2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Fruit Cove Oaks WS – PWSID# 2550396

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 is purchased from JEA's Major Grid, whose source water is groundwater from 119 wells that draw from the Floridan Aquifer.

In 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. A search of the data sources indicated 121 potential sources of contamination near our wells with low to moderate susceptibility levels. The assessment results are available on the DEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at: https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact St. Johns Co. Utilities at (904)209-2701. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

St. Johns Co. Utilities routinely monitors 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, 2023. Data obtained before January 1, 2023, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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

Terms and Abbreviations

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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 (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 (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.

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.

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.

Water Quality Test Results

Radioactive Contaminants

Results in the Level Detected column for Radioactive 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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	5/2023	N	1.39	ND-1.39	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	5/2023	N	2.41	ND-2.41	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Results in the Level Detected column for Inorganic 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
Arsenic (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	0.9	ND-0.9	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	**5/2023**	N	.038	.015-.038	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	0.893	ND-0.893	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	11	ND-11	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	**5/2023**	N	1.06	ND-1.06	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Lead [point of entry] (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	2.65	ND-2.65	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	.046	ND-.046	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	**5/2023**	N	.13	ND-.13	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	**5/2023**	N	.09	ND-.09	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	**5/2023**	N	6.16	ND-6.16	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	**5/2023**	N	126	8-126	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Results in the Level Detected column for 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
Dichloromethane (ppb)	5-11/2023	N*	10.3	ND-10.3	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories

*Although the MCL value was exceeded in two samples from one source, the annual average result for that source was below the MCL, and water from that source is mixed with water from over two dozen other sources in which dichloromethane was not detected.

Stage 1 Disinfectants

For chlorine, the Level Detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. The Range of Results is the range of all the individual samples (lowest to highest) collected during the past year.

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 (ppm)	1-12/2023	N	1.7	1.2-2.2	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfectant By-Products

For HAA5 or TTHM, the level detected is the highest locational running annual average (LRAA). The Range of Results is the range of all the individual sample results (lowest to highest) collected during the past year, for all monitoring locations.

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
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2/2023	N	26.45	N/A	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2/2023	N	62.47	N/A	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded? (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of Sites Over the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6/2023	N	0.0590	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	6/2023	N	0.7	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants

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
Chloride (ppm)	**5/2023**	**Y**	**319**	**9.85-319**	N/A	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Odor (threshold odor number)	5/2023	Y	44.7	ND-44.7	N/A	3	Naturally occurring organics
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	5/2023	Y	876	153-876	N/A	500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

Effects of 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. St. Johns Co. 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Water Sources and Contaminants:
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, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Vulnerable Populations:
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 (1-800-426-4791).

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments.

We at St. Johns Co. Utilities would like 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. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

PLEASE CONSERVE WATER. EVERY DROP COUNTS!