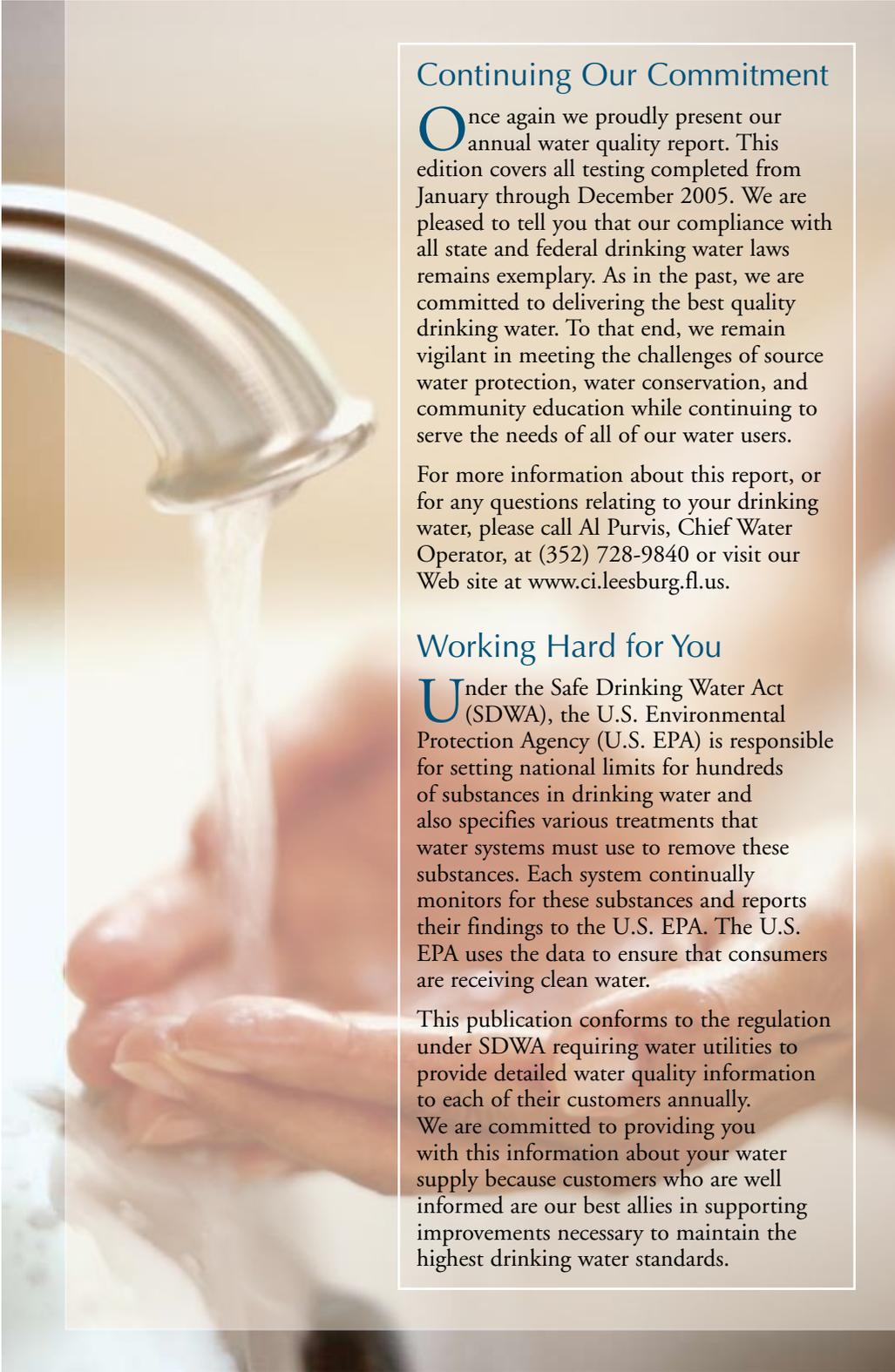


HIGHLAND
LAKES
ANNUAL
WATER
QUALITY
REPORT
FOR 2005



Proudly Presented By:
CITY OF LEESBURG

PWS ID#: FL3354869



Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2005. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Al Purvis, Chief Water Operator, at (352) 728-9840 or visit our Web site at www.ci.leesburg.fl.us.

Working Hard for You

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is responsible for setting national limits for hundreds of substances in drinking water and also specifies various treatments that water systems must use to remove these substances. Each system continually monitors for these substances and reports their findings to the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA uses the data to ensure that consumers are receiving clean water.

This publication conforms to the regulation under SDWA requiring water utilities to provide detailed water quality information to each of their customers annually. We are committed to providing you with this information about your water supply because customers who are well informed are our best allies in supporting improvements necessary to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Where Does My Water Come From?

Our source of supply for the City of Leesburg - Highland Lakes water system is groundwater taken from the Floridian Aquifer within the Oklawaha watershed. We presently have three deep wells in our system ranging in depth from 650 feet to more than 1,000 feet and located

within the community. Chlorination in the form of sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl) is used for disinfection purposes. Highland Lakes has 200,000 gallons of storage capacity and serves 1,210 meter connections representing an estimated population of 2,420 customers.

To learn about your watershed on the Internet, go to U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed at www.epa.gov/surf.

Source Water Assessment

The Source Water Assessment has determined that our water system has no potential sources of contamination.

For this community system, a five-year groundwater travel time around each well was used to define the assessment area. The five-year groundwater travel time is defined by the area from which water will drain to a well pumping at the average daily permitted rate for a five-year period of time. For more information on this topic visit the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Web site at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/Default.asp.

Substances That Might Be in Drinking Water

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:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

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.

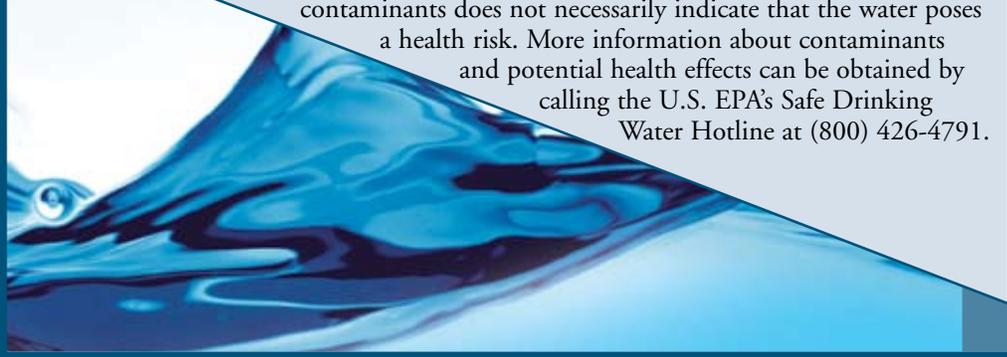
Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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.

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 U.S. 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Inside your home:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

Outdoors:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city commission meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet on the third floor of City Hall the second and fourth Monday of each month beginning at 5 p.m. City Hall is located at 501 W. Meadow Street in Leesburg.

Naturally Occurring Bacteria

The simple fact is, bacteria and other microorganisms inhabit our world. They can be found all around us: in our food; on our skin; in our bodies; and, in the air, soil and water. Some are harmful to us and some are not. Coliform bacteria are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of this bacterial form in drinking water is a concern because it indicates that the water may be contaminated with other organisms that can cause disease. Throughout the year, we tested more than 720 samples (more than 60 samples every month) for coliform bacteria. In that time, none of this system's samples came back positive for the bacteria. Federal regulations now require that public water testing positive for coliform bacteria must be further analyzed for fecal coliform bacteria. Fecal coliforms are present only in human and animal waste. Because these bacteria can cause illness, it is unacceptable for fecal coliforms to be present in water at any concentration. Our tests indicate no fecal coliform is present in our water.

Table Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS¹

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED ²	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Radiological Contaminants							
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	02/2003	No	0.9	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	01/2005	No	0.06	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	03/2002	No	4.5	NA	NA	160	Salt water intrusion; Leaching from soil
TTHMs and Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED ³	RANGE OF RESULTS ³	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Haloacetic Acids <i>five</i> (HAA5) (ppb)	07/2005	No	8.99	NA	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	07/2005	No	10.96	NA	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	AL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper (ppm)	06/2004	No	1.14	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	06/2004	No	4.5	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 (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Aluminum (ppm)	01/2005	No	0.02	NA	NA	0.2	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Chloride (ppm)	01/2005	No	10	NA	NA	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Color (Units)	01/2005	No	10	NA	NA	15	Naturally occurring organics
Copper (ppm)	01/2005	No	0.004	NA	NA	1	Corrosion by-product and natural occurrence from soil leaching
Iron (ppm)	01/2005	No	0.125	NA	NA	0.3	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Manganese (ppm)	01/2005	No	0.003	NA	NA	0.05	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	01/2005	No	330	NA	NA	500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

Footnotes:

¹ Our system is operating under an FDEP waiver for asbestos because there is no asbestos pipe in our distribution system.

² Results in the Level Detected column for inorganic and radiological 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.

³ For the following parameters monitored under Stage 1 D/DBP regulations, the Level Detected is the annual average of the quarterly averages: Haloacetic Acids and TTHM (MCL 80 ppb). Range of Results is the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites.