

Microbiological Contaminants - Charlotte County Utilities						
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Highest Monthly Percentage	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	08/07	No	3%	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment

**Total coliform bacteria:** Highest Monthly Percentage/Number is the highest monthly number of positive samples for systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month. Highest Monthly Percentage/Number is the highest monthly percentage of positive samples for systems collecting at least 40 samples per month.

Turbidity Contaminants - Peace River Authority (PR/MRWSA)							
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Single Highest Measurement	Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Regulatory Limits	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Turbidity	01/07-12/07	No	0.3146	100	N/A	TT	Soil runoff

**Note:** The result in the Lowest Monthly Percentage column is the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits reported in the Monthly Operating Report.

**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. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Secondary Contaminants - Peace River Authority (PR/MRWSA)							
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	07/30/07	Yes*	524	N/A	?	500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

**\*Total Dissolved Solids:** The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection has issued an Emergency Order related to the current drought which allows us to exceed 500 ppm until the drought is over or until June 2008, whichever comes first. There are no health effects from this exceedance.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides & Herbicides - Peace River Authority (PR/MRWSA)							
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	07/30/07	No	1	0-1	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

**MCLs** are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water at the MCL level every day for a lifetime for a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

**Customers with special health concerns:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk for infections and 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800.426.4791.

**System Upgrades/Planned Improvements:** In 2007, CCU completed a chloramine injection station in South Gulf Cove and replaced five corroding bridge crossings with new, ductile iron pipe. System improvements planned for 2008 include completion of the Englewood Water District interconnect and upgrades to four water booster stations.

**What can I expect to find in my drinking water?**

Sources of drinking water (tap and bottled) 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:

- 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 use.
- 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.



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**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR UTILITIES TEAM**

Dear Valued Customer:

This annual Drinking Water Quality Report affords us the opportunity to present you with details of the high quality water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Each day, Charlotte County Utilities employees work around-the-clock to ensure the water we provide meets or exceeds all standards and expectations for safety, reliability and quality.

When you drink CCU tap water, you're drinking clean, quality water. CCU is proud to report that the water we provide our customers meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Due to the drought, in 2007, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection issued an Emergency Order allowing water providers to exceed the maximum level for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), a secondary drinking water contaminant that may affect taste, color or odor, but is not a health concern. This was the only exceedance for our system.

Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated employees, CCU continues to provide our customers clean, reliable drinking water, available to you at your tap and at your command.



# 2007 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Charlotte County Utilities Public Drinking Water System - PWS #5084100

The Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PR/MRWSA) oversees the operations of the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Facility (PRMRWSF), and uses the Peace River as its source of supply. The Peace River is a large river, by Florida standards, having a drainage area of 2,300 square miles. Its headwaters originate in the Green Swamp of northern Polk County flowing through Lake Hancock, Winter Haven chain of lakes and Lake Hamilton. The mouth of the Peace River is located in Punta Gorda, 120 miles downstream from the headwaters, delivering needed fresh water to the Charlotte Harbor estuary. The PR/MRWSA sells water to Charlotte County, the City of North Port, DeSoto County, Manatee County and Sarasota County.

The PRMRWSA and Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table in this brochure shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. These same regulations require monitoring to occur in nine-year compliance cycles, made up of three, three-year compliance periods. These three-year periods result in some contaminants being monitored once every three years. This testing analysis may require some contaminant test results to be reported in this document from years other than calendar year 2007. We have learned that through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have questions about the data provided in this annual Drinking Water Quality Report or require additional information, please contact our representative, Stephen Kipfinger, at 941.764.4300. To learn more, please attend any of the PR/MRWSA Board of Director meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m. to noon, and rotate between the County Commission Chambers of Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties. For information on a specific meeting, please visit [www.regionalwater.org/schedule.html](http://www.regionalwater.org/schedule.html) or call the PR/MRWSA at 941.316.1776.

**Source Water Assessment Plan:** The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of the Peace River Regional Water Supply surface water intakes. Potential sources of contamination that were identified include underground petroleum storage tanks and wastewater treatment plants. The risk level is considered to be high. Assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp).

**HOW DO I READ THIS?** It's easy. The table to the right shows the results of our water quality analyses. The "Level Detected" column shows the highest results from the most recent tests. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. As you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations in this table, we've provided the following definitions:

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers additional treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE):** An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts 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 Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.
- **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 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 Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG:** The level of 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.
- **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.
- **NA:** Not applicable.
- **ND:** Not detected. Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** The measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L):** One part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of the water sample, which corresponds to one minute in two years or a penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L):** One part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of the water sample, which corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Picocurie per liter (pCi/L):** Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Charlotte County Utilities would like 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. We ask our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.*

## Drinking Water Test Results

Radiological Contaminants - Peace River Authority (PR/MRWSA)							
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	08/07	No	1.4	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	08/07	No	1.7	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic 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.							
Inorganic Contaminants - Peace River Authority (PR/MRWSA)							
Barium (ppm)	01/18/07 and 07/30/07	No	0.025	0.024-0.025	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppm)	01/16/07 and 07/30/07	No	0.0030	N/A	N/A	0.2	Some people who drink water containing cyanide well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience nerve damage or problems with their thyroid
Fluoride (ppm)	01/10/07 and 07/30/07	No	1.43	0.212-1.43	4	4	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
Nickel (ppb)	01/10/07 and 07/30/07	No	2.0	0-2.0	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations; natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Quarterly	No	.522	0.027-0.522	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Quarterly	No	0.004	0-0.004	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	01/17/07 and 07/30/07	No	0.0011	0-0.011	0.05	0.05	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	01/11/07 and 07/30/07	No	73.1	68.5-73.1	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion; leaching from soil
Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproduct (D/DBP) Parameters - Charlotte County Utilities							
Chloramines (ppm)	01/07-12/07	No	2.7	0.6-5.86	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	01, 04, 07 and 10/07	No	18.48	11.41-31.35	N/A	MCL = 60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	01, 04, 07 and 10/07	No	47.86	31.6-66.1	N/A	MCL = 80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper - Charlotte County Utilities							
Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	# of sites exceeding AL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	06/07	No	0.3146	1.3	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppm)	06/07	No	4.6	0	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
<p><b>Lead:</b> Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800.426.4791.</p>							

*(continued)*