



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITY SERVICES
2000 ANNUAL
DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

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 groundwater pulled from wells drawn from the Floridan Aquifer.

- ***This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.***

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Gerald LeBeau at (561) 770 – 5068. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Every Tuesday at 9:00am at the county commission chambers located at 1840 25th Street Vero Beach.

Indian River County 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 1st to December 31st 2000.

“As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data [e.g., for organic contaminants], though representative, is more than one year old.”

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER INCLUDE:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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).

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 which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.*
- *Non Applicable – (N/A): Does not apply*
- *“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.*

TEST RESULTS TABLE

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of sample analysis	MCL/AL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCL G	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radiological Contaminants							
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	02/1999 & 03/1999	No	7.0	1.0-7.0	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/l)	04/1999	No	1.0	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	0.0064	.0052 – .0064	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	4.7	ND-4.7	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	1.1	0.52-1.1	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	1.4	ND-1.4	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint.; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	1.0	0.1-1.0	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Sodium (ppm)	03/1999 & 09/1999	No	75	64-75	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Lead and Copper Home Sampling							
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	1999	No	2.3 (90 th percentile)	N/A	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	1999	No	0.04 (90 th percentile)	N/A	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
TRIHALOMETHANES							
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2000	No	66.8 (annual average)	31.5-118.0	0	100	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Carbon tetrachloride (ppb)	06/2000	No	1.1	ND-1.1	0	3	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities

****SPECIAL NOTES: (1) CCR VIO – LATE SUBMITTAL**

A review of Department records for this system indicates a reporting violation for failure to deliver the 1999 CCR by the July 1, 2000 deadline.

Due to administrative oversight during a busy part of the year, our office failed to submit a report required under NPDWR. This violation has no impact on the quality of the water our customers received and it posed no risk to public health. We have established a report-tracking file to ensure that all reporting requirements are met in the future. (This report has been prepared using recycled paper)