City of Flagler Beach Water Quality Report 2024

The City of Flagler Beach is pleased to present you with this year's Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. We are a nanofiltration plant using chlorine for disinfection, zinc polyphosphate for corrosion control, aeration, and pH stabilization. Our groundwater source is drawn from 6 wells within the Floridian Aquifer and we are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions regarding this report please call Jim Ramer at the Water Plant at 517-2042.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations, which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protections 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include river, lake, 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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include

A) Microbiological contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from Sewage Treatment Plants, septic system, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

B) Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater run-off, 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 run-off, 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 run-off, and septic systems.

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

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 risks of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The City of Flagler Beach routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2024. However, the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, maybe more than one year old.

You will find many terms and abbreviations you may not be familiar with. To help you understand the terms we've provided the following definitions;

1. Maximum contaminant level (MCL) - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
2. Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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3. Action level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements that a water system must follow.
4. 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.
5. Parts per billion (ppb) or a microgram per liter (mg/L) - one part by weight of analyte to 1 Billion parts by weight of the water sample.
6. Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) - the measure of the radioactivity in water.
7. N/D – means not detected and indicates the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
8. N/A - Not Applicable
9. Maximum residual disinfection levels – (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.
10. Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (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.

Our water system is now in compliance for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's). The City, with the help of the city consulting engineers Mittauer & Associates is using nanofiltration to reduce Trihalomethanes in the City drinking water.

In 2024 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data source indicated one potential contaminant source with a low concern level. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/

To address lead in drinking water, EPA requires that all community water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials. We have completed a service line inventory, and it is available for review at the water plant and on the City website.

We are required to periodically sample water from customer taps to determine lead and copper levels. EPA sets the lead action level at 15 ppb. For a water system to be in compliance, at least 90% of tap water samples must have lead levels below this limit. This report contains a table with the 90th percentile value and range of results for our most recent sampling. The individual results for each location sampled are available for review at the water plant and contacting Jim Ramer at 386-517-2042.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. City of Flagler Beach is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact City of Flagler Beach, Jim Ramer 386-517-2042 for Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.