# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
# 2010
# City of Venice, Florida

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We're pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform residents of Venice about the quality water and services delivered to you every day by the city of Venice Utilities Department.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

The city's water source is from wells, which draw from the intermediate aquifer. This brackish water is pumped to the treatment plant, where it is treated using the reverse osmosis process.

The water is then run through the aeration process to remove hydrogen sulfide. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant. This process is continuously monitored and adjusted as needed by plant operators, who are certified by the state of Florida. The final product is delivered to the residents, businesses and visitors in the city of Venice.

To learn more about city services, please attend any of the regularly scheduled Venice City Council meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. and the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285.

The city of Venice routinely monitors for contaminants in 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 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2010. Data obtained before Jan. 1, 2010, and presented in this report, is from the most recent testing done in accordance with governing laws, rules, and regulations. 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 occur naturally 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that 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 EPA'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.**

**The EPA and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for appropriate means to reduce the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

Through monitoring and testing, some contaminants were detected. As you can see in the results table, our system had no violations. We are proud the city's drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. At the city, we work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask all our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Additional copies of this report may be obtained in the Venice City Hall lobby.

In 2009, the Florida Department Of Environmental Protection (FDEP) performed a Source Water Assessment, (SWA) on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are **zero** potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a "high" susceptibility level, **fifty-five** potential sources with a "moderate" susceptibility level, and **six** potential sources with a "low"susceptibility level.

The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site:
www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

**Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE)** is 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.

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 Venice 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 about lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at:
www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

**DEFINITIONS.** To help you better understand the terms in the test tables, the following definitions have been provided:

• **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 Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

**• Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**• 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.

**•Not Detected or ND:** Indicates the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**• Not Applicable N/A**

**• 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.

**• Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**• Picocurie per liter (pCi/L):** measure of the radioactivity in water.

**• Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**• Unregulated contaminants:** The City of Venice has been monitoring for unregulated contaminants (UCs) as part of a study to help the United Sates Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determine the occurrence in drinking water of UCs and whether or not these contaminants need to be regulated.

At present, no health standards (for example., maximum contaminant levels) have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report.

If you would like more information about the EPA's Unregulated Conta-minants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Inorganic Contaminants

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Date of Sampling (Month/Year) | MCL Violation Yes/No | Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. Fluoride (ppm) | 02/08 | No | 0.17 | N/A | 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 |
| 19. Nickel (ppb) | 02/08 | No | 0.002 | N/A | N/A | 100 | Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil |
| 23. Sodium (ppm) | 02/08 | No | 21.6 | | N/A | 160 | Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil |

## Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts

| Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Date of Sampling (Month/Year) | MCL or MRDL Violation Yes/No | Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL or MRDL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 78. Chlorine (ppm) | 1/10-12/10 | No | 1.40 | 0 - 2.01 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| 79. Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb) | 08/10 | No | 2.8 | 0 - 3.4 | N/A | MCL = 60 | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| 80. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 08/10 | No | 20 | 0 - 20.3 | N/A | MCL = 80 | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |

## Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Date of Sampling (Month/Year) | AL Violation Yes/No | 90th Percentile Result | Number of sampling sites exceeding the AL | MCLG | AL (Action Level) | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 84. Copper (tap water) (ppm) | 9/08 | No | 0.044 | 0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives. |