

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Desoto County Utilities, PWS #6144898

We're pleased to present to you this year's 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our source is a surface water supply from the Peace River. 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 2300 square miles. The water is treated for drinking by coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and is disinfected by chlorine.

In 2015 the "Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a source Water Assessment for PRMRWSA. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.stat.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from the supplier www.regionalwater.org

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff Yount at 863-491-7500. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. DeSoto County Board of Supervisors regularly scheduled Board Meetings which occur on the First and Third Mondays of every month at 9:00 am in the DeSoto County Administration Building located at 365 Loshier Street, 3rd floor, South Wing, in Hernando.

Lake Suzy (DeSoto County) 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 and PRMRWSA for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. Data obtained before January 1, 2015 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

This report will be mailed to customers only upon request and is also available at the DeSoto County Water Utility office 2170 NE roan Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): 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 billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$): one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

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 trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 trillion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L): measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Microbiological Contaminants

Turbidity Monitoring

The monitoring of turbidity occurs at least 6 times per day as required by the regulations. The data provided represents the turbidity from the combined filtered water location at the Peace River Regional Water Supply Facility. Test results re for the period 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015. The Peace River Facility combined filtered water turbidity never exceeded the MCL of 1.0 and did not fail to meet on a monthly basis, the requirement of less or equal to .3 level at least 95% of the time.

2015 Combined Filtered Water Turbidity Data

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	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)	Monthly	N	.07	100%	N/A	TT	Soil runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Radioactive Contaminants

These contaminants are required to be collected on a monthly basis. Test results are for the period 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015. Test results for these parameters resulted in no violations.

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)	Monthly 2015	N	6.6	.8 – 6.6	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Monthly 2015	N	1.6	0.2 – 1.6	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Primary Inorganic Contaminants

These contaminants are required to be tested annually. Test results are for the period 1/1/15 – 12/31/15. Test results for the above contaminants resulted in no violations. Please note that Fluoride is a listed contaminant under the Primary Inorganic Contaminant list and the Secondary Drinking Water Standards list. A result for Fluoride therefore is listed in the secondary drinking water standards section and this section of the report.

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
Barium (ppm)	1-22-2015	N	.01	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1-2015	N	0.275	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Nickel (ppb)	1-2015	N	2	N/A	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	1-2015	N	.234	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	1-2015	N	43.1	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

As a result of the Disinfection/Disinfection By-Products Rule (effective 1/1/2012) the County is required to monitor disinfection levels in the distribution system to ensure that the annual average residual of 4.0 mg/L is not exceeded. Test results provided are for the period 1/1/15 – 12/31/15 and resulted in no violations.

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
Chlorine and Chloramines (ppm)	Monthly 2015	N	3.1	.8 – 4.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	Quarterly 2015	N	38.91	26.7-40.3	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	Quarterly 2015	N	37.75	20.3-45.3	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap 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. DeSoto County 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>.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	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)	7-1-15	N	.280	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	7-15-15	N	.67	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.

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).

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.