



2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



The City of Altamonte Springs is pleased to provide you with the 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have provided. Our goal is and always has been to provide a safe and dependable drinking water supply. 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 2015, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. A search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination. The City continues to monitor 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 at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from the City's Water Utility Division.

The City routinely monitors for contaminants in our 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, 2015. Data obtained before January 1, 2015 and presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations. From this data, you can see our water system had no violations. The City is 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. The City of Altamonte Springs 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 two 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.

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.

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 (800) 426-4791.

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL 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.

The Environmental Protection Agency and Center for Disease Control and Prevention 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.

If you have any questions about this report or your water quality, please contact the division director for Water, Wastewater and Reuse at (407) 571-8686 or visit www.Altamonte.org.

Atención: Hay una versión en español del informe de calidad del agua 2015 disponible en www.Altamonte.org/DrinkingWater.

Water Quality Testing Results

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Month/Year)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Highest Monthly Percentage/Number	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	7/15	No	1 positive sample out of 60 1.7%	0	For systems collecting at least 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples.	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Month/Year)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	3/14	No	0.0071	0.0070 – 0.0071	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	3/14	No	0.74	0.67 – 0.74	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	3/14	No	0.35	0.22 – 0.35	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nickel (ppb)	3/14	No	0.89	0.78-0.89	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Selenium (ppb)	3/14	No	2.37	1.21 – 2.37	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	3/14	No	12.0	9.0 – 12.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Thallium (ppb)	3/14	No	0.42	ND – 0.42	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides							
Dalapon (ppb)	3/14	No	1.2	ND – 1.2	200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di (2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	3/14	No	0.44	ND – 0.44	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Stage 2 Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine	2015	No	1.0	0.3 – 2.0	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	2015	No	29.4 (Highest LRAA)	18.9 – 38.2	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2015	No	52.6 (Highest LRAA)	27.1 – 65.2	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Month/Year)	AL Violation (Yes/No)	90th Percentile Result	No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	7/14	No	0.221	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	7/14	No	0.30	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3)			
Contaminant	Maximum Level	Average Level	Range
Molybdenum (ppb)	4.4	2.8	1.1 – 4.4
Strontium (ppb)	96	88.5	81 – 96
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	.03	ND	ND – .003
Chlorate (ppb)	380	308	250 – 380

The 1996 Safe Drinking Act (SDWA) amendments require that once every five years the EPA issues a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs). The first Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 1) was published on September 17, 1999, the second (UCMR 2) was published on January 4, 2007 and the third (UCMR 3) was published on May 2, 2012. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory actions to protect public health. At present, no health standards (for example, MCLs) have been established for Unregulated Contaminants. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our Unregulated Contaminant monitoring in our annual water quality report. If you would like more information on EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Terms and Abbreviations:

- **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:** highest level of a contaminant 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.