



## 2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

El informe contiene información importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

We're very excited to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is groundwater drawn from the Floridan Aquifer. The treatment process includes well pumping, tray aeration to remove hydrogen sulfide, chlorination for disinfection, fluoridation for dental health purposes, and corrosion inhibitor (orthophosphate) for corrosion control in the distribution system.

In 2011 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 ten potential sources of contamination identified for this system with moderate susceptibility levels. The City will continue to monitor our supply wells for organic compounds in accordance with state and federal regulations. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained from the City's Water Utility Division.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Division Director for Water, Wastewater & Reuse at 407-571-8686. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Additional information may be obtained from the City of Altamonte Springs web site at [www.altamonte.org/citydepartments/public works](http://www.altamonte.org/citydepartments/public works).

The City of Altamonte Springs 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, 2012. Data obtained before January 1, 2012, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. As you can see by the tables, our water system had no violations. We're proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

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. City of Altamonte Springs is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of material 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

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 EPA'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. Environmental Protection Agency and Center for Disease Control 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 Altamonte Springs 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 407-571-8686.



## WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

In this table you may find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

**Non-Detects (ND)** – indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**Non-Applicable (N/A)** - does not apply.

**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 the analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

**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.

**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.

**Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)** – the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radiological Contaminants</b>							
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	3/08	N	0.4	0.2-0.4	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium (ppm)	3/11	N	0.012	0.0085-0.012	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	3/11	N	0.69	0.66-0.69	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	3/11	N	0.24	0.13-0.24	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nickel (ppb)	3/11	N	0.56	0.39-0.56	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Selenium (ppb)	3/11	N	0.96	ND-0.96	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	3/11	N	10.0	10.0-10.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Thallium (ppb)	3/11	N	0.25	0.23-0.25	0.5	2	Discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>							
Dalapon (ppb)	3/11	N	0.44	0.30-0.44	200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	3/11	N	2.4	ND- 2.4	0	200	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples, and orchards
Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	3/11	N	0.72	ND-0.72	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
<b>Stage 1 Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
Chlorine	2012	N	1.2	0.2 – 1.9	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	7/12	N	38.9 (annual average)	37.9 – 39.9	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	7/12	N	36.5 (annual average)	30.9 – 42.1	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Stage 2 Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	10/12	N	46.4 (Highest LRAA)	27.0 – 46.4	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	10/12	N	52.9(Highest LRAA)	33.3 – 52.9	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of Sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the A/L	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	7/11	N	0.279	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	7/11	N	1.4	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits