



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITY SERVICES
2002 ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
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 (772) 770 – 5068. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

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 2002.

“As authorized and approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (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:

The EPA has identified “source drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) to 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”:

<p>(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.</p> <p>(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.</p>	<p>(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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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 following table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- *MCL or 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 or 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.*
- *AL or Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.*
- *N/A or Not Applicable: Does not apply*
- *ND or Non Detectable – Not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.*
- *ppm or Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.*
- *ppb or Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.*
- *pCi/L or Picocurie per liter - measure of the radioactivity.*
- *MFL or million fibers per liter.*

TABLE OF TEST RESULTS							
Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Asbestos (MFL) (fibers > 10 micrometers)	03/2002	No	0.94	ND-0.94	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm)	01/2002	No	0.0086	0.0054-0.0086	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide (ppb)	01/2002	No	10.0	ND-10.0	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Fluoride (ppm)	01/2002	No	0.879	0.869-0.879	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel (ppb)	01/2002	No	3.1	ND-3.1	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil.
Nitrate (ppm) (as Nitrogen)	01/2002	No	0.044	0.043-0.044	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	01/2002	No	72.5	68.0-72.5	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.
Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2002	No	61.3 (annual average)	31.4-102.0	N/A	100	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation (Yes/No)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (tap water)	2002	No	0.041	N/A	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (ppb) (tap water)	2002	No	2.8	N/A	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

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.