



This report was prepared by:  
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## Continuing Our Commitment

We are once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2010. (Data obtained before January 1, 2010, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.) We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Please note that if you live west of Hwy. 27, you are on the West Water System, and if you live east of Hwy. 27, you are on the East Water System.



For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Bob Reed, Operations Manager, at (352) 241-0178.

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our council meetings and voice your concerns about our water utility. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 685 W. Montrose Street, Clermont, FL.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

Our drinking water originates from one of the largest sources of freshwater in the country, the Floridan Aquifer. The aquifer lies deep below much of Florida and is replenished mainly by rainwater filtering through hundreds of feet of rock and sand. This groundwater is typically of high quality, requiring only disinfection with chlorine prior to distribution to our customers.

In 2009 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. There are 10 potential sources of contamination identified for both systems, with moderate susceptibility levels. Potential sources of contamination identified include underground petroleum storage tanks and delineated areas. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained from Bob Reed at (352) 241-0178.

## Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.

Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.

Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## Substances That Could Be in Water

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, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 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; Pesticides and herbicides, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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 U.S. 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## What's a Cross-connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment, systems containing chemicals, or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops, causing contaminants to be drawn from the equipment and into the water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. For more information, visit U.S. EPA's Web site at <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/crossconnectioncontrol/index.cfm>. You can also call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Lead and Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water ([www.epa.gov/watrhme](http://www.epa.gov/watrhme)) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/>

## Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

### PRIMARY REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Radioactive Contaminants <sup>1</sup>										
		City of Clermont-East			City of Clermont-West					
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	No	01/08	4.4	ND-4.4	01/08	1.9	1.3-1.9	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 [Combined Radium] (pCi/L)	No	01/08	ND	NA	01/08	1.4	0.9-1.4	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants										
Antimony (ppb)	No	01/08	1.5	ND-1.5	01/08	ND	NA	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic <sup>2</sup> (ppb)	No	01/08	5.3	2.8-5.3	01/08	1.1	ND-1.1	NA	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	No	01/08	0.0152	0.006-0.0152	01/08	0.0105	0.0065-0.0105	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	No	01/08	6.7	4.7-6.7	01/08	11.5	7.4-11.5	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	No	01/08	0.264	ND-0.264	01/08	ND	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Nickel (ppb)	No	01/08	1.3	ND-1.3	01/08	1.1	ND-1.1	NA	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations; natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	No	02/10	2.36	2.07-2.36	02/10	ND	NA	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	No	02/09	2.51	2.51-40.75	01/08	ND	NA	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	No	01/08	7.46	2.99-7.46	01/08	6.2	4.08-6.2	NA	160	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil

**Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products<sup>3</sup>**

		City of Clermont–East			City of Clermont–West					
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG OR [MRDLG]	MCL OR [MRDL]	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chlorine (ppm)	No	2010 Monthly	1.81	0.3–2.8	2010 Monthly	1.91	0.5–3.5	[4]	[4.0]	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) [HAA5] (ppb)	No	2010 Quarterly	5.32	2.63–8.9	2010 Quarterly	30.79	6.83–64.71	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No	2010 Quarterly	16.9	12.4–28.8	2010 Quarterly	38.01	12.4–73.9	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Lead and Copper (Tap water samples were collected from sites throughout the community)**

		City of Clermont–East			City of Clermont–West					
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	AL EXCEEDANCE (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	No	06/09	0.0865	0	09/08	0.808	1	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	No	06/09	ND	0	09/08	3.9	2	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup>Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants and inorganic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

<sup>2</sup>While your drinking water meets the U.S. EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The U.S. EPA standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

<sup>3</sup>For chlorine, the level detected is the the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHMs, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly, or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.

## Definitions

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

**IDSE (Initial Distribution System Evaluation):** 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 the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the 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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).