



CITY OF PALMETTO

Public Works Department
601 17th Street West
Palmetto, FL 34221

Si Ud. es residente de la Ciudad de Palmetto y tiene alguna pregunta concerniente a este reporte ó a la calidad del agua potable por favor llámenos al (941) 723-4580.
Asistencia en Español esta disponible Lunes a Viernes de 7:00 am a 4:00 pm.

If you live in the City of Palmetto and have any questions regarding this report or your drinking water, please call (941) 723-4580.
Assistance in Spanish is available Monday thru Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The City of Palmetto purchases its water from Manatee County and distributes it through our distribution system to the residents of Palmetto. The City of Palmetto Public Works Department is committed to maintaining our distribution system, water service and high water quality on a 24-hour basis. Your comments or questions are always welcome. The Palmetto City Commissioners or Public Works Department may be accessed at <http://www.palmettofl.org>

You may also reach Palmetto City Hall by phone at (941) 723-4570, or Palmetto Public Works at (941) 723-4580.

Get Involved: Please get involved with discussions regarding drinking water quality. The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners welcomes written comments or public input at regularly scheduled Board Meetings concerning issues related to drinking water. Agenda information can be obtained on the Manatee County website (<http://www.mymanatee.org>) or by calling (941) 745-3724.

Attention Property Managers: If you are a property owner or manager, please provide this water quality report to your tenants. This report may posted in a prominent location at your facility. Printed copies are available by calling (941) 723-4580.

The Bottom Line: Last year, as in years past, Manatee County met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. The Manatee County Water Purification Plant uses what is known as the multiple barrier approach to ensure the safety of the water. This approach includes source protection, optimized particle removal at the purification plant and appropriate disinfection.

2018 Drinking Water Quality Summary

Manatee County Utilities Department makes a commitment daily to provide the highest quality drinking water to the residents of Manatee County, Sarasota County and cities served. This report reflects on that commitment and represents a summary of the drinking water quality during 2018.

PROTECTING MANATEE COUNTY'S WATER SOURCES...

Drinking water for the customers of Manatee County Utilities Department is a blend of purified groundwater and purified surface water. In 2018, an average of 16.11 million gallons per day of deep ground water and 24.51 million gallons per day of surface water was used.

The groundwater is pumped from the Floridan Aquifer from seven, 1200-foot deep wells located in eastern Manatee County. This water is pumped through a 36-inch pipe approximately 13 miles to the Purification Plant. Surface water is taken from the Lake Manatee Reservoir located in central Manatee County.

In 2018 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) 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 or surface water intakes. There are twelve potential sources of contamination identified for the Manatee County Water Purification Plant with susceptibility levels of low and high. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from the Manatee County Water Purification Plant at (941) 746-3020.

The County has taken stringent measures to protect these water sources. In the late 1980s Manatee County voters approved the purchase of 20,500 acres of the 82,000 acre watershed area, which drains into and includes the Reservoir and Wellfield. County and State agencies have continued to purchase additional watershed acreage, and today approximately 35,000 acres are in public ownership. This ownership ensures that activities detrimental to water quality or quantity will not occur on these public lands.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS...

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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.

HOW YOUR WATER IS PURIFIED...

The Manatee County Water Purification Plant, located on the shore of Lake Manatee, purifies both groundwater and surface water. The groundwater is purified by aeration, lime-softening and filtration. These processes remove odor, a portion of the hardness, and undesirable elements such as suspended matter and microbiological organisms.

The surface water is purified by carbon adsorption, coagulation, sedimentation and filtration. These processes remove odor, color, and undesirable elements such as suspended matter and microbiological organisms. The filtered water from the two sources is then combined. The combined water is further enhanced before leaving the plant.

The water is disinfected to destroy microbes and provide protection against microbial regrowth in the distribution system and your plumbing. The water is also made less corrosive, thus prolonging your home plumbing and fixtures. Natural fluoride levels are slightly increased to optimal levels as a public health measure to help develop decay resistant teeth and strong bones.

The purification plant is staffed with dedicated, professionally trained, State certified operational, laboratory and maintenance personnel. This staff operates and maintains the advanced water purification facility as well as monitors and researches water quality issues.

Manatee County 2018 Water Quality Summary

MICROBIOLOGICAL								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination		
Total Coliform Bacteria	01/18-12/18	No	2.1%	0	>5% ^A	Naturally present in the environment		
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Filter turbidity (NTU)	01/18-12/18	No	0.59	98.3% ^B		N/A	TT ^B	Soil runoff
INORGANIC								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Max. Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Arsenic (ppb)	01/18-12/18	No	0.73	ND - 0.73	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	
Barium (ppb)	01/18-12/18	No	17	9.5 - 17	2000	2000	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	01/18-12/18	No	0.61	0.55 - 0.61	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	01/18-12/18	No	0.24	0.15 - 0.24	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Sodium (ppm)	01/18-12/18	No	15.2	11.8 - 15.2	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil	
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Toluene (ppb)	01/18-12/18	No	0.63	ND - 0.63	1000	1000	Discharge from petroleum factories	
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	01/18-12/18	No	2.58	ND - 2.58	0	15 ^C	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	01/18-12/18	No	0.893	ND - 0.893	0	5 ^C	Erosion of natural deposits	
STAGE 2 DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (D/DBP) PARAMETERS								
Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	MCL or TT Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Chloramines (ppm)	01/18-12/18	No	3.7 ^D	ND - 5.8 ^E	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4 ^F	Water additive used to control microbes	
Haloacetic acids (ppb)	01/18-12/18	No	41.8 ^G	18.7 - 81.7 ^E	N/A	MCL = 60 ^H	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Total trihalomethanes (ppb)	01/18-12/18	No	48.0 ^G	28.2 - 71.6 ^E	N/A	MCL = 80 ^H	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Total organic carbon (ratio) ^I	01/18-12/18	No	1.36 ^J	1.08 - 1.60	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment	
LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	AL Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile Result	No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination	
Lead (ppb)	2016 ^K	No	0.59	1	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (ppm)	2016 ^K	No	0.15	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Level Detected			Range of Results				
Manganese (ppb)	6.0 ^L			3.8 - 11.3				
HAA5 (ppb)	47.5 ^L			31.4 - 87.9				
HAABr (ppb)	14.6 ^L			10.6 - 65.3				
HAA9 (ppb)	55.2 ^L			11.4 - 101.2				
Total organic carbon ^M (ppm)	12.9 ^L			8.7 - 18.4				
Bromide ^M (ppb)	74.3 ^L			73.4 - 75.9				

City of Palmetto 2018 Water Quality Summary

MICROBIOLOGICAL							
Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest # of Monthly samples	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/18-12/18	No	1	0	1 positive monthly sample ^N	Naturally present in the environment	
STAGE 2 DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (D/DBP) PARAMETERS							
Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of results	MCLG or MRDL	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic acids (ppb)	01/18–12/18	No	38.35 ^G	0.5 – 49.3 ^E	N/A	MCL = 60 ^H	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (ppb)	01/18–12/18	No	59.5 ^G	33.5 – 71.5 ^E	N/A	MCL = 80 ^H	By-product of drinking water disinfection
LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling	AL Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile Result	No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	2016 ^K	No	0.59	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2016 ^K	No	0.15	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Level Detected			Range of Results			
HAA5 (ppb)	13.87 ^L			ND - 20.98			
HAABr (ppb)	7.23 ^L			ND - 15.29			
HAA9 (ppb)	20.18 ^L			ND - 31.37			

RESULTS TABLE SUMMARY

MANATEE COUNTY 2018 WATER QUALITY SUMMARY.

MICROBIOLOGICAL

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total Coliform Bacteria. Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL violation? No. Highest monthly percentage - 2.1%. MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) - 0. MCL (MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL) - >5%. Note A. Likely Source of Contamination - Naturally present in the environment.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement – Filter turbidity, Nephelometric Turbidity Units, (NTU). Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Highest Single Measurement - 0.59. Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits - 98.3%. Note B. Filter turbidity may never exceed 1 NTU and must not exceed 0.3 NTU in 95% of daily samples in any month. MCLG – N/A (Not applicable). MCL – TT (Treatment Technique). Note B. Likely Source of Contamination – Soil runoff.

INORGANIC

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Arsenic (ppb) (Parts per billion). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected – 0.73. Range of Results – ND – 0.73. MCLG – 0. MCL – 10. Likely Source of Contamination - Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement – Barium (ppb). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum level Detected – 17. Range of Results - 9.5– 17. MCLG – 0. MCL – 2000. Likely Source of Contamination - Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Fluoride (ppm) (Parts per million). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected – 0.61. Range of Results - 0.55 – 0.61. MCLG – 4. MCL – 4. Likely Source of Contamination - Water additive, which promotes strong teeth.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected – 0.24. Range of Results - 0.15 – 0.24. MCLG – 10. MCL – 10. Likely Source of Contamination - Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement – Sodium (ppm). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected – 15.2. Range of Results - 11.8 – 15.2. MCLG – N/A. MCL – 160. Likely Source of Contamination - Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Toluene (ppb) Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected - 0.63. Range of Results - ND (None Detected) – 0.63. MCLG – 1000. MCL – 1000. Likely Source of Contamination - Discharge from petroleum factories.

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Gross Alpha (pCi/L). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected - 2.58. Range of Results – ND –2.58. MCLG – 0. MCL – 15. Note C. Likely Source of Contamination – Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Radium 226 (pCi/L). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL Violation? No. Maximum Level Detected - 0.893. Range of Results – ND –0.893. MCLG – 0. MCL – 5. Note C. Likely Source of Contamination - Erosion of natural deposits.

STAGE 2 DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (D/DBP) PARAMETERS

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement – Chloramines (ppm). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected - 3.7. Note D. Range of Results – ND – 5.8. Note E. MRDLG = 4. MRDL = 4. Note F. Likely Source of Contamination - Water additive used to control microbes.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Haloacetic acids (ppb). Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected - 41.8. Note G. Range of Results - 18.7 – 81.7. Note E. MCLG or MRDLG – N/A. MCL – 60. Note H. Likely Source of Contamination - By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb). Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected – 48.0. Note G. Range of Results - 28.2 – 71.6. Note E. MCLG or MRDLG – N/A. MCL = 80. Note H. Likely Source of Contamination - By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total organic carbon (ratio). Note I. Dates of Sampling – January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected - 1.36. Note J. Range of Results - 1.08 – 1.60. MCLG or MRDLG – N/A. MCL or MRDL – TT. Likely Source of Contamination - Naturally present in the environment.

LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Lead (ppb). Dates of Sampling – 2016. Note K. AL Violation? No. 90th Percentile Result - 0.59. Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL – 1. MCLG – 0. AL (Action Level) – 15. Likely Source of Contamination - Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement – Copper (ppm). Dates of Sampling – 2016. Note K. AL Violation? No. 90th Percentile Result – 0.15. Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL – 0. MCLG – 0. AL (Action Level) – 1.3. Likely Source of Contamination - Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Manganese (ppb). Level Detected - 6.0. Note L. Range of Results - 3.8 – 11.3.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAA5 (ppb). Level Detected - 47.5. Note L. Range of Results - 31.4 – 87.9.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAABr (ppb). Level Detected - 14.6. Note L. Range of Results - 10.6 – 65.3.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAA9 (ppb). Level Detected - 55.2. Note L. Range of Results - 11.4 – 101.2.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total organic carbon (ppm). Note M. Level Detected - 12.9. Note L. Range of Results - 8.7 – 18.4.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Bromide (ppb). Note M. Level Detected - 74.3. Note L. Range of Results - 73.4 – 75.9.

CITY OF PALMETTO 2018 WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

MICROBIOLOGICAL

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total Coliform Bacteria. Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL violation? No. Highest number of monthly samples - 1. MCLG - 0. MCL - 1 positive monthly sample. Note N. Likely Source of Contamination - Naturally present in the environment

STAGE 2 DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (D/DBP) PARAMETERS

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Haloacetic acids (ppb). Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected - 38.35. Note G. Range of Results - 0.5 - 49.3. Note E. MCLG or MRDLG - N/A. MCL - 60. Note H. Likely Source of Contamination - By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb). Dates of Sampling - January 2018 to December 2018. MCL or TT Violation? No. Level Detected - 59.5. Note G. Range of Results - 33.5 - 71.5. Note E. MCLG or MRDLG - N/A. MCL = 80. Note H. Likely Source of Contamination - By-product of drinking water disinfection.

LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Lead (ppb). Dates of Sampling - 2016 Note K. AL Violation? No. 90th Percentile Result - 0.59. Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL - 0. MCLG - 0. AL (Action Level) - 15. Likely Source of Contamination - Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - Copper (ppm). Dates of Sampling - 2016. Note K. AL Violation? No. 90th Percentile Result - 0.15. Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the AL - 0. MCLG - 0. AL (Action Level) - 1.3. Likely Source of Contamination - Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAA5 (ppb). Level Detected - 13.87. Note L. Range of Results - ND - 20.98.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAABr (ppb). Level Detected - 7.23. Note L. Range of Results - ND - 15.29.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement - HAA9 (ppb). Level Detected - 20.18. Note L. Range of Results - ND - 31.37.

TABLE KEY &

AL: Action Level

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level
Goal

N/A: not applicable

ND: not detected

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms
per liter (ug/L)

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams
per liter (mg/L)

TT: Treatment Technique

DEFINITIONS

- A. total coliform detections must not exceed 5% of all monthly samples.
- B. filter turbidity may never exceed 1 NTU and must not exceed 0.3 NTU in 95% of daily samples in any month.
- C. MCL limit of Radium-226 and Radium-228 combined.
- D. the value is the highest running annual average, computed quarterly.
- E. these values represent values at individual sample sites.
- F. a public water system (PWS) is in compliance with the MRDL when the running annual average of monthly averages of samples taken in the distribution system, computed quarterly, is less than or equal to the MRDL.
- G. the value is the highest locational running annual average, computed quarterly.
- H. a PWS is in compliance with the MCL when the locational running annual average, computed quarterly, is less than or equal to the MCL.
- I. these values represent the % total organic carbon removal achieved at the treatment plant divided by the % removal required.
- J. this value is the lowest running annual average, computed quarterly, of monthly removal ratio. This value must be above 1.0 for compliance.
- K. the State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.
- L. this value is the computed average of this contaminant.
- M. this sample was collected from the source water influent.
- N. a system that collects fewer than 40 samples/month (i.e., a system serving $\leq 33,000$ people), if no more than one sample collected during a month is positive, the system is in compliance with the MCL for total coliforms

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

Filter Turbidity (NTU): Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

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.

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.

Total trihalomethanes: Disinfection by-products expressed as the sum of chloroform, dibromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane and tribromomethane.

Not Detected or ND: Indicates the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

LEAD:

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 Manatee County Water Purification Plant 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 at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS (UCs):

Manatee County has been monitoring for UCs as part of a study to help the U.S. EPA determine the occurrence in drinking water of UCs and whether or not these contaminants need to be regulated. At present, no health standards (for example, maximum contaminant levels) have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. If you would like more information on EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

IMMUNO-COMPROMISED INDIVIDUALS...

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). These precautions apply to publicly supplied water, bottled water, private well water or water from home treatment devices.

FIND OUT THE FACTS...

Concerns about drinking water quality have caused many residents to use bottled water or to install home treatment devices. Be sure to learn about the quality of the alternate water or the expected water quality from home treatment devices.

Additional information can be found on the Manatee County website (<http://www.mymanatee.org/water>). Just click on the "Water Quality Report" link.

If you need help in understanding water quality issues, have questions about this report, or have a water quality concern, please call us at (941) 723-4580.