

2011 Consumer Confidence Report



Photo by
Florida Aerial Services, Inc.
1-800-723-7425

This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered to your home by Seacoast Utility Authority. Our annual report meets the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirement for "Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR)" and contains information on the source and quality of our water.

Seacoast Utility Authority 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, 2011. Data obtained before January 1, 2011, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. Reported results are for contaminants detected in samples collected from both of the Seacoast water treatment plants, the distribution system, and private homes.

QUESTIONS? Please call Mac Powell, Laboratory Supervisor, at 561-627-2900 ext. 382 or email: mpowell@sua.com

Misinformation Leads to Confusion, Fear & Skepticism

Seacoast has received reports that firms marketing home water treatment devices have unscrupulously misrepresented Seacoast's water quality to our customers. If a marketing representative states or implies that there are problems with the drinking water supplied by Seacoast, ask them:

1. May I have a copy of the analysis made by a certified lab that shows where Seacoast's water quality fails to meet drinking water standards? Ask the vendor/caller for information about the laboratory used, Florida lab certification number, and a phone number where the lab can be reached.
2. Ask if the vendor has reported these alleged violations to Seacoast or to the Palm Beach County Health Department. If so, what are the names of the individuals to whom the vendor reported these alleged violations and what was their response?

It is suggested that you refuse to interact further with the vendor/caller until all of this information is provided. Then if you decide you want to allow the individual into your home, we will be pleased to meet with you either in your home or at Seacoast for a more in-depth review of the allegations.

Home water treatment devices can be very useful in "polishing" water to suit personal preferences (taste, hardness, etc.). However, the water that Seacoast delivers to your home meets or exceeds federal, state and local drinking water standards.

Reputable dealers do not need to create a false sense of panic to sell their products.

For more information please contact our customer service department at 561-627-2920



Where Does Our Water Come From? Seacoast obtains its water from a shallow aquifer, 75 to 400 feet deep, known as the surficial aquifer. Seacoast has thirty-eight (38) ground water wells located in four (4) separate wellfields within our service area. Three (3) of the thirty-eight (38) wells are presently out of service. A Source Water Assessment of our wellfields was completed in 2009 by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The assessment identified twenty-five potential sources of contamination



Future Hood Road Membrane Water Treatment Plant

with a low to moderate susceptibility level within Seacoast's water wells. FDEP's assessment area was based on a projected 5-year ground water travel time around each well. The 5-year ground water travel time is defined by the area from which water will drain to a well pumping at an average daily permitted rate for a five year period. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

Lead in Public Drinking Water 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. Seacoast Utility Authority 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 and 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>.

Contaminants that May be Present in Source Water Include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural live stock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- 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 storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

How is the Water Treated? Water from the wells is treated in two lime softening water treatment plants. Treatment includes hardness and color reduction, clarification, filtration, and disinfection using chloramines (a chlorine/ammonia compound). While both plants produce excellent quality water meeting all current Federal, State, and local drinking water standards, Seacoast is upgrading and consolidating its water treatment operations into a single 30.5 million gallon per day nanofiltration/reverse osmosis treatment plant. Seacoast projects that its new membrane facility will be in service by March 2013. This facility will produce even higher quality finished water and reduce environmental impacts. Water fluoridation, the controlled addition of fluoride to drinking water for the purpose of reducing tooth decay, is not practiced by Seacoast Utility Authority. However, fluoride does occur naturally in our water at very low levels (<0.3 ppm).



Administration Office

Sources of 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 in Tap and Bottled Water 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.

Vulnerability to Contaminants Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune compromised persons such as a person 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 at 800-426-4791.

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant & Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage/Number	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	Jan - Dec 2011	N	2.75% 3 samples in 109 May 2011	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples.	Naturally present in the environment.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant & Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	July 2011	N	0.10	0.095 - 0.10	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	July 2011	N	0.028	ND-0.028	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	July 2011	N	34.6	28.0 - 34.6	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from the soil
Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	August 2008	N	0.021	ND-0.021	0	1	Discharge from wood preserving factories.

Radiological Contaminants

Uranium	April 2011	N	0.310	ND-0.310	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits.
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Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Disinfectant or Contaminant & 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
Chloramines (ppm)	Jan - Dec 2011	N	3.8	0.7 - 4.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.
Halooacetic Acids (5) (HAA5) (ppb)	Jan - Dec 2011	N	27.9	16.1 - 40.3	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	Jan - Dec 2011	N	28.7	9.5 - 60.7	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

For bromate, chloramines, or chlorine, the level detected is 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. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations

Lead and Copper (tap water)

Contaminant & 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
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	August 2011	N	0.130	0 out of 56 homes	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tapwater) (ppb)	August 2011	N	4.0	1 out of 56 homes	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

DBP = Disinfection by Product

TTHM = Trihalomethane

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant level - 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.

MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal—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.

ND = Not Detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L = PicoCurie per liter—a measure of radioactivity in water.

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

MCLG = 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.

MCL = 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.

AL = Action Level—The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment techniques (TT) or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Seacoast Utility Authority is a publicly owned water and sewer utility serving approximately 50,118 homes and businesses with an approximate population of 107,545 residents in northern Palm Beach County, Florida. The August 1988 Interlocal Agreement establishing Seacoast vests governing authority in its five member Board. Board Members are appointed by the respective political jurisdictions within which Seacoast provides service. Each member's voting share is as follows: Palm Beach Gardens 60%, Palm Beach County 21%, North Palm Beach 12%, Lake Park 5%, and Juno Beach 2%. Seacoast currently distributes approximately 17.3 million gallons per day (MGD) of drinking water to its customers.

Seacoast Board Members:

Robert Weisman
Chair: Palm Beach County

Joseph Lo Bello
Vice Chair: Juno Beach

Ron Ferris
President Pro-Tem:
Palm Beach Gardens

Robert Gebbia
Member: North Palm Beach

James Dubois
Member: Lake Park

SUA Board Meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. in the SUA Board Room, which is located in the Operations Building at 4200 Hood Rd, Palm Beach Gardens.

The December Board meeting will be held on the third Wednesday



Postal Customer

For information about the next opportunity for public participation in decisions about drinking water or more information regarding this report call Seacoast at 561-627-2900. You may also view the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) water information website at www.epa.gov/safewater

El informe contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien

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Seacoast Utility Authority

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3/21/2012

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The Town of Lake Park
535 Park Ave.
Lake Park, FL 33403

*Town of Lake Park
Office of Town Manager*

Seacoast Utility Authority Annual Water Quality Report Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

In October of 1999, the Federal Government required all public water utility companies to provide an "Annual Water Quality Report" to their customers. To comply with this requirement, Seacoast has again published an Annual Water Quality Report; Volume 14, Issue 1, to all of its customers.

Seacoast appreciates this opportunity to share important drinking water quality information with the public through its CCR. We hope this report will serve as a resource for public schools, city halls, and libraries throughout Seacoast's service area. Please display the report in a convenient and prominent location.

If you have any questions or would like to obtain additional copies of the report, please do not hesitate to call Seacoast at (561) 656-2211 or visit us on the web at www.sua.com. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,
SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY

Jessica Moore
Authority Clerk/Administrative Assistant

Enclosure

c: Rim Bishop, Executive Director
c: Andrea Holmes, Director of Administrative Services