

JEA - 2003 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report of the Palm Valley Water System

This report shows our water quality results and what they mean. It also provides important information about your water and how it relates to your health. The information in this report is based primarily on 2003 facts and figures. However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not require us to perform tests every year. When necessary, some data was obtained from prior years. As directed by the agencies that regulate our industry, only values from these tests that exceeded specified criteria are included. We will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about your water.

JEA owns and operates the distribution system serving Palm Valley. Water service is provided through an interconnection with Intercoastal Utilities Inc. The water is obtained from groundwater sources from the Floridan Aquifer that is aerated and chlorinated for disinfection purposes. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) plans to perform assessments of all the water sheds in the State within the next several years. An assessment of the Palm Valley area is not available at this time.

If you have any questions about this report or concerns about your water utility, please contact your JEA Water Quality Hotline at 904-665-4560. You may also visit the DEP web site at www.myflorida.com or call the EPA Safe Drinking Water hotline at 1-800-426-4791. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you would like to learn more, please call us for information about the next opportunity for public participation in decisions about your drinking water.

HOW DO I READ THIS?

It's easy. The table shows the results of our water-quality analysis. The column marked "level detection" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. Descriptions below explain other important details. In this table 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.

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

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

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.

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

"N/A" means not applicable.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO FIND IN MY DRINKING WATER?

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottle water) includes 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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**.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. **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).**

2003 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Your drinking water is routinely monitored accordingly to Federal and State Laws. The EPA requires monitoring for more than 120 bacteriological and chemical contaminants. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2003 for Palm Valley – PWS ID# 2550866. Those contaminants listed in the table below are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

2003 Annual Drinking Water Quality Test Results							
Inorganic Contaminants Table							
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)	2002	N	0.02	0.02 – 0.02	100	100	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2002	N	1.09	1.05 - 1.09	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	2002	N	31.0	30.0 – 31.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters Table							
The result in the Level Detected column for TTHMs is the highest of the four quarterly running annual averages of results from all sampling sites.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM [Total trihalo methanes] (ppb)	2 nd quarter 2002 through 4 th quarter 2003	N	39.8	11.7 – 75.7	NA	MCL = 80/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper (Tap Water) Table							
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
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	2002	N	0.13	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	2002	N	1.8	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Contaminants Table							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	200	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloride (ppm)	2002	N	38.8	31.7 – 38.8	NA	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Sulfate (ppm)	2002	N	178.3	163.3 – 178.8	NA	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
TDS (ppm)	2002	N	468	429 - 468	NA	500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Zinc (ppm)	2002	N	0.014	NA	NA	5	Natural occurrence from soil leaching