

Polk City Water Plant

2023 Water Quality Report

Polk City

We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and want you to be informed about the water services delivered to you. Our goal is to provide dependable supply of healthy drinking water. Therefore we are pleased to provide our Annual Water Report that describes the quality of the water you drink every day. Information about the contaminants found in your water and how this may relate to your health. The presence of a moderate amount of contaminants in drinking water within regulated standards is normal and does not indicate that the water poses a health risk. Should there be any reason for health concerns with your water, we would notify you immediately.

Where does your water come from?

Polk City draws water from wells drilled into the Floridian aquifer. The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the grounds, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity.

Why must our water have Chlorine?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain very small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily mean that water requires disinfection, so chlorine is added and a minimum contact time of fifteen minutes is provided to destroy living organisms before being delivered to you.

Have more questions?

If you have any questions about this report or concerns about your water utility, or want to obtain a copy of the report, please contact Lori Pearson at (863) 557-4456. We encourage our valued customers to get information about their water utility.



Special Health Concerns

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency (The EPA's) Safety Drinking Water Hot Line at (800) 426-4791 or on-line at their website:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>



Want to learn more about Florida water?

Please visit the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) website at: <http://www.myflorida.com> Find an agency, Environmental Protection, Water, and drinking water.

We are proud to report that in 2023 our drinking water met all federal and state water quality standards.

Possible dangerous contaminants?

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 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, byproducts 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.



Protecting your water

Florida's Department of Environmental Protection has conducted a Source Water Assessment (SWA), for all public water systems in Florida, to identify and assesses any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of your water supply. A SWA conducted for this system in 2009 found that the system's wells are at moderate risk for contamination due to the wells being located within an area of known agriculture ground water contamination, designated as a "Delineated Area" within Florida, for petroleum storage tanks and for hazardous waste. SWA report for Polk City is available at the DEP SWAPP website:

www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from Lori Pearson at (863) 557-4456.



Vulnerable Populations

Some people may be more vulnerable 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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. US EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available on the web at:

www.epa.gov/safewater or telephone the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 for any drinking water issue.

We are required to monitor the drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. In the year 2016 a nitrate/nitrite sample from a plant was inadvertently missed. It was sampled as soon as the oversight was noticed. The results came back well under acceptable for nitrate and undetected for nitrite. No adverse health are believed to have resulted from the incident. There is nothing you need to do and you may continue to drink the water.

Attention Landlords/Property Managers!

If you are a landlord or property manager, please provide this water quality report to your residents/tenants.

What Water Quality Acronyms and Terms To Know

In our line of work, we use a lot of acronyms. Here are some of the most common ones.

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

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

MCL (Maximum Containment Level): The maximum allowed is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG'S as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfection Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The goal is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

ND (Non Detects): Means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

PCi/L (Picocuries Per Liter): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

PPB (Parts Per Billion): Means one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

PPM (Parts Per Million): Means one part by weight of anaylte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.



Florida ID # 6531424 2023 TEST RESULTS TABLE Polk City

** Results in the Level Detected column for radiological and Inorganic contaminants are the highest detected level at any sampling point.

Radioactive Contaminants

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | MCL Violation Yes / No | **Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG | MCL | Monitoring Period Month / Year | Likely Source of Contamination | |
|---|------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-----|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alpha emitters | pCi/L | No | 2.2 | 1.8 – 2.5 | 0 | 15 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 226 + Radium 228 [combined Radium] | pCi/L | No | 0.75 | 0.7 – 0.8 | 0 | 5 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium | Pg/L | No | 1.95 | 1.8 – 2.1 | 0 | 30 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Erosion of natural deposits |

Inorganic Contaminants

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|----|---------|-----------------|-----|-----|----------------|---|
| Arsenic | ppb | No | 0.003 | 3.0 – 3.1 | n/a | 10 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. |
| Fluoride | ppb | No | 0.454 | ND - 0.55 | N/A | 2 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories. |
| Antimony | ppb | No | 0.00228 | 0.35 – 0.52 | 6 | 6 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Natural weathering of rock, industrial production, municipal waste disposal, and manufacturing processes. |
| Barium | ppm | No | 0.006 | 0.0050 – 0.0055 | 2 | 2 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits. |
| *Nitrate | ppm | No | 0.202 | 0.20 | 10 | 10 | Jan – Dec 2023 | Run off from fertilizer, leaking septic tanks, sewage, and erosion from natural deposits. |
| Nickel | ppb | No | 0.00118 | ND – 1.5 | N/A | 100 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil. |
| Sodium | ppm | No | 5.23 | 6.5 – 8.7 | N/A | 160 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil. |

* The results for TTHM came back as 7.0 ppb , the results HAA5 came back as 12.2 ppb, both well within acceptable limits.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|---------|-----|-----|----------------|---------------------------|
| Glyphosphate | ppb | No | 4.2 | ND - 27 | 700 | 700 | Jan – Dec 2021 | Runoff from herbicide use |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|---------|-----|-----|----------------|---------------------------|

Chlorine Residual and Stage 2 Disinfectant / Disinfection By-Product (D / DBP) Parameters

Chlorine – Level Detected is the highest 2023 monthly average; Range of Results is the range of (lowest to highest) monthly residual disinfectant. HAA5 / TTHMs – Level Detected is the highest detected level at any sampling point. Range of Results is the range of results from

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Dates of sampling (mo. / yr.) | MCL Violation Yes / No | Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL or MRDL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| Chlorine | Jan – Dec 2023 | No | 1.0 | 0.4– 3.0 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM] | July – Sept 2023 | No | 7.0 | 7.83 | n/a | MCL = 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | July – Sept 2023 | No | 12.2 | 2.35 | n/a | MCL = 60 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Action Level Violation Yes / No | 90 th Percentile Result | Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the Action Level | MCGL | Action Level | Monitoring Period Month / Year | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------|--------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Copper (tap water) | No | 0.059 | 0 | 1.3 | AL= 1.3 | June – Sept 2021 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives. |
| Lead (tap water) | No | 0.003 | 0 | 15 | AL = 15 | June – Sept 2021 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; public water systems, and erosion of natural deposits. |

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires utilities Issue to the following Information, even if you have no Lead in your water:

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. Polk City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of material 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>.

Why is Drinking Water Regulated?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the DEP and EPA prescribe regulations and standards for limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. To protect consumers, Florida's DEP also requires public water systems comply with regulations governing the construction, operation and health issues relative to your water supply. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect of some contaminants. Don't forget, the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Bottled water and water vending machines are regulated under the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Food Safety and the federal Food and Drug Administration regulations that establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Don't forget, the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk,