

Annual Water Quality Report

Water testing performed in 2005

Proudly Presented By: PEOPLES WATER SERVICE COMPANY OF FLORIDA, INC.

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Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc. 905 Lownde Avenue Pensacola, FL 32507

How Is My Water Treated and Purified?

Deoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc.'s methods and practices of treating and purifying water conform to the Department of Environmental Protection's, Chapter 62-550 Drinking Water Standards, Monitoring, and Reporting. Our treatment processes consist of a series of steps. First, the raw water is drawn from our water source and sent to the treatment facilities. Second, the water then goes to a mixing/contact area where specific chemicals are added to meet state and federal requirements. Hydrated lime is added for pH adjustment, chlorine (gas) is added for disinfection, and a corrosion inhibitor is added to assist in protecting the distribution system pipes. In addition, we have incorporated two sets of granular activated carbon filters at our Well 3 and Well 5 treatment facilities to assist in the removal of man-made contaminants. Third, after the water has completed the purification process, it is pumped into storage facilities and/or your home or business.



What Causes the Pink Stain on Bathroom Fixtures?

The pinkish film, and sometimes a dark gray color frequently noted in bathrooms on shower stalls, tubs, tile, toilets, sinks, toothbrush holders, and on pets' water bowls is caused by the growth of the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*. *Serratia* is commonly isolated from soil, water, plants, insects, and vertebrates (including man). The bacteria can be introduced into the house through any of the above-mentioned sources. The bathroom provides a perfect environment (moist and warm) for bacteria to thrive.

The best solution to this problem is to continually clean and dry the involved surfaces to keep them free from bacteria. Chlorine-based compounds work best, but keep in mind that abrasive cleaners may scratch fixtures making them more susceptible to bacterial growth. Chlorine bleach can be used periodically to disinfect the toilet and help to eliminate the occurrence of the pink residue. Keeping bathtubs and sinks wiped down using a solution that contains chlorine will also help to minimize its occurrence.

Important Health Information

PWS ID#: FL1170527

ome people may be more **O**vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Our customers are fortunate because they enjoy an abundant water supply. We currently have five water treatment plants, which pump water from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer. The aquifer is estimated to be 6,500 square miles and is used by many utility companies in southern Alabama and along the Florida Panhandle. Our

Where Does My

Water Come From?



treatment facilities provided 961 million gallons of water for the year. That is an average of 80 million each month or 2.6 million gallons each day of clean drinking water delivered to customers' homes or businesses.

Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc. is not responsible for reporting on its source water assessment (SWA) in the CCR which is due in 2006 because by 12/31/05 the SWA had not been completed, and/or the report was not mailed to the us and/or the SWA report was not posted on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Source Water Assessment & Protection Program (SWAPP) Web site. The FDEP conducted a statewide assessment of public drinking water systems in 2004. Our system was not assessed at that time. The FDEP is in the process of conducting a source water assessment on our system. This assessment will identify and assess any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our water supply. Our SWA report will be available by December 31, 2006 on the FDEP SWAPP Web site: www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp. *Serratia* will not survive in chlorinated drinking water.

Continuing Our Commitment

Once again, Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc., is proud to present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2005. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we

are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Mark Cross, Manager, at (850) 455-8552.



Sampling Results

uring the past year, Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc. has taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows data obtained before January 1, 2006, and in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. . The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS												
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF	DATES OF SAMPLING	MCL VIOLATION	LEVEL	RANGE			LIKELY SOURCE					
MEASUREMENT	(MO./YR.)	(YES/NO)	DETECTED ¹	OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	OF CONTAMINATION					
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS												
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Feb-Mar 02	No	0.8	0.6-0.8	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits					
Combined radium (pCi/L)	Feb-Mar 02	No	3.0	1.9-3.0	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits					
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS												
Arsenic (ppb)	Feb 05	No	5.0	ND-5	NA ²	10 ²	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes					
Asbestos (MFL)	May 02	No	1.0	NA	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits					
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	Feb 05	No	1.43	ND-2.16	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits					
Selenium (ppb)	Feb 05	No	6.0	ND-6.0	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines					
Sodium (ppm)	Jan-Dec 05	No	33	ND-33	NA	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil					
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS												
Benzene (ppb)	Sep 05	No	0.07	ND-0.8	0	1	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills					
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	Jan-Dec 05	No	1.8	ND-2.2	0	3	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners					
TTHMS AND STAGE 1 DISINFEC	TANT/DISINFECTI	ON BY-PRODU	CT (D/DBP) PARAN	IETERS ³								
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG OR (MRDLG)	MCL OR (MRDL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION					
Chlorine (ppm)	Jan-Dec 05	No	0.62	0.51-0.69	(4)	(4.0)	Water additive used to control microbes					
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	Jul 05	No	3.48	2.3- 5.0	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection					
LEAD AND COPPER (Tap water samples were colleted from homes throughout the service area)												

LLAD AND GOFFLA (lap water samples were conclea from nomes throughout the service area)											
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	AL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING AL	AL (ACTION MCLG LEVEL)		LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION				
Copper (ppm)	Jun 04	No	0.359	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives				
Lead (ppb)	Jun 04	No	0.001	1	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits				

¹ Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, 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.

² These arsenic values were effective January 1, 2005. Until then, the MCL was 50 ppb and there was no MCLG

³ For the parameters monitored under Stage 1 D/DBP regulations, the Level Detected is the highest annual average (running annual average –[RAA]) of the quarterly averages of chlorine or the annual average of the quarterly averages of TTHM. Range of Results column shows the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites.

Substances That Might Be in 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.

Water Conservation Tips

Tater conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water but can also save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

> **CONSERVATION MEASURES YOU CAN USE INSIDE YOUR HOME INCLUDE:**

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.

Table Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant

Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MFL (Million Fibers per liter): Measurement of the amount of fibrous material in one liter of sample.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

What Makes Water Hard?

f substantial amounts of calcium Lor magnesium, both nontoxic minerals, are present in drinking water, the water is said to be hard. Hard water does not dissolve soap readily, so making lather for washing and cleaning is difficult. Conversely, water containing little calcium or magnesium is called soft water. The water provided to your home and/or business is considered soft.



Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturallyoccurring 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 and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving in faucets, toilets, and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

YOU CAN CONSERVE OUTDOORS AS WELL:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www. epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.

Community Participation

Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc., is dedicated to working with consumers who want to voice an opinion or concern, inquire about the water quality, and encourage excellence of our organization. We offer various means of communication, including telephone, facsimile, e-mail, and in-person meetings. If you have any questions concerning your drinking water quality or your utility company, please contact Mark Cross at (850) 455-8552 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.