

What you should know about your....

Drinking Water

CITY OF TAMARAC 2008 QUALITY REPORT – EAST

Drink with Confidence!

The City of Tamarac is pleased to provide you with this annual Water Quality Report. This report contains important information about the City's water source, water supply, the treatment process, the contents of your drinking water and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The results in this report are compiled from tests performed in 2008 on the water supply. Tamarac Utilities is committed to providing you with information about your water supply, because customers who are well informed are our best allies in supporting improvement necessary to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

Water Conservation – Creating a Culture of Conservation

Water conservation should always be practiced, not only during droughts. It's cheaper to save water than waste it. Every drop that flows down your drain or spills into your gutter unused is a drop you pay for twice – first, in the form of higher water bills, and second in the form of higher sewage bills. If that wasted water is heated, your gas or electric bill is higher, too. Who says conservation doesn't pay?

Outside Your Home – Approximately 50% of all water use is for outdoor use. And that doesn't include golf courses!

- During the drought, irrigate only on your assigned days of the week.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and plants, not on the pavement.
- Check sprinkler systems for leaks, line breaks, and clogged heads regularly.
- Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil.
- If it rains, turn off your irrigation system. A heavy rain can eliminate the need for watering for up to two weeks. Lawns only need one inch of water per week.
- Use a sponge and bucket of water to wash your car.



Inside Your Home – Most changes don't take any more time. It's just a question of looking at something in a different way with an eye toward making the most efficient use of water.

- Fix faucet, toilet and showerhead leaks.
- Use the dishwasher and washing machine only with full loads.
- Don't run water continuously for vegetable and dish washing.
- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth or shaving.

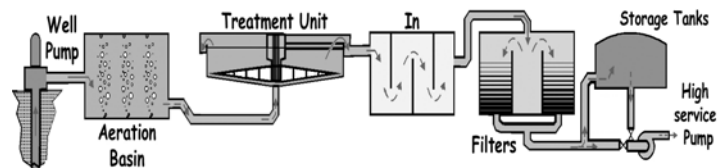


Source Water Assessment

As part of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has performed a Source Water Assessment (SWA) on our system. The report categorizes potential sources of contamination to the water system. The report found two dry cleaners, rated as sites with high potential, and eight petroleum tanks, four have high potential and four have moderate potential for contamination. The SWA results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

The Water Treatment Process

- The water starts with a safe reliable source – **the Biscayne Aquifer**. Rain seeps through layers of sand, clay, and limestone that filters and purifies the water.
- The first step takes place in a huge mixing unit called an accelerator. Here, lime and coagulants are added to remove some hardness and make the water aesthetically pleasing.
- Chlorine is also added as a disinfectant to prevent growth of bacteria.
- The next step is filtration to remove any sediment in the water.
- Finally, fluoride is added to promote dental health.
- When the process is completed, clean, safe drinking water is delivered to our customers.



Get the facts... Where does the water come from?

Your water is treated by the City of Ft. Lauderdale and delivered through the City of Tamarac's water distribution system.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **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.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **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.
- **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 that must provide the same protection for public health.

Special Health Concerns

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 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

How healthy is bottled water?

All 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 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 800-426-4791.

Water Quality Report Card January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

Contaminant (Units) Date of Analysis	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria 1/1/08 – 12/31/08	N	0	ND	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in one monthly sample.	Naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.
Antimony (ppb) 7/08	N	1.7	1.1 – 1.7	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb) 7/08	N	3.6	ND – 3.6	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm) 7/08	N	0.0044	0.0036 - 0.0044	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb) 7/08	N	1.2	ND – 1.2	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Fluoride (ppm) 1/1/08 – 12/31/08	N	0.845	0.805 – 0.845	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb) 7/08	N	1.3	0.2 – 1.3	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nitrate as Nitrogen (ppm) 7/08	N	0.145	0.0876 – 0.145	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant (Units) Date of Analysis	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Selenium (ppb) 7/08	N	1.2	ND - 1.2	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm) 7/08	N	35.4	24.1 – 35.4	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Thallium (ppb) 7/08	N	0.0005	ND – 0.0005	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Color (color units) 1/08 to 12/08	Y	20	2 - 20	N/A	15	Naturally occurring organics
Dichloromethane (ppb) 7/08	N	0.48	0.46 – 0.48	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb) 7/08	N	1.3	0.79 – 1.3	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Pentachlorophenol (ppb) 7/08	N	0.007	0.004 – 0.007	0	1	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Chloramines (ppm) 1/1/08 – 12/31/08	N	2.9	2.6 – 3.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (ppb) 2/08,5/08,8/08,11/08	N	33.6	1.0 – 46.9	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) 2/08,5/08,8/08,11/08	N	43.7	0.89 – 72.8	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead (at the tap) (PPB) 9/06	N	3 (0 homes out of 10 above AL)	0.23 - 10	0	AL=15 (at the 90% of the samples)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (at the tap) (PPM) 9/06	N	0.083 (0 homes out of 10 above AL)	0.0051 – 0.12	1.3	AL=1.3 (at the 90% of the samples)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters (pCi/L) 7/08	N	1.87	1.80 – 1.87	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L) 7/08	N	0.94	0.50 – 0.94	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

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

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) – an important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)- The "Goal" is 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.

None Detected (ND) - Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

The Tamarac Water Report is produced by the Utilities Department of the City of Tamarac Florida

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For more information, please call Fran Oney, Laboratory Manager at the Water Treatment Facility's Laboratory
954-597-3776

For billing questions, please contact
Customer Service
954-597-3590

For questions on water service, please contact the Utilities Department
954-597-3750

www.tamarac.org

Esta informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

2008 Water
Quality
Report

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