

Water Quality Testing Results

LAKE REGION

What do these tables explain?

This table is designed to inform you about substances that may be found in your water prior to the point of entry at the water treatment plant and the master meter for each individual city. All drinking water, including bottled water, can contain contaminants. Therefore, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established standards regulating contaminants. Our utility has never been in violation of the EPA standards.

The first table shows substances that the EPA requires our Utility to report, even though we are not in violation of their standard. To determine how our water compares to the federal regulation, compare the column that shows the level allowed by EPA (MCLs) to the column that shows the highest level detected at our utility during the year 2008.

The state and federal government allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Source Water Assessment

In 2008, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. The assessment identified 94 potential sources of contamination for our system with susceptibility levels ranging from low to moderate. The majority of sources are privately owned and operated petroleum storage tanks (gas stations) and waste clean-up facilities. The results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

Table Definitions

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

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for Stage 2 DBPR.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Mrem/yr: Millirems per year

MFL: Million fibers per liter (longer than 10 micrometers)

N/A: Not Applicable

pCi/l: picocuries per liter; a measure of radiation matter in drinking water.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter; one part per million equals approximately one drop in 10 gallons.

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a secondary contaminant that is allowed.

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

PRIMARY INORGANICS	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation	Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.00147	2	2 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; drilling wastes, metal refineries
Chromium (ppb)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	1.33	100	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from steel and pulp mills
Fluoride (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.072	4	4 ppm	Additive to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; fertilizers
Nitrate, as Nitrogen (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.02	10	10 ppm	Natural occurrence in soil; fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks
Nitrite, as Nitrogen (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.01	1	1 ppm	Fertilizer runoff, leaching from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.89	50	50 ppb	Discharge from petroleum / metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	69.9	N/A	160 ppm	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation	Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.9	0	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.5-0.8	0	5 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	2.1 - 5.3 †	4	4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.5 - 6.85†	N/A	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	4/7/08 - 10/8/08	No	0.5 - 4.4†	N/A	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

† The results in the column indicating "Range of Results" for total trihalomethanes, chloramines, and HAA5 are the highest and lowest of all of the individual samples. Compliance with MCLs are based on the samples that are collected in the distribution system by each individual city, which are not shown here.

Important Note: The above-referenced water quality testing results do not represent an entire year of annual sampling, nor do they represent any of samples taken within the distribution systems belonging to the cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay. The information in these tables represents only the water quality samples taken between the point of entry at the water treatment plant and the master meter for each individual city.

*The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires monitoring of over 80 Drinking Water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the tables above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water system taken between the point of entry at the water treatment plant to the master meter for each individual city.

As authorized and approved by the EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. As you can see by the tables, the water treatment plant had NO VIOLATIONS.

MICROBIOLOGICAL DATA	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform	Human and animal fecal waste

* The maximum contaminant level for coliform bacteria is based on the presence or absence of total coliform in a sample. We are pleased to report that all of the daily samples collected at the location between the point of entry at the water treatment plant and the master meter for each individual city are negative.



Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department
BEST WATER, BEST SERVICE & BEST ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.