

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. **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, who have undergone organ transplants, diagnosed 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 (1-800-426-4791).**



The employees of **Charlotte County Utilities** would like our valued customers to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process, and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water, and we ask you to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. 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 allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.

Improvements to Facilities in 2004

- Replacement reverse osmosis membranes were purchased for the Treatment Trains E & F.

New Improvements and System Upgrades in 2004

- Two new water supply wells, #11 & #12, as well as the transmission pipeline were completed by late 2004.
- The Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Response Plan were completed and reported to EPA in 2004.
- Security fencing and facility security measures were initiated in 2004, and in process for completion in 2005.
- The Water Model Master Plan was implemented in 2004, and is scheduled for completion in 2005.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO FIND IN MY DRINKING WATER?

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) **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.
- (B) **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.
- (C) **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) **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 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.



Charlotte County Utilities
25550 Harbor View Road Unit 1
Port Charlotte, FL 33980-2500

CCU MISSION STATEMENT

To provide products and services of uncompromising value to the community by operating a public utility system that is economically sound, environmentally responsible, operationally reliable, and customer responsive.

MISSION

To be the energy in making Charlotte County a beautiful and enriching place to live.

VISION

To exceed expectations in the delivery of public services.

VALUES

Integrity
Customer Service
Partnership
Innovation
Stewardship

This handout is based on the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) regulations that were published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The CCR rule is the first EPA rule that addresses the public's right-to-know provisions of the 1996 SDWA Amendments





2004 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Burnt Store Public Drinking Water System PWS # 6080318

Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) routinely monitors 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, 2004 to December 31, 2004. These same regulations require monitoring to occur in 9-year compliance cycles, made up of three, 3-year compliance periods. These 3-year compliance 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 2004. We have learned that through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

CCU operates the reverse osmosis water treatment plant and distribution system serving the Burnt Store and Pirate Harbor service area. Our source water is groundwater from the Floridan Aquifer and is treated through a two stage membrane treatment process, an aeration system, and final chlorination and pH adjustment before the water is pumped to the distribution system.

If you have any questions about the data provided in this Consumer Confidence Report/Annual Drinking Water Quality Report or require additional information, please contact our CCU representative **Terrence Briggs at 941-764-4300**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Source Water Assessment Plan

A statewide source water assessment project is under way by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This assessment will result in a "SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORT". This assessment will identify and assess any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of your water supply. A Source Water Assessment for our system will be available by July 1, 2005 at the DEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program web site: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp>. CCU will provide annually, as part of the Consumer Confidence Report Annual Drinking Water Quality Data, an update on the FDEP Water Source Assessment and Protection Program.

HOW DO I READ THIS?

It's easy. The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. The column marked "Level Detected" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. Descriptions below explain other important details. In this table you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **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.
- "N/A" means not applicable.
- "ND" means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - 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 1 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 1 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.

Drinking Water Quality Test Results— 2004

** 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.

Radiological Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected**	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	03,05,08 +12/02	N	6.6	(3.8—8.0)	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226 or Combined Radium (pCi/l)	03,05,08 +12/02	N	2.45	(1.3—3.3)	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	06/02	N	0.0057	(ppm)	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	06/02	N	0.15	(ppm)	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Selenium	06/02	N	5.2	(ppb)	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Sodium	06/02	N	62.0	(ppm)	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.
Lead (plant tap)	06/02	N	1.0	(ppb)	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	08/02-09/02	N	0.038	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
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
Chloramines (ppm)	01/04-12/04	N	2.0	1.17-2.5	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/04	N	3.6	N/A	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	08/04	N	17.56	N/A	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Microbiological Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/041-2/04	N	1 (9/4/04)	0	0	Naturally present in the environment.	

Nitrite and Nitrate
Although The Charlotte County Utilities-Burnt Store Public Drinking Water System Performed Valid Monitoring For Combined Nitrate And Nitrite During The 2004 Calendar Year, The Water System Failed To Perform Annual Monitoring For The Contaminants Of Nitrate And Nitrite (Individually) In 2004. The monitoring violation was resolved through a Consent Order with the Department of Environmental Protection.