2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Of The City of Alachua

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 drawn ground water from wells. The wells draw water from the Floridian Aquifer, and are chlorinated for disinfection purposes.

The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. Potential sources of contamination identified include underground petroleum storage tanks, and dry cleaning facilities. The assessments results are available on the DEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.statejl.us/swapp.
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 **Mr. Mike New at (386) 418-4079.** *We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.*

The City of Alachua 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 1 to December 31, 2005. Data obtained before January 1, 2005, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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 that a water system must follow.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: 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.

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 (ug/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.

Radiological Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling**	MCL **Violation**	Level	**Range of**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	Likely Source of
Alpha emitters (pCi/1)	10-2003	N	1.4		0	15	Erosion of natural

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant and **Unit** of **Measurement**	Dates of sampling	**MCL Violation**	**Level**	Range of	MCLG	**MCL**	Likely **Source** of
Barium (ppm)							Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion
Chromium (ppb)	1/05-12/05	N	0.20		100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)							Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural
Sodium (ppm)	1/05-12/05	N	7.5		N/A	160	Salt water intrusion,

TTHMs and Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of** sampling	**MCL** Violation	**Level**	**Range of**	**MCLG or**	**MCL or**	**Likely** Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	7/04	N	1.2	NA	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	7/04	N	19.7	NA	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)		N	0.8	59-1.05	MRDLG--4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of (mo./yr.)	**MCL** YIN	**Level Detected**	**Range** Results	MCLG or **MRDLG**	**MCL or MRDL**	
84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	1/05-12/05	Y	1.4	3	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

85. Lead (tap water) ppb	1/05-12/05	N	4.7	1	-	-	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

In July 2005, we performed lead and copper tap sampling and analysis. The test results exceeded the Action Level for copper by the first time since 1992. The 90th percentile tap water copper result during 2005 was 1.4 mg/L which is above the action level of 1.3 mg/L. Three of the twenty two sites tested exceeded the 1.3 mg/L action level. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson 's disease should consult your personal doctor.

The copper level found in the City of Alachua 's water source for 2005 was 0.00096 mg/l. The increase in the copper level primarily comes from household copper plumbing and fixtures that contains copper that leaches into the water. We are currently performing additional testing and analysis on our treated water to determine if further treatment will be necessary to reduce the water 's tendency to leach copper from household plumbing and fixtures. If necessary, additional treatment will be added to the water treatment system to correct the copper exceedance in the tap drinking water. For more information please contact Scott Roane, Water System Supervisor, at (386) 462-1084.

During the month of July 2005 we failed to collect monthly bacteriological samples. This was a violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. During this month no analyses were performed and we were unable to determine if bacterial contaminants were present. Sampling resumed in August 2005 and all results were satisfactory indicating no bacterial contaminants in the treated 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:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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.

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).

*We at **The** City **of Alachua** would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.*