

2004 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Orange Tree Utility Co.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is the surficial aquifer. During most of 2004 the water was lime-softened and chlorinated for disinfection, in late 2004 we changed the treatment process to nanofiltration and chlorination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our office at 239-353-1389.

Orangetree Utilities routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2004.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

“ND” means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health

The FDEP is in the process of conducting SWAs for all public water systems in FL. These assessments will identify and assess any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of your water supply. A SWA report for this system will be available at the DEP SWAPP web site: www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp." by July 1, 2005

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radiological Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	3/03 & 12/03	N	1.4	0.9-1.7	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 or combined Radium	12/03	N	0.7		0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	3/03	N	0.3		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppb)	3/03	N	5		50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
23. Sodium (ppm)	3/03	N	34.5		N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
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Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	11/2003	N	0.28	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
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The result in the Level Detected column for TTHMs is the highest of the four quarterly running annual averages of results from all sampling sites.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly	N	2.44	0.95-4.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	Quarterly	Y	255.75	85-340	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	Quarterly	Y	410	238-569	NA	MCL = 80/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5): Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

In late 2004 the nano filtration water plant went online which appears to have effectively corrected the HAA5 and TTHM MCL violations above. The Department of Environmental Protection notified us on March 18, 2005 that we are no longer required to issue public notice for these violations. We will continue to monitor for the HAA5 and TTHMs quarterly.

In 2004 the Department of Environmental Protection cited and fined our system for failure to maintain the minimum disinfection level in the Twin Eagles area during a routine inspection, failure to maintain the lime feed pump and filter system, failure to issue the public notice accurately for the TTHM maximum contaminant level violation, and for failure to monitor for HAA5s in the last quarter of 2004. In each of the four cases appropriate corrective action was taken within the specified time frames, and each enforcement case was settled through a Consent Order with the Department of Environmental Protection.

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:

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency' Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

