

2006 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Auburn Water System Inc.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual 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 water source is ground water from 6 wells. The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatment required is chlorine for disinfection purposes.

In 2004, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Doug Sims, System Manager or Richard E. Laux, Operations Manager at 850-682-3413 or 682-1258. 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. They are held on the third Monday at 6:00 pm in the Board of Directors Room, 3097 Locke Lane, Crestview, Florida.

Auburn Water System Inc. 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 monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2006. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

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 that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.*

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

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

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.*

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.*

TEST RESULTS TABLE

** Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

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
Radiological Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi / l)	9/03 & 3-10/06	N	2.5	ND-2.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 or combined radium (pCi / l)	9/03 & 3-10/06	N	1.3	ND-1.3	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Cadmium (ppb)	5/05 & 3/06	N	1.0	ND-1.0	100	100	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Fluoride (ppm)	5/05 & 3/06	N	0.144	ND-0.144	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.2 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	5/05 & 3/06	N	7.0	ND-7.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Arsenic (ppb)	5/05 & 3/06	N	6.0	ND-6.0	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Lead (ppb)	5/05 & 3/06	N	1.0	ND-1.0	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe casing and solder

For the following parameters monitored under Stage 1 D/DBP regulations, the level detected is the highest annual average (running annual average - RAA) of the quarterly averages of Chlorine and or the annual average of the quarterly averages of Haloacetic Acids and TTHM. Range of Results is the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites.

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
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Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	Aug & Sep 06	N	4.7 (avg)	1.0-7.8	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	Aug & Sep 06	No	2.0 (avg)	ND-3.9	NA	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine(ppm)	Jan-Dec 06	N	RAA= 1.45	1.0-2.0	MRDGL=4	MRDL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
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Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-Sept-04	N	0.241	0 OF 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jun-Sept 04	N	2.0	0 OF 30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

While your drinking water meets USEPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. USEPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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).

We at Auburn Water System, Inc. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.