

Charlotte County Utilities
2009 Consumer Confidence Report
Burnt Store Public Drinking Water System PWS #6080318



**Charlotte County Utilities was voted the best tasting water
by Region X American Water Works Association 2009**

Dear Valued Customer:

This annual 2009 Consumer Confidence Report is an opportunity to provide you with detail of the drinking water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. CCU employees work around the clock to ensure your water meets or exceeds all standards and expectations.

When you drink CCU tap water, you're drinking clean, quality award winning water.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water for all these years. We ask our customers to help us conserve water and protect our water resource, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Sincerely,

Ferri Kesner
Interim Utilities Director

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Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table in this brochure shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. These same regulations require monitoring to occur in 9-year compliance cycles, made up of three, 3-year compliance periods. These 3-year compliance periods, result in some contaminants being monitored once every three years. This testing analysis may require some contaminant test results, to be reported in this document from years other than calendar year 2009. We have learned that through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

CCU operates the reverse osmosis water treatment plant and distribution system serving the Burnt Store service area. Our source water is groundwater from the Intermediate Aquifer and is treated through a two stage membrane treatment process, an aeration system, and final chlorination and pH adjustment before the water is pumped to the distribution system.

If you have any questions about the data provided in this Consumer Confidence Report/Annual Drinking Water Quality Report or require additional information, please contact our CCU representative **Stephen Kipfinger at 941-764-4300**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Source Water Assessment Plan

The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. Potential sources of contamination were identified include industrial waste water and domestic wastewater treatment plants with a low level of susceptibility. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

HOW DO I READ THIS?

It's easy. The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. The column marked "Level Detected" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. Descriptions below explain other important details. In this table you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): *The concentration of a contaminant that, 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 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.*

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.*

"N/A" means not applicable

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

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

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, which corresponds to one minute in two years or a penny in \$10,000.

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, which corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a penny in \$10,000,000.

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.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO FIND IN MY DRINKING WATER?

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.

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** 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.							
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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	3/08	N	3.9	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	3/08	N	2.3	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							

Contaminant	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	3/08	N	0.2030	N/A	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
Cyanide (ppb)	3/08	N	2.0	N/A	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Nickel (ppb)	3/08	N	4.0	N/A	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Sodium (ppm)	3/08	N	50.6	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	7/08	N	.059	0	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	7/08	N	6	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits. ⁴⁹

Lead - 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. Charlotte County Utilities 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>.

Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
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
Chlorine (ppm)	1/09-12/09	N	2.8	2.0-3.5	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	8/08	N	3.86	N/A	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	8/08	N	30.49	N/A	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

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).