

2007 Water Quality Report

For The Town of Lake Placid

This report will not be mailed to customers but will be available at the Town of Lake Placid City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The address is 311 W. Interlake Boulevard, Lake Placid FL, 33852. Phone number (863) 699-3747.

We are pleased to present to you this year's *Annual Water Quality Report*. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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. The Utility wants you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The Town of Lake Placid is committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source is from ground water wells. The two wells draw from the deep Floridan Aquifer and the water is treated with chlorine for the purpose of disinfection.

This report shows our water quality results as well as terms and/or abbreviations and what they mean.

A statewide source water assessment project is under way by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This assessment has resulted in a "SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORT". These assessments identify and assess any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of your water supply. A Source Water Assessment for our system is available for 2004 at the following FDEP *Source Water Assessment and Protection Program* web site: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp>. The website shows results for the 2004 year. It also describes the following general assessments for this site:

A 5-year ground water travel time around each well was used to define the assessment area. It is defined by the area from which water will drain to a well pumping at the average daily permitted rate for a five year period of time. Regarding the Town's two well sites, the four (4) Types of *Potential Contaminant Sources* (described below) and the *Susceptibility Level* {high or low} for this site are: (1) Delineated Area {high}; (2) Dry Cleaning Facility {high}; (3) Petroleum Storage Tank {high}; and (4) Industrial Wastewater {low}.

Description of the four (4) types of *Potential Contaminant Sources* are:

- 1) Delineated Area – In 1988, the Florida Legislature directed the DEP to implement the Delineated Areas Program for potable water well construction and water testing standards with in areas of known ground water contamination under chapter 62-524, F.A.C. This action was taken to protect public health and ground water resources, and to promote the cost-effective remediation of contaminated potable water supplies. Within delineated areas more stringent well construction standards are required for new drinking water well construction, along with testing of well water for the chemicals of concern and clearance for potable use.
- 2) Dry Cleaning Facility – The Florida Legislature established a state-funded program to cleanup properties that are contaminated as a result of the operations of a dry cleaning facility or wholesale supply facility. This program is administered by DEP.

- 3) Petroleum Storage Tanks – Both underground and aboveground tanks (there are over 20,000 in Florida) are designed to contain regulated substances such as motor fuels, residual oils, waste oil, lubricants, petroleum solvents, and petroleum based substances. DEP has a very active petroleum contamination prevention and cleanup program and some of the most stringent rules in the country. This includes contracts with all 67 counties in the state to perform compliance verification, and replacement of tanks with secondary systems. DEP enforcement activities include annual inspections, removal of old tanks and complete investigations of discharges from regulated facilities.
- 4) Industrial Wastewater – These are industries such as paper mills, phosphate mines electrical power plants, citrus processing, dairies and aquaculture and are all regulated by the DEP.

Description of the *Susceptibility Level* (directly from the website) is as follows:

“The susceptibility determination is designed to evaluate potential sources of contamination within a public water system’s delineated assessment area. Once potential sources have been located, site conditions and ‘chemicals of concern’ associated with each potential source will be identified. Chemicals of concern are those chemicals expected to be associated with the activities of potential source. For example, the chemical benzene is associated with retail fuel facilities. Therefore, benzene would be considered the chemical of concern for the underground storage tanks at a retail gasoline station.

The susceptibility determination assumes that any contaminant released to the ground surface has the potential to enter a public water supply system. Susceptibility is determined based on the following factors:

- * Health effects (toxicity and potential cancer risk) of a chemical of concern,
- * Leaching potential (mobility) of a chemical of concern,
- * Protection provided by the underlying geologic materials, and
- * Operating practices and design of the potential sources(s) of contamination

Each of these factors will be assigned a value and evaluated. The potential contaminant source will then be given a score and assessed as posing a low, moderate, or high concern to the source water, based upon the score outcome. This provides information that can be used to quickly screen the potential sources of contamination to identify those that may pose a threat to drinking water sources.”

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Town of Lake Placid Utilities Department at (863) 699-3747. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. In addition, if you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council meetings. They are held at 5:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Town Municipal Building, 311 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. You may also contact the Director of Utilities at the same address and phone number.

The Town of Lake Placid 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, 2007. Data obtained before January 1, 2007, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

Terms and Abbreviations

In the table on the next page, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements that a water system must follow. “ND” means *not detected* and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): One (1) part by weight of analyte to one (1) million parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l): One (1) part by weight of analyte to one (1) billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L): Measure of the radioactivity in water.

Water Quality Test Results

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
Radiological Contaminants							
5. Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	5/02	N	4.5	2.3-4.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/l)	9/03	N	1.3	0.8-1.3	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

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
Inorganic Contaminants							
11. Barium (ppm)	6/05	N	0.19	0.01 - 0.19	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
16. Fluoride (ppm)	6/05	N	0.15	0.07 - 0.15	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when used at optimum levels of 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
21. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	11/07	N	0.32	0.04 – 0.59	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
23. Sodium (ppm)	6/05	N	5.9	5.8-5.9	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
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
78. Chlorine (ppm)	1/07-12/07	N	1.12	0.09-1.32	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
79. Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	7/05	N	5.25	4.9-5.6	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
80. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	7/05	N	16.4	15.7-17.1	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90 th Percentile Result	Range of Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6/04	N	0.24	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Monitoring and reporting (M/R) of compliance data:

The Utility failed to complete required sampling for tap water lead and copper on time 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 were unable to tell you whether your health was at risk during that time. The monitoring period was June through September 2007. Twenty samples were required for each contaminant, and none were taken. Sampling resumed, after approval of the plan from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, in March 2008. Initial results show that we are well below the required Action Level (AL). The actual analytical laboratory results will show up on the *2008 Water Quality Report*. The monitoring violation was resolved through a Consent Order with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Sources of 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 the following:

- (A) *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater 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 vehicle 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 (Federal) Environmental Protection Agency (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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 citizens 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).

In our continuing effort to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary, from time to time, to make improvements in our public water system. The costs of these improvements may sometimes be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments could be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for your understanding in this matter of great importance to the health and well being of our customers.

The Town of Lake Placid Utilities Department works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future. The Department is 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 appreciate your support in allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water.

The water plants for the Town of Lake Placid are off of Magnolia Avenue in the center of town and in the southern portion off of Lake Drive East between Lake Sirena and Lake Pearl. If you would like a tour of the facilities, please contact the Director of Utilities Office so we may arrange a visit.

Pictured below are the Two Elevated Water Towers and two Water Plants.



#1 MAGNOLIA WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND ELEVATED TANK



PENNSYLVANIA ELEVATED WATER TANK – BUILT IN 1929 BY DR. MELVIL DEWEY



2 SIRENA WATER TREATMENT PLANT