



2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for City of Ft. Meade System ID Number 6530320

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is three wells that draw water from the Floridan aquifer. The water is then aerated to remove volatile contaminants, disinfected with chlorine, and then delivered to your home or business.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact David Wooten at the City of Fort Meade, (863) 285-9222. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Commission meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of the month at City Hall. The City of Fort Meade routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2016. Also included are test results in earlier years for contaminants sampled less often than annually. For contaminants not required to be tested for in 2015, test results are for the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations authorized by the state and approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In 2016 the Department of Environmental Protection 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. There are 4 potential sources of contamination from petroleum storage tanks and brownfields identified for this system with a moderate susceptibility level. 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 David Wooten at the City of Fort Meade, (863) 285-9222.

As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose 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.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. 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 by-products 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 or mining activities.

In the data table you will find many terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following key to these terms' abbreviations and definitions:

TERM Appearing in TABLE		DEFINITION
Action Level	AL	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
Not Applicable	N/A	Does not apply.
Parts per million	ppm	or <i>Milligrams per liter (mg/l)</i> – one part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of the water sample.
Parts per billion	ppb	or <i>Micrograms per liter (µg/l)</i> – one part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.
Picocuries per liter	pCi/L	- <i>picocuries per liter</i> is a measure of the radioactivity in water
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	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 Contaminant Level	MCL	The “Maximum Allowed” is 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.
Initial Distribution System Evaluation	IDSE	<i>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 their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.</i>
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	MCLG	The “Goal” is 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.

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.

Microbiological Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage/Number	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
1. Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	1/16-12/16	N	0	0	For systems collecting at least 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples. For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in >1 sample collected during a month.	Naturally present in the environment	
Results in the Level Detected column for radioactive 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.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants							
6. Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	7/15/14	N	1.5	1.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
7. Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	7/15/14	N	1.0	1.0	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination

Inorganic Contaminants							
12. Barium (ppm)	7/15/14	N	.0233	.0233	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
17. Fluoride (ppm)	7/15/14	N	.349	.349	4	4.0	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
21. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	8/29/16	N	.358	.358	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage erosion of natural deposits
24. Sodium (ppm)	7/15/14	N	9.70	9.70	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

For bromate, chloramines, or chlorine, the level detected is the the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or highest results as the level detected and the range individual sample results as the range of results during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
79. Chlorine (ppm)	1/16-12/16	N	1.71	.21-1.71	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
80. Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	8/29/16	N	24.6	2.50-24.6	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
81. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	8/29/16	N	27.3	17.7-27.3	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
85. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/11-14/15	N	.252	2	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
86. Lead (tap water) (ppb)	9/11-14/15	N	1.2	2	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Secondary Contaminants							
2. Chloride (ppm)	7/15/14	N	20.5	20.5		250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
3. Color (color units)	7/15/14	N	15	15		15	Naturally occurring organics
5. Fluoride (ppm)	7/15/14	N	.349	.349		2.0	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
7. Iron (ppm)	7/15/14	N	.0214	.0214		0.3	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
12. Sulfate (ppm)	7/15/14	N	64	64		250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
13. Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	7/15/14	N	280	280		500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

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 City of Fort Meade 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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).

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.

Please call our office if you have questions.