

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2008

City of Venice, Florida

For questions about this report or the City of Venice water utility, please contact:

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The City of Venice Utilities Department is 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 every day. The city's constant goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Improving the water treatment process and protecting water resources is a continual effort.

The city is committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The city's water source is from deep wells, which draw from the intermediate aquifer.

This brackish water is pumped to the treatment plant, where it goes through a reverse osmosis process.

The water is then run through the aeration process to remove hydrogen sulfide.

Chlorine is added as a disinfectant. Plant operators, certified by the state of Florida, monitor this process continuously and adjust it as needed. The final product is delivered to residents, businesses and visitors in the city.

To learn more about city

services, please attend any of the regularly scheduled Venice City Council meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 1:30 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 in accordance with federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of monitoring for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2008.

Data obtained before Jan. 1, 2008 and presented in this report, is from the most recent testing done in accordance with governing laws, rules and regulations.

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 humans.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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, 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, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

(E) Radioactive contaminants, can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure 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. 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).

Through monitoring and testing, some contaminants were detected. As you can see in the results table, the City of Venice system had no violations.

We are proud the city's drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask our customers to help us protect our water sources.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained in the Venice City Hall lobby.

In 2004, the Florida Department Of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment, (SWA) on the city's system.

The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of city wells. There are eight potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a "high" susceptibility level, one potential source with a "moderate" susceptibility level, and four 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 use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with 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 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>

DEFINITIONS

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

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

- **ND:** not detected and indicates the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
- **N/A:** not applicable

• **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.

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of Sampling (Month/Year)	MCL Violation Yes/No	Highest Monthly Percentage/ Number	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	05/08 08/08	No	1	0	For systems collecting at least 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in 5 percent 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 environment

Radiological 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
5. Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	02/08	No	0.6	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	02/08	No	1.8	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

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)	1/08-12/08	No	1.34	0 - 1.34	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
79. Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/08	No	2.78	0 - 2.78	N/A	MCL = 60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
80. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/08	No	32	0 - 32	N/A	MCL = 80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Disinfectant or 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.