again a contributor, back to conducting food drives for BTAC!
- Several years ago, a customer's husband abandoned her and their three children and left the country, making it impossible to get any child support from him. Her work cleaning houses only brought in \$250 weekly and the rent was \$850 per month. The family had been struggling and coming to BTAC for help with food already. When Mom got so far behind with her utility bills that their electricity was in danger of being turned off, a Project Share voucher helped them get through the winter.

So you see...your generosity does help those in need and make programs like this a success. We truly appreciate the Burbank Temporary Aid Center for their vital participation, and we especially thank you, the community of Burbank, for your donations past, present, and future!



PROJECT SHARE HELPING HANDS....HELPING OTHERS



Not everyone in Burbank can take conveniences like water and electricity for granted. That is why BWP administers a program called **PROJECT SHARE** to help our residents in need of temporary financial assistance. As part of the Burbank Community, we invite you to partner with us in helping these neighbors by contributing to **PROJECT SHARE**.

CONTRIBUTE MONTHLY: Check the monthly box, circle the amount, and return the form with your next payment. Your recurring donation will appear as a separate line item on each bill.

ONE-TIME SINGLE DONATION: Check the single box, circle or write in the amount, and add to your utility payment. A separate check is welcome too!

Please check one: **Monthly Donation** **Single Donation** Circle or write in your preferred donation amount: \$1 \$2 \$5 \$10 \$20 Other: \$ _____

Thanks for joining us in caring with PROJECT SHARE!

My Account # _____ **My Name:** _____ **My Phone #** _____

For local and emergency information please tune to 1620 AM. "BAM 1620"