



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



**A MESSAGE FROM  
YOUR UTILITIES DIRECTOR**  
*David G. Schlobohm*

Dear Valued Customer:

This Annual Water Quality Report affords us the opportunity to make you aware of the high quality water that flows from your tap. We already know you appreciate the value of water, as most of our customers are extremely conservation-minded. Because of you, Charlotte County Utilities is among the leaders in per-capita water usage, with some of the lowest usage numbers in the state.

We thank you for your continued efforts to conserve water, one of our most precious natural resources. And thanks to the efforts of our hard-working and dedicated CCU employees, you can be confident that this clean, safe, reliable and award-winning drinking water will continue to be available at your tap and at your command.

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Charlotte County Utilities

**2005**  
**Burnt Store Water Quality Report**



## 2005 Consumer Confidence/Annual Water Quality Report Charlotte County Utilities Public Drinking Water System #6080318

**C**harlotte County Utilities (CCU) is proud to offer our customers this Annual Water Quality Report, designed to inform you about the water and services we deliver to you every day. All information contained in this report has been collected and reported in accordance with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This handout is based on the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) regulations published by the USEPA. The CCR rule is the first EPA rule that addresses the public's right-to-know provisions of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments.


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. This is treated through a two-stage membrane treatment process, an aeration system and a 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 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report or require additional information, please contact CCU representative *Stephen Kipfinger* at (941)764-4300. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

**S**ource 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 our wells. Potential sources of contamination that were identified include industrial wastewater and domestic wastewater treatment systems. 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?** In the table to the right, you will find the results of our water quality analysis. You may find some unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. For example, the column marked "Level Detected" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following abbreviations and 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:** Not applicable.
- **ND:** Not detected, indicating 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.



**C**harlotte County Utilities (CCU) routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water, according to Federal and State laws. The table to the right shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005. Data obtained before January 1, 2005, and presented in this report, is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations. The employees of CCU work hard, seven days a week and 24 hours per day, to provide your family with clean, reliable, award-winning drinking water each and every day.



# Drinking Water Test Results Table

## Radiological Contaminants — Peace River Authority (PRMRWSA)

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)	03/02, 05/02, 08/02, 12/02	N	6.6	(3.8-8.0)	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226 or Combined Radium (pCi/l)	03/02, 05/02, 08/02, 12/02	N	2.45	(1.3-3.3)	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

## Inorganic Contaminants — Peace River Authority (PRMRWSA)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	06/05	N	0.004	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (ppb)	06/05	N	1.0	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrences in soil.
Selenium (ppb)	06/05	N	10	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Sodium (ppm)	06/05	N	40.9	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.

## Lead and Copper — Charlotte County Utilities

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)	10/05	N	0.188	0	1	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppm)	10/05	N	14.1	3	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

## Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproduct (D/DBP) Parameters—Charlotte County Utilities


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)	1/05-12/05	N	2.6	2.4-3.0	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control Microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/05	N	3.0	N/A	N/A	MCL=60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	08/05	N	13.3	N/A	N/A	MCL=80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

## Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproduct (D/DBP) Parameters—Charlotte County Utilities

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year	MCLG	MCL (For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month, presence of coliform bacteria in one sample)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/05-12/05	N	0	0	0	Naturally present in the environment

**We're ready in an emergency.** Charlotte County Utilities takes great pride in our highly skilled and well-trained award winning staff, providing products and services of uncompromising value—including maintenance of over 4,200 fire hydrants used in fire suppression—to the nearly 125,000 customers in CCU's certificated area. During the 2004 hurricane season, the men and women of CCU, most of whom had also been impacted by the storm, worked day and night around the clock to provide our customers with water and wastewater services with limited interruptions. We continue to train and prepare for any emergency that may affect the utility and our valued customers. Thank you for allowing us to continue to serve you, around the clock, every day of the year.





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:

**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 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 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.

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



**You can help CCU conserve water and reduce your water usage by up to 14 percent if you repair or replace leaky faucets, hoses and other defective household fixtures.**

(Source: American Water Works Association)

**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 to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

**For customers with special health concerns:** 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline** (800) 426-4791.

- **Level Detected:** 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.
- **Lead:** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the MCL could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. 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 two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.
- **In 2005** CCU failed to collect Lead and Copper samples when required. Lead and Copper samples were later collected in October and the results are in the table on the previous page. This violation was immediately corrected by flushing the area water lines and there were no health effects. The monitoring violation was later resolved with the Department of Environmental Protection through a Consent Order.



### What is a Boil Water Notice?

◆ Boil water notices are issued by CCU from time to time due to a loss of system pressure, below 20 pounds per square inch, which is generally the result of a water line break or occasional equipment malfunctions. A boil water notice is NOT notification that your water is contaminated, but is issued as a precautionary measure pending testing results, to ensure the health and safety of our customers. ◆ A boil water notice advises you, the customer in an affected area, to boil your tap water for a minimum of three minutes before using it for drinking, cooking and ice making, until lab tests verify the water is safe for consumption. Lab tests generally take 24 hours to complete, and once results conclude that the water is safe for human consumption CCU will issue a rescission notice to customers in the affected area.