

## ***2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Cottage Hill Water Works, Inc.***

**We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets  
all federal and state requirements.**

### **Our Drinking Water**

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**

The source is ground water from (3) wells. The wells draw from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatment(s) required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and lime for pH control.

We monitor our drinking water routinely and follow all Federal and State Laws rules and regulations. This report is based upon results of our monitoring for the periods from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. The data obtained before January 1, 2019 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations.

### **How Do Contaminants Get into 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### **Information About Your Drinking Water**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, with 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.

### For your health

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 at 1-800-426-4791.*

In 2019 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The 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 moderate susceptibility level. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained by calling Randy Weaver @ (850) 968-5485.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please call **Randy Weaver, (850) 968-5485**. We want our members to be informed about their water quality. **If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. at 16 Williams Ditch Road Cantonment, FL 32533.** You can attend the meeting by letting us know ahead of time of your desire to attend the meeting.

We ask that all our members help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

### Definitions and Abbreviations

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.

**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.

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

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

**Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)** – measure of the radioactivity in water.

### Water Quality Testing Results

Occasionally, drinking water distribution systems experience disruptions caused by main breaks or planned maintenance that require the issuance of a Precautionary Boil Water Notice, (PBWN). A PBWN does not mean contamination is present but is merely a precautionary measure until bacteriological sampling confirms that no contamination exists. In July 2019, we experienced a main break necessitating the issuance of a PBWN. Though all follow-up microbiological samples were negative (absent from coliforms), we failed to notify all customers affected by this event within the required timeframe and thus incurred a reporting violation. We have since reviewed and updated our reporting procedures to ensure all requirements are met in the future. We will continue to make every effort possible to keep our customers informed as to the quality of our water.

### 2019 CONTAMINANTS TABLE

<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
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)	Aug-17	N	0.863	ND-0.863	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium (ppm)	Aug-17	N	0.031	0.024-0.031	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Jul-19	N	0.17	0.17-0.17	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Aug-17	N	3.4	3.2 – 3.4	NA	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil
<b>Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
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
Chlorine (ppm) Stage 1	Jan-Dec 19	N	0.97	0.85-1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
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
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-Sep 17	N	0.011	0 of 40	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

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. Cottage Hill Water Works, Inc. 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>.

We at Cottage Hill Water Works, Inc. would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers provided above.