

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2010



Presented by:
CITY OF PINELLAS PARK

PWS ID#:6521406



Meeting the Challenge

We are once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to deliver tap water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenge of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. Should you ever have any questions, we are always available to assist you.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ONCE AGAIN REPORT THAT OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS

Contaminant's That May Be Present In Source 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.

Contamination that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminant's, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminant's, 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 Contaminant's, 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.

Radioactive Contaminant's, 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 contaminant's in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminant's

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 contaminant's. The presence of contaminant's does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminant's and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment

Between 2004 and 2010, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment for Tampa Bay Water. The assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of the TBW surface water intakes. The surface water system is considered to be at high risk because of the many potential sources of contamination present in the assessment area. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from Tampa Bay Water, 2535 Landmark Drive, Clearwater, FL 33761, phone (727) 796-2355.

Your Participation is Welcome!

For more information about your drinking water and opportunities to get more involved, please contact Keith Sabiel (727) 541-0774, email ksabiel@pinellas-park.com or mail at 6051 78th Avenue, Pinellas Park, FL 33781. Council meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month.

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. The City of Pinellas Park is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but 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.

Abbreviations and Water Quality Terms

To help you better understand the abbreviations and terms in the Water Quality Analysis table located on the center page we have provided the following definitions:

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

NH₂Cl (Chloramine): A compound made by chemically combining chlorine and ammonia. Monochloramine, one of three possible combinations, is the desired chloramine form for disinfection of potable water.

Cl (Chlorine): An element used in gaseous form that readily combines with other elements in water to disinfect potable water.

HAAs (Haloacetic Acids): A group of disinfection by-products formed as a result of the chemical disinfection of water.

IDSE (Initial Distribution System Evaluation): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection By-products 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): Indicated that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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).

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

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes): A group of disinfection by-products formed as a result of the chemical disinfection of water.

Turbidity: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people

should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CD (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 www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/.

Where Does my Water Come From?

The City of Pinellas Park is a consecutive water system which relies on purchased processed water from the Pinellas County Water system. Pinellas County Utilities receives potable drinking water from sources managed by the regional water supplier, Tampa Bay Water (TBW). This regional, potable water supply is a blend composed of ground water, treated surface water, and desalinated seawater. Thirteen different well fields pumping water from the Floridan Aquifer are the primary source for the regional ground water supply. Ground water is also provided to Pinellas County's water customers from the Eldridge-Wilde Well Field located in northeastern Pinellas County. The Alafia River, C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir, the Hillsborough river, and the Tampa Bypass Canal are the primary suppliers of the regional, treated surface water supply. Hillsborough Bay is the primary source of seawater for the regional desalinated supply. The Tampa Bay processed blend water received by Pinellas County is fluoridated and treated with polyphosphates to inhibit pipeline corrosion. The Eldridge-Wilde Well Field water received by Pinellas County Utilities also undergoes further treatment including hydrogen sulfide removal, corrosion control, fluoridation, chloramine disinfection, and PH adjustment. For more information call Pinellas County Water (727) 464-4000, Tampa Bay Water (727) 796-2355 or Pinellas County Utilities at www.pinellascounty.org.