ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT: Reporting for 2020

This Drinking Water report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water we deliver to you every day. We are committed to providing you a dependable supply of safe, high quality drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our water source is groundwater from wells that draw from the Floridan and Biscayne Aquifers.

The City of Hollywood 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 monitoring results for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020. Data obtained before January 1, 2020, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. We encourage our customers to become informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report or your water, or to request a copy of these and other test results, please contact the Department of Public Utilities Water Quality Division at 954.921.3414.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR WATER QUALITY REPORT

The City of Hollywood performs more than 70 water quality tests daily and 160+ more tests each month on drinking water samples taken throughout the City. Overall, more than 28,000 tests are performed by the City of Hollywood each year to monitor the quality of your drinking water. These tests show Hollywood’s treated drinking water is safe for you and your family. The State of Florida allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than a year old. The City tested for many other compounds, but none were found at detectable levels.

FOR CUSTOMERS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CONCERNS

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 U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800.426.4791).

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 Hollywood is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in privately owned 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 click here to learn more.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

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 Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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. MCL Violations occur when this level is exceeded.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant above additional treatment or other requirements must be initiated.

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.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) - the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

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

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.


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.

The City of Hollywood produces drinking water by first pumping groundwater from wells that draw from the Biscayne and Floridan Aquifers. The Water Treatment Plant treats the water to remove contaminants. The Biscayne Aquifer is a water supply for Miami-Dade and Broward Counties and is of high quality. It is primarily rainwater filtered through sand and rock. The Floridan Aquifer, a much deeper source of water, is brackish (salty) and requires greater treatment. Once out of the ground, the City uses lime softening and membrane filtration on the raw water from Biscayne Aquifer and reverse osmosis on the raw water from the Floridan Aquifer. Prior to distribution, the filtered water is fluoridated to promote healthy teeth and disinfected using chloramines to maintain high quality and safety standards throughout the distribution system.