

# City of Plant City

Public Works Department  
Utilities Operations Division / Water Resource Management Division  
plantcitygov.com

2008 Annual Water Quality Report  
January 1, 2008 Through December 31, 2008



## A Report On The Quality Of Your Drinking Water

**Continuing Our Commitment...** The City of Plant City is pleased to present our eleventh annual water quality report.

This report contains information on drinking water delivered by the City of Plant City, its constituents and health risks associated with any contaminants.

We want you to know your drinking water meets all state and federal standards and the Federal Safe Drinking Water (SDWA) requirement for "Consumer Confidence Reports."

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. To ensure the quality of your drinking water, we are committed to source water protection, water conservation, community education, and service to the needs of all our customers.

**En Español:** Este reporte Anual de Agua de Calidad de 2008 contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad de su agua en la comunidad. Si usted no entiende la informacion en este reporte, por favor consiga a alguien que le explique o entreprete lo contenido. Si desea mas informacion, por favor llame a (813)757-9191, o escriba a este direccion: City of Plant City Utilities Operations, 1500 W. Victoria St., Plant City, FL 33563.



**What Is Plant City's Water Source?** Our water source is groundwater which is pumped out of the multi-layered Floridan Aquifer beneath the City. The water is withdrawn through the use of four deep wells located within the city limits. Water well depths vary from 746 feet to 1,203 feet. Plant City is also inter-connected with the City of Lakeland's water supply, which is also pumped out of the Floridan Aquifer. The water available through this connection is used when it is needed to supplement either City's supply. During 2008, less than 78,000 gallons per day of the total supply was obtained from Lakeland. You can obtain a copy of the City of Lakeland's Water Quality Report by calling their Department of Water Utilities at (863) 834-6568.

**Source Water Assessment...** In 2008, 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. There are four (4) potential sources of contamination identified for this system rated as high, eight (8) as moderate and one (1) as low. The assessment results are available on Florida Department of Environmental Protection web site at, dep.state.fl.us/swap, or they can be obtained from the City of Plant City Utilities Operations Division, 1500 W. Victoria Street, Plant City, Florida 33563, or call (813) 757-9191.

### IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR WATER SERVICE

**UTILITIES OPERATIONS DIVISION . . . . . (813) 757-9191**

Water quality control and the City's Water Reclamation Facility are located at 1500 W. Victoria Street. Please contact us at this number or plantcitygov.com (Utilities Operations Division), if you have questions about your drinking water or information contained in this report.

Questions pertaining to wastewater service can also be addressed by personnel in the Utilities Operations Division.

**AFTER HOURS / EMERGENCY . . . . . (813) 757-9172**

To report after hours utility emergencies.

**UTILITY BILLING CUSTOMER SERVICE . . . . . (813) 659-4222**

For questions regarding your water bill.

**UTILITIES MAINTENANCE DIVISION. . . . . (813) 757-9288**

To report a water leak in your area during regular business hours.

### How Is Our Water Produced?

The City of Plant City's Utilities Operations Division maintains four water production plants 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In 2008, an average of 5.76 million gallons of water was produced each day. Our water production program is a continuing commitment towards assuring adequate and safe supplies for the citizens of Plant City. Our water is obtained from the ground water source and is chlorinated for disinfection purposes. Polyphosphate is also added to keep naturally occurring iron from settling out in the water system and to reduce lead and copper corrosion in the plumbing system. The City of Plant City continually makes efforts to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.



**Important Health Information...**In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### Community Involvement...Take Part In The Future...

You can take part in decisions affecting your drinking water by attending City Commission meetings held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:30 PM. Scheduled meetings are at City Hall, 302 W. Reynolds Street, Plant City, Florida 33564.

Meeting agendas are published on the City's website at plantcitygov.com, or call (813) 659-4200, City Clerk's Office.



**People Who Are At Higher Risk...**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants from drinking water than is the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

### WATER CONSERVATION

Water Conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our drinking water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water but can also save you money on your water bill. Here are some basic ways to save water.

#### Conservation Measures You Can Use 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
- Turn off the water when shaving or brushing your teeth.

#### You Can Save Water Outdoors As Well

- Water lawn, garden and landscape, as needed, during allowable watering days and times.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks on outdoor faucets, garden hoses and automatic irrigation systems.
- Use an automatic shut off nozzle on garden hoses when hand-watering or washing a vehicle.

For information on more ways to save water, outdoor irrigation, reclaimed water, Florida-Friendly landscaping, Water Conservation and related environmental workshops, and the FREE Garden Hose and Retro-Fit Indoor Water Saving Kit Programs, visit the Water Resource Management Division web page at plantcitygov.com.

For your convenience, you may call: (813) 757-9289, Ext. 2237

Write us at: 1802 Spooner Drive, Plant City, Florida 33563





**Continual Testing For Potential Contaminants...** The City of Plant City routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Highly trained professionals collect and test samples throughout the water distribution system on a daily basis.

Except where indicated otherwise, this report shows results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2008. Data obtained before January 1, 2008, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

**Lead Contaminants...** 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. City of Plant City Utility 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>.

**Contaminant Sources...** 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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. When water travels underground it can pick-up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. 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, agriculture 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.

**Water Quality Test Results...** Our system had no violations from conducted tests. These results are the most current from the City's testing in 2008.

RADIOLOGICAL							
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)	1/08-12/08 (Quarterly)	N	11.80	U To 11.80	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226+228 or Combined Radium (pCi/L)	1/08-12/08 (Quarterly)	N	4.20	U To 4.20	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
INORGANIC							
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
Barium (ppm)	04/08	N	0.013	0.004 To 0.013	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	04/08	N	0.83	0.43 To 0.83	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	04/08 / 09/08	N	0.440	0.039 To 0.440	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	04/08	N	22.60	1.35 To 22.60	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS/DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (D/DBP)							
For bromate, chloramines, or chlorine, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of average quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.							
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)	1/08-12/08 (Monthly)	N	1.34 Running Annual Average	0.20 To 2.67	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (FIVE) (HAA5) (ppb)	1/08-12/08 (Quarterly)	N	27.2655 Running Annual Average	10.1 To 51.75	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM (ppb)	1/078-12/08 (Quarterly)	N	58.675 Running Annual Average	37.60 To 88.10	N/A	MCL = 80	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)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Result	Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	09/08	N	0.621	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	09/08	N	3.4	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

**NOTE 1:** Bacteriological contaminants (Total Coliform Bacteria) was tested for in March 2008, with no violations. However, due to an administrative oversight, the City failed to collect and report the required number of samples as specified by State rule. As required, all customers were notified via a public notice by mail.

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

**DEP** = Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

**EPA** = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**HAA(5)** = Haloacetic Acids (Five): Acid compounds including: monochloroacetic, dichloroacetic, trichloroacetic, monobromoacetic, and dibromoacetic acids.

**IDSE** = Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

**LD** = Level Detected: The maximum amount of contaminant detected by laboratory analysis.

**MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level: The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

**MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: Level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the customer's tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects.

**MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfection 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.

**ND** = Not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**pCi/l** = Picocurie Per Liter: measure of the radioactivity in water.

**ppb** = Parts Per Billion or Micrograms Per Liter (µg/l): One part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**ppm** = Parts Per Million or Milligrams Per Liter (mg/l): One part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

**Range** = The lowest to highest amount of contaminant detected during report period.

**TTHMs** = Total Trihalomethanes: A group of several chemical compounds including: chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane and dibromo-chloromethane.

**U** = Compound was analyzed for but not detected.

**Violations** = Detected contaminant exceeded the MCL.

