

2006 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. The water is then filtered by reverse osmosis and chlorinated for disinfection.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our office at 239.596.4088. Orange Tree Utility 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, 2006.

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.

In 2004, a source water assessment was conducted for our water system. The assessment found no potential sources of contamination near the wells. Source water assessments are posted at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

Microbiological Contaminants						
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	12/06	N	1	0	For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in more than 1 sample collected during a month.	Naturally present in the environment

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)	12/03	N	0.9	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	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (ppm)	12/06	N	0.04	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
11. Barium (ppm)	12/06	N	0.003	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
23. Sodium (ppm)	12/06	N	11.7	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
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/05	N	0.008	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
85. Lead (tap water) (ppb)	9/05	N	2	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

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
Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Contaminants							
Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly	N	2.1	1.66-2.51	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	8/06, 9/06	N	7.2	4-7.2	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	8/06, 9/06	N	22.3	18.3-22.3	NA	MCL = 80/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection

In 2006 we failed to conduct the required Lead and Copper monitoring. The monitoring violation was settled via a Consent Order with the Department of Environmental Protection. Lead and Copper monitoring was conducted in 2007 and the results were satisfactory, and will be reported on next years CCR.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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).