

2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report City of Lake Alfred

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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

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 City of Lake Alfred 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 insuring 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.

We're pleased to present to you this year's 2014 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. Our water source(s) is ground water.

Our water source comes from four wells that draw from the Floridian Aquifer. It is then treated at our two water treatment facilities. Our treatment process includes aeration to remove volatile contaminants, chlorination for disinfection, and fluoridation for dental health.

This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Terrence Macomber at (863) 291-5274**. We encourage 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 Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Alfred City Hall.**

The City of Lake Alfred 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 to December 31, 2014. Data obtained before January 1, 2014, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE): 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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part by weight of analyte to 1 quadrillion 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.

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

Radiological 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
5. Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	05/12	No	7.4	5.9-7.4	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	08/14	No	4.0	3.4-4.0	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
9. Arsenic (ppb)	08/14	No	2.2	2.1-2.2	N/A	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
11. Barium (ppm)	08/14	No	0.021	0.019-0.021	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Chromium (ppb)	08/14	No	2.3	2.0-2.3	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
15. Cyanide (ppb)	08/14	No	5.6	5.0-5.6	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
16. Fluoride (ppm)	01/14 12/14	No	0.46	0.30-0.46	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)	08/14	No	2.7	2.5-2.7	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
20. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	08/14	No	1.1	0.18-1.1	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
22. Selenium (ppb)	08/14	No	3.3	2.4-3.3	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
23. Sodium (ppm)	08/14	No	19	17-19	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
24. Thallium (ppb)	08/14	No	.35	.24-.35	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
32. Dalapon (ppb)	08/14	No	0.84	0.75-0.84	200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
For bromate, chloramines, or chlorine, the level detected is the the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 2 compliance results.							
Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
79. Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/14 09/14	No	25.20	25.20 21.40	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
80. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/14 09/14	No	54.6	54.6 43.9	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	07/14	No	0.265	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
85. Lead (tap water) (ppb)	07/14	No	<0.00067	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Note: Secondary contaminants results *must* be included in a table separate from the results for the above contaminants. Do not include secondary contaminants results in the same table as results for the above contaminants.

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Secondary Contaminants							
9. Odor (threshold odor number)	08/14	Yes	8.0	8.0-8.0		3	Naturally occurring organics

(6) Combined Radium. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of MCL over many years have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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 Lake Alfred 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 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>.