2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the Town of Century

We are pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Drinking 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 is ground water from three wells that draw from a Sand and Gravel Aquifer. As a result of the high quality of the water source, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and lime for pH adjustment. Additionally, we purchase water from Central Waterworks. The water from Central Waterworks is only used to supplement the supply to the Century Correction Institution. This report shows our water quality results and what they mean to you.

In 2020 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and Central Waterworks. The system assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There is one potential source of contamination identified for this system with a low susceptibility level. There are no potential sources of contamination near the Central Waterworks wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>or they can be obtained from Heath Burkett at (850) 256-3208.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Heath Burkett at (850) 256-3208. 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 Town Council meetings. They are held on the first and third Monday of every month beginning at 7:00 pm CST at City Hall, 7995 North Century Blvd, Century, Florida.

The Town of Century 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, 2020. Data obtained before January 1, 2020 and presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

**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 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.

**Not Detected (ND):** 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. **Picocurie per liter (pCi/L):** Measure of the radioactivity in water.

**2020 CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contaminant and Unit of Measurement** | **Dates of Sampling**  **(mo/yr)** | **MCL**  **Violation Y/N** | **Level Detected** | **Range of Results** | **MCLG**  **or MRDLG** | **MCL or MRDL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| **Inorganic Contaminants** *\*results are a combination of samples from The Town of Century and Central Waterworks* | | | | | | | |
| Arsenic (ppb)\* | Mar 18 &  Jul-Oct 20 | N | 3.3 | ND – 3.3 | 0 | 10 | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff  from glass and electronics production wastes |
| Barium\*  (*ppm*) | Mar 18 &  Jul-Oct 20 | N | 0.42 | 0.012 – 0.42 | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal  refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride\* (*ppm*) | Mar 18 &  Jul-Oct 20 | N | 0.02 | ND – 0.020 | 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 |
| Lead (point of entry)\*  (*ppb*) | Mar 18 &  Jul-Oct 20 | N | 3.3 | ND – 3.3 | 15 | 15 | Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions  and paint; lead pipe casing, and solder |
| Nitrate (as Nitrogen)\*  (*ppm*) | July 20 | N | 3.4 | 0.26 – 3.4 | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks,  sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium\*  (*ppm*) | Mar 18 &  Jul-Oct 20 | N | 3.1 | 1.3 – 3.1 | NA | 160 | Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil |
| **Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products** †*results are from The Town of Century only* | | | | | | | |
| Trihalomethanes (THMS) †  (*ppb*) | Sep 20 | N | 2.0 | N/A | N/A | 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Chlorine (*ppm*) † | Jan-Dec 20 | N | 0.83 | 0.57 – 1.1 | MRDLG  = 4 | MRDL  = 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| **Radioactive Contaminants** *\*results are a combination of samples from The Town of Century and Central Waterworks* | | | | | | | |
| Alpha Emitters\*  (*pCi/L*) | Aug 15 &  Mar-Oct 18 | N | 5.7 | ND – 5.7 | 0 | 15 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 226 + 228 or Combined Radium\*  (*pCi/L*) | Aug 15 &  Mar-Oct 18 | N | 1.5 | ND – 1.5 | 0 | 5 | Erosion of natural deposits |

**2020 CONTAMINANTS TABLE (cont.)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Microbiological Contaminants** ‡*results are from Central Waterworks only* | | | | | | |
| **Contaminant** | **Dates of Sampling**  **(mo/yr)** | **Violation Y/N** | **Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year** | **MCLG** | **MCL** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| *E. coli (*at the ground water source and at distribution  point) ‡ | Jan-Dec 20 | Y | 3 | 0 | Routine and repeat samples are total coliform positive and either is *E. coli* positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli* positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform positive  repeat sample for *E. coli* | Human and animal fecal waste |

**E. coli Details**

In April of 2020, routine samples from two of Central Waterworks wells and one site in their distribution system tested positive for *E. coli.* Because an E. coli MCL Violation occurred, Central Waterworks was required to complete a Level 2 assessment and complete 2 corrective actions. *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

**2020 CONTAMINANTS TABLE (cont.)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lead and Copper (Tap Water)** †*results are from The Town of Century only* | | | | | | | |
| **Contaminant and Unit of**  **Measurement** | **Dates of Sampling**  **(mo/yr)** | **AL**  **Exceedance**  **Y/N** | **90th % Result** | **No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding AL** | **MCLG** | **AL**  **(Action Level)** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Copper†  (tap water) (*ppm*) | Sep 20 | Y | 2.1 | 4 of 18 | 1.3 | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood  preservatives |
| Lead† (tap water)  (*ppb*) | Sep 20 | Y | 18 | 3 of 18 | 0 | 15 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |

**Lead and Copper Details:**

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. This includes monitoring for lead and copper at customer’s taps. In September 2020, lead levels at 3 of the 18 taps sampled exceeded the action level (AL) of 15 ppb, and copper levels at 4 of the 18 taps sampled exceeded the AL of 1.3 ppm. The 90th percentile results and the number of sampling sites exceeding the AL is shown in the test results table. Because the 90th percentile result exceeded the AL, the system exceeded the AL. The AL exceeded was not a violation but rather a trigger for additional steps the system must take. Our system complied with, or is in the process of complying with, all required follow-up to this exceedance. This includes the attached public education notice that was distributed to all customers on March 22, 2021.

We failed to complete required sampling for tap water lead and copper at the required 20 sample sites and therefore were in violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. Because we did not take the required number of samples, we did not know whether the contaminants were present in your drinking water, and we are unable to tell you whether your health was at risk during that time. The monitoring period was July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Twenty samples were required for each contaminant, and only 18 were taken. Sampling resumed on December 30, 2020.

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 Town of Century 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.](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

**Disinfectant Sample Reporting:**

We failed to report the required sampling for Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products on time and therefore were in violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. The due date was October 10, 2020 and we delivered the report on October 11, 2020. We are examining our administrative procedures so we do not repeat this violation.

**General Health Information:**

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:

1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
2. 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.
3. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
4. 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.
5. Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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.

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 our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments.

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/Center for Disease Control (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).

Please DO NOT FLUSH your unused/unwanted medications down toilets or sink drains. More information is available at [http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/medications/pages/disposal.htm.](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/medications/pages/disposal.htm)

**Unregulated Contaminates EPA Study:**

**2020 UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE (Sampled by Central Waterworks only)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contaminant and Unit of Measurement** | **Dates of Sampling**  **(mo/yr)** | **Level Detected** | **Range of Results** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| Manganese (*ppb*) | Jul & Dec 20 | 8.05 | 4.7 - 17.0 | 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 |
| Bromide (beyond core 30 UCMR4 contaminants) (*ppb*) | Jul & Dec 20 | 7.68 | ND - 25 | Unavailable |

Central Waterworks monitored for unregulated contaminants (UCs) in 2020 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) or likely sources have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. All detections are shown on the table above, but if you would like more information on the EPA’s Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

We at the Town of Century 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 here.