



## 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

P.W.S-ID 651-0324

### 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report of the City of Port Richey.

This report will be mailed to customers and is also available at City Hall

We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is ground water from a combination of 7 wells. The wells draw water from the Floridan Aquifer. Fallen rain percolates into the ground through layers of sand, clay, and limestone which naturally filters the water before it reaches the aquifer. The water we draw from the aquifer is treated at the City of Port Richey Water Treatment Plant. Treatment includes iron removal filtration, chloramination for disinfection and polyphosphate is added for corrosion control.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Water Department at (727) 816-1922. 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 twice per month at City Hall, 6333 Ridge Road, Port Richey. Call (727) 816-1900 or visit us at [cityofportrichey.com](http://cityofportrichey.com) for more information.

The City of Port Richey 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, 2017. Data obtained before January 1, 2017, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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 2017 the Florida 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. There are 3 potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a low susceptibility level. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.floridadep.gov/swapp](http://www.floridadep.gov/swapp) or they can be obtained from the Water Department at (727) 816-1922

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.*

*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.

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.

Microbiological Contaminants						
Contaminant	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Violation Y/N	Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination
E. coli (at the ground water source)*	5/18	No	1 positive sample	0	0	Human or fecal waste

\*On May 18, 2017 we sampled the well sources for the fecal-indicator, E. coli. We were notified on May 19, 2017 that Well #3 tested positive for E. coli. As a result we isolated the well from the system May 19, 2017 and issued a television news Media Alert. The well was disinfected and clearance samples taken May 25, 2017 showed the well could be placed back in service.

**Health Effects:** Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Inorganic 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
Antimony (ppm)	06/17	N	0.00011	0.00011	0.006	0.006	
Arsenic (ppm)	06/17	N	0.0013	0.0013	0	0.01	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	06/17	N	0.0094	0.0094	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppm)	06/17	N	0.00023	0.00023	0.1	0.1	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	06/17	N	0.30	0.30	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppm)	06/17	N	0.00040	0.00040	N/A	0.1	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Sodium (ppm)	06/17	N	62.0	62.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Thallium (ppm)	06/17	N	0.00011	0.00011	0.0005	0.002	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

## Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	Daily/17	N	2.64	0.7-3.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

## Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

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)	Quarterly/17	N	9.79	9.61-13.14	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	Quarterly/17	N	26.19	11.49-26.19	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 sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	07-08/17	N	0.68	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	07-08/17	N	1.4	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## Additional Information

### Lead-specific information:

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. The City of Port Richey 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>.

### 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, 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.

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### **Personal Health Concerns:**

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/Center for Disease Control (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).

Please DO NOT FLUSH your unused/unwanted medications down toilets or sink drains. More information is available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/medications/pages/disposal.htm>.

“We at The City of Port Richey work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap,” stated Chris Hughes (Public Works Director). 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.

We at The City of Port Richey 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 insuring 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.