

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Of the South Shores Utility Association

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and the 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. The 2-6" wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer and the water is processed first through prefilters for sediment removal then by a reverse-osmosis system. The water is stripped of Hydrogen sulfide gas [rotten egg odor], adjusted for PH, chlorinated for disinfection purposes and stored in a 113,000 gallon above ground tank.

The Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system, updated on **December 31, 2023**, and a search of the data sources indicated 4 potential sources of contamination (low susceptibility) to our 2 wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water and Protection Program Website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/> Use the search by county link on left-hand side to review the information on our system.

- **This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our plant manager/operator, David Whiteside of Accurate Utilities, at the plant telephone number (772) 216-4277. We encourage you to be informed about your water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. Please call SSUA secretary for the date of the next Utility association meeting as listed in your telephone roster.

South Shores Utility routinely monitors contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. This report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period 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 table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

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 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.

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

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L): Measure of the radioactivity in water.

Parts per million (ppm): 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.

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

The state allows us to monitor some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

TEST RESULTS 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
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	09/2021	No	0.00520	NA	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (ppb)	9/2021	No	1.5	0.0015	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Sodium (ppm)	09/2021	No	39.7	NA	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil,
TTHMs and Stage2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the following contaminant and disinfectant residuals monitored under Stage 1 D/DBP regulations, the level detected is the annual average of the quarterly averages: Bromate, Chloramines, Chlorine, Haloacetic Acids, and/or TTHM (MCL 80 ppb). Range of Results is the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual 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
Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly 2023	No	0.79	0.5-1.3	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes (ug/l)]	07/2023	NO	28.10	NA	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ug/l.)	07/2023	NO	11.70	NA	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

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
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Copper (tap water) (ppm)	12/2022	N	0.083	None	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	12/2022	N	1	None	15	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

“We failed to complete the required sampling for tap and well water Total Coliform bacteria on time and therefore were in violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. Because we did not take the required number of samples, we did not know whether the contaminants were present in your drinking water, and we are unable to tell you whether your health was at risk during that time. The monitoring period was February 01, 2023 Sampling resumed on March 1, 2023.”

Total Coliform Bacteria. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

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 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 number 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.

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 the materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The South Brevard Water Co-op, Inc. 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>.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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).

We at the South Shores Utility Association would like you to understand the efforts we are making 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.