

# 1999 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## TOWN OF HILLIARD

We're very 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 water source is the pristine Floridan aquifer, a common drinking water source in North Florida.

*If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Steven Wingate at the Hilliard Town Hall Monday –Friday from 9:00-5:00pm at 845-3555.** We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Hilliard Town Hall.***

*The Town of Hilliard 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<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1999.*

*In the table below you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. 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 which a water system must follow.*

*“ND” means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.*

*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 (µg/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.*

*Millirem per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.*

*Million fibers per liter (MFL) - measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.*

<b>TEST RESULTS TABLE</b>
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<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	1	Y	3/99	0	For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in more than 1 sample collected during a month.	Naturally present in the environment	
** Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.							
<b>Radiological Contaminants</b>							
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
5. Alpha (pCi/l)	8/97	N	2.4	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
15. Fluoride (ppm)	8/97	N	0.59	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
23. Sodium (ppm)	8/97	N	18.7	N/A	n/a	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
77. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/99	N	50		1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
78. Lead (tap water) (ppb)	9/99	N	.001		0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

#### *Microbiological Contaminants:*

Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

*The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. The duration of the violation was from Mar. 4 to Mar. 10 1999 the potential adverse health effects are Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. We increased the chlorine level in the water to help with the removal of bacteria.*

“As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data [e.g., for organic contaminants], though representative, is more than one year old.”

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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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.

*MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.*

*Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.*

*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).*

*"We at the Town of Hilliard work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap," said said Steven Wingate, Public Works Director. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.*