

2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
DeSoto County Utilities, PWS # 6144898

The Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PRMRWSA) oversees the operations of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Facility (PRMRWSF), which uses the Peace River as its source of supply. The Peace River is a large river, by Florida standards, having a drainage area of 2,300 square miles. The Peace River headwaters originate in the Green Swamp of northern Polk County flowing through Lake Hancock, Winter Haven chain of lakes and Lake Hamilton. The mouth of the Peace River is located in Punta Gorda; 120 miles downstream from the headwaters delivering needed fresh water to the Charlotte Harbor estuary. The water is treated for drinking by coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and is disinfected by chloramination. The PRMRWSA presently sells water to Charlotte County, the City of North Port, DeSoto County, Manatee County and Sarasota County.

The PRMRWSA and DeSoto County Utilities routinely monitor 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, 2020. Data obtained before January 1, 2021, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. We have learned that through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. If you have any questions about the data provided in this Annual Drinking Water Quality Report please contact the office at 863-491-7500.

The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system in 2020. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of the Peace River Regional Water Supply surface water intakes. Potential sources of contamination were identified to include underground petroleum storage tanks, injection wells, wastewater treatment plants, Brownfield site, landfill, and other delineated areas. The concern level is considered to be high. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, 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.

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

"ND" means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$): 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.

Radioactive Contaminants – Peace River Authority

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	1/2020-12/2020	N	2.5	.6 - 2.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	1/2020-12/2020	N	1.0	.1 - 1.0	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants – Peace River Authority

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	1/2020	N	0.008	0.008	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1/2020	N	0.169	0.169	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
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	1/2020	N	0.403	0.403	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	1/2020	N	40.4	40.4	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Turbidity Contaminants – Peace River Authority

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Single Measurement	The Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	1/20-12/20	N	0.11	95%	N/A	TT	Soil runoff

Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproduct (D/DBP) Parameters – DeSoto County Utilities

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	1/20-12/20	N	3.60	1.4 – 3.92	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	1/20-12/20	N	33.63	28.0-35.0	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	1/20-12/20	N	41.0	27.0-47.0	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water) - DeSoto County Utilities

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	AL Exceedance Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	8/13/2020	N	0.32	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	8/13/2020	N	0.0014	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

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.

Lead - 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. DeSoto County 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>.

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).

