North Port FLORIDA

Utilities Department

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

Utilities Department
City of North Port
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NorthPortFL.gov/Utilities

Director's Message

Dear Utilities Customer,

As the Director for North Port Utilities, I am excited to inform you of the initiatives we have undertaken over the course of the past year. Our staff has been working diligently to provide this growing community with reliable water and wastewater service while also looking towards the future to determine how we can best serve you, our environment and our growing water needs.

This year, we have begun to develop the framework for our Enterprise Asset Management Program, Effective Utility Management Benchmarking and ISO 55001 certification. These fundamental projects will be the building blocks on which we develop our Utility for the future needs of this community. By systematically and precisely documenting our physical assets, maintenance, man hours, work orders, call volume, production, collection and other key components of our daily workload, we will be better able to predict future needs and the funding that is needed to meet those goals. The fast-paced growth of the City of North Port needs data driven solutions to stay ahead of these demands and North Port Utilities is prepared for that challenge.

Our top priorities include our commitment to being good stewards of the money entrusted to us, maintaining our assets at the right time for the lowest cost, while maintaining a high level of service. This year we will also begin construction on a new Utilities facility on Pan American Boulevard. Destroyed by Hurricane Ian, our previous location still houses our Field Operations, but we look forward to having Administration, Customer Service and Field back together under one roof. Additionally, one of our larger, long-term projects, the Neighborhood Expansion of Water and Wastewater service, will break ground in 2025 in the Blue Ridge/N. Salford area. This has been one of our key projects as it will remove a multitude of septic tanks from service to help protect our water resources.

Utilities is also undertaking several studies to examine alternative water resources as well as solutions to move water and wastewater from the far ends of undeveloped North Port to our treatment facilities. We have a great deal of work ahead of us and anticipate meeting these challenges with our noses to the grindstone and eyes on the future! If you have any questions about upcoming projects, water quality, or general information regarding North Port Utilities, please call us directly at 941-240-8000.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gallinaro, Utilities Director

Where our water comes from

The City of North Port ensures the provision of high-quality drinking water through meticulous and comprehensive treatment processes at both the Myakkahatchee Creek and Southwest Water Treatment Plants. By utilizing a combination of conventional surface water treatment (sourced from the Myakkahatchee Creek and Coco Plum Waterway) and advanced reverse osmosis technology (sourced from intermediate aquifer wells), we effectively remove contaminants and maintain water quality standards.

The detailed treatment for each plant is designed to address specific water source characteristics and ensure the safety and palatability of our drinking water. The Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant uses a combination of both reverse osmosis and conventional surface water treatment processes. The conventional surface water treatment and color removal process consists of taste and odor control, coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, disinfection, and stabilization as primary water treatment techniques. Both the Myakkahatchee Creek and Southwest Water Treatment Plants also use a reverse osmosis treatment process where source water for this process is pumped from intermediate aquifer wells and into a series of membranes to remove salt and other effluent materials from the water molecules. After purification the water is passed through an aeration and disinfection process prior to blending with the treated surface water before being pumped to our customers.

The State of Florida has conducted the Source Water Assessment of all public watersheds as required by Federal law. In 2023, 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 near our surface water intakes. The origin of the Myakkahatchee Creek, known as the Big Slough watershed, is in a rural area with non-intensive industrial applications within its area. 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 website at www.DEP.State.FL.US/SWAPP or they can be obtained from North Port Utilities, at 941-429-8000.

Providing quality water

Our staff at North Port Utilities is comprised of 94 team members whose primary focus is to supply our customers with fresh, safe and reliable drinking water. Annually, the potable water produced by North Port Utilities is tested over 50,000 times. All information contained in this report has been collected and reported in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

North Port's principal source of raw water supply is the Myakkahatchee Creek, which originates in eastern Manatee County and flows adjacent to the Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant. This plant also sources raw water from six intermediate ground water wells. We are also able to take water from the Cocoplum waterway as an alternative water source. Our second plant, the Southwest Water Treatment Facility, pulls ground water from four intermediate wells in the northern portion of the City near Wellen Park.

Additionally, the City of North Port also purchases treated surface water from the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority. This water is treated at the Peace River water treatment facility located in DeSoto County.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact North Port Utilities, at 941-240-8000. Or, to sign up to receive email notifications about the latest news regarding Utilities, please visit **NorthPortFL.gov/Subscribe**.

This report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023.

Substances that could be in water

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.

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 naturallyoccurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

(C) SOCs are man-made, organic (carbon-based) chemicals. They are used as pesticides, defoliants, fuel additives and as ingredients for other organic compounds.

(D) Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short- and long-term adverse health effects.

(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

Definitions

In the table on the following page, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms, the following definitions are provided:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology and taking cost into consideration. MCLs are enforceable standards.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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

Maximum residual disinfectant level (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 (µg/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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ND - Not detected.

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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. North Port Utilities 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 **http://www.EPA.gov/SafeWater/Lead**.

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	The Highest Single Measurement	The Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	1/23-12/23	NP: N PR: N	0.325 0.16	100% 100%	N/A	<1 NTU at all times or <0.3 NTU in at least 95% of samples for the month	Soil runoff
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling**	**TT Violation**	**Result**	**MCLG**	**TT**	**Likely Source of Contamination**	
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/23-12/23	NP: N PRN	0.002% 0%	0	No more than 5% positive results	Naturally present in the environment	

STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL or MRDL	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine and Chloramines (ppm)	1/23-12/23	Violation Y/N NP: N PR: N	NP: 2.23 4.04	NP: 0.6-4.2 3.52-4.04	MRDLG = 4 mgl	MRDL = 4.0 mgl	Water additive used to control microbes
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling**	**TT Violation Y/N**	**Lowest Running Annual Average, Computed Quarterly, of Monthly Removal Ratios**	**Range of Monthly Removal Ratios**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Total organic carbon (ppm)	1/23-12/23	NP: N PR: N	2.1 1.438	2.36-2.84 1.35-1.93	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

STAGE 2 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2023	NP: N PR: N	NP: 25.6 29.95	0.9-45.0 20-51.1	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2023	NP: N PR: N	NP: 35 54.28	0.5-71.0 40-180	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-23 8/17/2023	NP: N PR: N	0.084 0.074	NP: 0 PR: 0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jun-23 8/17/2023	NP: N PR: N	1.5 2.5	NP: 0 PR: 0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radium 226 & 228 (pCi/L)	NP: 06/2019	NP: N	NP: 3.84	ND-3.84	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Asbestos (MFL)	NP: 9/20	NP: N	NP: 1.0	ND-1.0	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	23-Jun PR: 1/23	NP: N PR: N	0.0077 0.01	.0008-.0077 0.01	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppm)	PR: 1/23	PR: N	0.001	0.001	0.005	0.005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Hexachlorocyclopentadinene	23-Jun PR: 1/23	NP: N PR: N	0.024 0.081	ND-0.024 0.081	50	50	Discharge from chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	23-Jun PR: 1/23	NP: N PR: N	NP: <0.1 (ND) 0.142	NP: <0.1 (ND) 0.142	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	23-Jun PR: 1/23	NP: N PR: N	93.1 40.6	53-93.1 40.6	160	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	23-Jun PR: 1/22	NP: N PR: N	0.03 0.006	ND-.03 0.006	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as nitrogen) (ppm)	PR: 1/23	NP: N PR: N	0.01 (ND) 0.008	ND-0.01 0.008	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	23-Jun	NP: N	0.00054	ND-0.00054	0	0.01	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Selenium	23-Jun	NP: N	0.0018	ND-0.01	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Lead	PR: 1/23	PR: N	0.002	0.002	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	NP 6/14-23	NP: N	0.0085	ND-0.0085	0.2	0.2	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories