

2023 Water Quality Report

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the City of New Port Richey PWS I.D. # 6511255

Water Source, Source Water Plans and Treatment

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality 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 primary water source is ground water from a combination of 10 wells. The wells draw water from the Floridan Aquifer. Fallen rain percolates into the ground through layers of sand, clay, and limestone which naturally filters the water before it reaches the aquifer. The water drawn from the aquifer is treated at the William C. Maytum Water Treatment Plant. Treatment includes aeration for hydrogen sulfide removal, chloramination for disinfection and fluoridation for dental health. Other available sources of water are the Tampa Bay Water Regional System. The Tampa Bay Water Regional System Water Quality Report is available at: www.tampabaywater.org. The most recent Source Water Assessment performed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Tampa Bay Water facilities was in 2023. Potential sources of contamination were assessed by the FDEP as "low risk" and "moderate risk" for groundwater sources and "high risk" near Tampa Bay Water's surface water intakes. The classification is for source waters and does not apply to the finished water delivered to member governments. A multi-step, advanced treatment process is used at Tampa Bay Water's Regional Surface Water Treatment Plant to ensure clean water for members and their customers. The most recent Source Water Assessment performed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the City of New Port Richey's water system was in 2023. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in our wells. There is one low level potential source of contamination identified for this system. Both assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at: <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp>

Basic Statement of Compliance

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Greg Wikholm at (727)-841-4570.

Period Covered by Report

The City of New Port Richey 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 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. Data obtained before January 1, 2023 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

Terms and Abbreviations

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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.

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 that a water system must follow.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL; The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG; The level of a disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

"ND" Indicates that the compound was analyzed for but not detected.

"I" The reported value is between the laboratory method detection limit and the laboratory practical quantitation limit.

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 ($\mu\text{g/l}$) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part by weight of analyte to 1 trillion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

Water Quality Test Results

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)	04/23	N	9.4	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/L)	04/23	N	2.3	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

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
Barium (ppm)	04/23	N	0.018	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	01/23 -12/23	N	0.70	0.54 – 0.70	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm.
Mercury (ppb)	4/23	N	0.016	NA	2	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.
Nitrate (as nitrogen ppm)	01/23, 04/23 07/23, 10/23	N	.069 I	No Detect - 0.069 I	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Sodium (ppm)	04/23	N	11.8	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
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Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

For the following disinfectants and contaminants monitored under Stage 1 and Stage 2 D/DBP regulations, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly of all samples collected. The range of results is the highest and lowest result of all the individual samples collected during the past year.

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 and Chloramines (ppm)	01/23 – 12/23	N	3.1	0.8 - 4.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	01/23, 04/23 07/23, 10/23	N	26.75	12 - 29	N/A	MCL= 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	02/22, 04/22 07/23, 10/23	N	36.345	25.85- 46.07	N/A	MCL= 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	A/L Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile Result	Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the Action Level	MCLG	A/L (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	07/23. 08/23	N	1.07	1	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	07/23 08/23	N	2.0	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

The City of New Port Richey Water System has been monitoring for unregulated contaminants (UCs) as part of a study to help the U.S. 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. If you would like information about the results, please contact Greg Wikholm at the City's Maytum Water Treatment Plant (727) 841-4570.

Unregulated Contaminants UCMR 4

Special monitoring to help the EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	Level Detected	Range of Results	Likely Source of Contamination
(ppb) Manganese	01/19, 04/19 07/19, 10/19	4.2	3.3 - 5.7	Naturally-occurring element; commercially available in combination with other elements and minerals; used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries and fireworks; drinking water and wastewater treatment chemical; essential nutrient
HAA6Br (ppb)	02/19, 04/19 08/19, 10/19	2.0	1.0 – 2.6	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA9 (ppb)	02/19, 04/19 08/19, 10/19	22.9	18.8 – 27.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated Contaminants UCMR 5

Special monitoring to help the EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.

There was No Detection of any of the contaminants tested for in the study*

**Note: While the results provided may show none of the 29 PFAS were detected above EPA's Minimum Reporting Levels (MRLs) for the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) study, the EPA requires the use of MRLs to ensure consistency of data quality from the many water utilities and laboratories participating in this nationwide study. Laboratories have varying abilities to analyze PFAS to levels lower than MRLs such as Practical Quantitation Limits (PQLs) and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) but the EPA does not allow this lower-level data to be uploaded to their Central Database Exchange for inclusion in the UCMR5 study. Tampa Bay Water analyzed samples to supplement the findings of the City of New Port Richey and other member utilities and reported the findings using methods other than EPA required MRLs. You can view these results at Tampa Bay Water's website: <https://www.tampabaywater.org/quality/water-quality-concerns/pfas/epa-study-results/> It is important to note that results reported below the EPA's MRLs are primarily qualitative and not quantitative, which means a substance may have been detected but not in a reliably quantifiable amount.*

Reporting Violations

There were no violations of any MCL in 2023

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requires monitoring of over 80 contaminants. The contaminants listed in the table are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

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 New Port Richey 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 cooking or drinking. 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>.

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 processes 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.*

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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 1-800-426-4791.

We at the City of New Port Richey would like 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. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.