

WATER SOFTENER FACT SHEET

Is there a ban on new water softeners?

Effective October 22, 2015, no person may install a brine discharging self-regenerating water softener. (Municipal Code 13.04.022 Prohibited Activities)

What is chloride and why is it being limited?

Chloride is a naturally occurring electrolyte found in drinking water sources, can be found in many vegetables and processed foods, and is most widely associated with common table salt. It can be considered harmful to certain freshwater aquatic life in high enough concentrations. To prevent Marsh Creek from experiencing chloride levels high enough to be harmful to aquatic life, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's ("RWQCB") permit imposes a limit on the amount of chloride that can be present in the City's wastewater treatment plant effluent (known as "recycled water") that currently discharges into the creek. The City's recycled water is currently unable to meet the RWQCB chloride limit. The majority of chlorides found in the City's wastewater come from water softeners that use salt (sodium chloride or potassium chloride) and discharge the brine to the sewer system.

What are some water softener alternatives?

The following vendors in the Brentwood area have stated that they sell water conditioning and softening systems that do not discharge chloride to the sewer system. These systems use a variety of technologies which may reduce water scale, soften the water or both.

The City of Brentwood does not endorse any product, service or vendor. The information below is provided solely as a courtesy to assist the public in researching alternatives to traditional chloride discharging softeners. Other vendors, services, and products may also reduce water scale and/or soften the water without discharging chloride into the sewer system.

Please contact the vendors directly for more information:

- Aquasana – 866.662.6885 – www.aquasana.com/salt-free-water-softeners
- Culligan – 866.349.5198 – www.culligan.com/en-us/d/homes/water-softener/portable-exchange/
- Delta Pure Water – 925.634.6658 – www.deltapurewater.com/water-softeners/
- EvoClear – 866.596.7417 – www.evoclearwater.com/evoclear-salt-free-water-softener
- Kinetic – 800.990.9191 – www.aaawater.org/saltless-systems.aspx
- LifeSource – 888.994.5032 – www.lifesourcewater.com/hard_water_systems.php
- Pelican Water Systems – 877.842.1635 – www.pelicanwater.com/salt-free-water-softeners.php
- Service Pros Plumbing – 925.753.5600 – www.serviceprosplumbers.com/water-softeners
- Success Water – 800.287.8798 – www.successwatersystems.com/residential-products

