



CITRUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Spring Gardens Water System
PWS ID # 6092199
2022 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

INTRODUCTION:

Citrus County Department of Water Resources is proud to present our Annual Water Quality Report. The Spring Gardens Water System continuously monitors water quality and complies with all State and Federal laws. This report is based on the results for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022. Data obtained before January 1, 2022, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations.

Citrus County's Department of Water Resources' goal is, and always has been, to provide you with a safe, aesthetically pleasing, and dependable supply of drinking water. If you have any questions concerning Utility operations or water quality, please contact the **Citrus County Department of Water Resources at (352) 527-7650**.

WATER SOURCE:

As of July 2018, **the source of water for the Spring Gardens Water System is provided by the Homosassa Special Water District (PWS ID# 6090828)**. The Homosassa Special Water District draws groundwater from the Floridan aquifer via four wells. Before delivery to you, the water is chlorinated for disinfection purposes.

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. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- B. 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.
- C. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- D. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- E. Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. 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 be reasonably 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.

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

In 2022, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near the source water wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/lookup.asp>. Use the PWS ID provided for the Homosassa Special Water District (6090828).

CONSERVATION:

Ensuring adequate water supplies for people and nature is critical to our Department. More importantly, water conservation saves time and money. For your free copies of water conservation brochures and tools or to request demonstrations in your community, call (352)527-7650.

MONITORING RESULTS:

The Citrus County Department of Water Resources routinely monitors water quality in order to determine the presence of any biological, inorganic, volatile organic, synthetic organic and radioactive contaminants in our drinking water according to State and Federal laws. **The table below reflects only those contaminants, which were detectable, required to be reported or were thought to be of special interest to our customers.**

DEFINITIONS:

- Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 (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 (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.
- Non-Applicable (N/A) .
- Non-Detectable (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates the contaminant is not detected.
- Parts per Billion (PPB) - or micrograms per liter - one drop of ink in one of the largest tanker trucks used to haul gasoline would be an ink concentration of 1 ppb.
- Parts per Million (PPM) or Milligrams Per Liter (MG/L) - one drop of ink into a fuel tank of a compact car.
- Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity of water.
- Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - longer than 10 micrometers.
- Treatment Technique (TT) - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Stage 1 and 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Disinfectant or 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
Chlorine (ppm)	01-12/22	N	1.06	0.74-1.32	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Inorganic Contaminants							
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
Arsenic (ppb)	04/20	N	0.33	0.15-0.33	0	10	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium (ppm)	04/20	N	0.0035	ND-0.0035	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	06/22	N	0.97	0.46-0.97	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	04/20	N	6.4	3.9-6.4	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Radioactive Contaminants							
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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	04/20	N	2.2	ND – 2.2	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
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
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	06/21	N	0.188	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	06/21	N	0.90	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

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. Citrus County Department of Water Resources 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>.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:

In our continuing efforts to maintain reliable water quality, water supply and to operate the utility system more efficiently the Citrus County Department of Water Resources is committed to ongoing well restoration and water plant improvements. We at Citrus County Department of Water Resources work around the clock to provide the highest quality water to every customer's tap. We ask all customers and those on other water systems to help us protect our water sources, which are at the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. If you have any questions please call the Department of Water Resources at (352) 527-7650.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING:

This Report or Utility Operations - call Citrus County Department of Water Resources at (352) 527-7653. A copy of the complete list of all water testing parameters and the water analysis results can be obtained by contacting the Citrus County Department of Water Resources.

Water Quality - call the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or call the Potable Water Section of the Department of Environmental Protection Tampa District Office at (813) 632-7600.

Local Drinking Water Quality and Testing - call the Citrus County Environmental Health Department at (352) 527-5295.

Utility Emergencies – during normal business hours call (352) 527-7650. After hours call (727) 497-5319.

Utility Billing Questions – during normal business hours call (352) 527-7650.