



# 2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT

This Water Quality Report provides test results which show the City of Oakland Park meets all primary drinking water standards.



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# 2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The City of Oakland Park is pleased to provide you with this annual **Water Quality Report**, which contains important information about our:

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The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act requires the City of Oakland Park, to provide a summary report of laboratory tests taken throughout the year to its customers. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on test results for the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. Data obtained before January 1, 2015, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

## YOUR DRINKING WATER

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **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.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- **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 that 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791**.

### **IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION**

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 at 1-800-426-4791**.

### **CONTACT US**

For more information about this report, or to obtain copies of this report, please call the City of Oakland Park **Public Works Operations Division at 954-630-4430**. The Water Quality Report can also be viewed at [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov).

## MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Highest Monthly Percentage is the highest monthly percentage of positive samples for systems collecting at least 40 samples per month.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/15 - 12/15	N	4.35	0	For systems collecting at least 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in > 5.0 % of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli (at the ground water source)*	1/15 - 12/15	Y	2 positive samples	0	0	Human or fecal waste

\*The City of Oakland Park receives its drinking water from the City of Fort Lauderdale. On August 8, 2015, City of Fort Lauderdale staff sampled source Well #47 in the Prospect Wellfield for the fecal-indicator, E. coli. On August 9, 2015 Well #47 tested positive for E. coli. On August 9, 2015 Well #47 was taken off-line and City of Fort Lauderdale staff took five additional samples while Well #47 remained offline. The initial E.coli positive sample was an MCL violation and a "Tier 1" - 24 hour public notice was initiated on August 10, 2015 for the City of Oakland Park. On August 10, 2015, one of the five samples was positive for E. Coli. Well #47 was reconditioned in accordance with AWWA guidelines and passed twice daily testing for E.coli over a five day period in accordance with state regulations between August 17 to August 21, 2015. It should be noted that a raw composite of all wells is taken daily along with a daily finished water sample leaving the Water Treatment Plant and all of these samples were negative for E.coli. Routine monitoring in the City of Oakland Park's distribution system were also negative for E.coli.

\*Health Effects: Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

## INORGANIC 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
Arsenic (ppb)	6/14	N	1.30	0.500 - 1.30	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	6/14	N	0.0038	0.0015 - 0.0038	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	6/14	N	0.619	0.563 - 0.619	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
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	6/15	N	0.065	0.054 - 0.065	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	6/15	N	0.074	ND - 0.074	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	6/14	N	36.5	25.6 - 36.5	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

## 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
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	6/11	N	1.19	ND - 1.19	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

## LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded Y/N	90th Percentile Results	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	7/14	N	0.0863	0 (0 out of 30)	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of usehold plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppm)	7/14	N	5.20	1 (1 out of 30)	0	15	Corrosion of usehold plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## 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
Chloramines (ppm)	1/15 - 12/15	N	2.2	1.4 - 3.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	1/15, 4/15, 7/15, 11/15	N	32.0	19.4 - 37.5	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	1/15, 4/15, 7/15, 11/15	N	54.3	17.1 - 54.5	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*Lead and Copper sampling is being conducted again in Summer 2017.*

## TABLE DEFINITIONS

The Water Quality table includes terms and definitions you might not be familiar with it. The following definitions explain abbreviations and information found in the 2015 Water Quality Table.

**Action Level or AL** is the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG** is 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 Contaminant Level or MCL** is 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 Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG** is 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL** is 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.

**Not Detected or ND** indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**Parts per Million or ppm** is one part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of the water sample.

**Parts per Billion or ppb** is one part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**Picocuries per Liter or pCi/L** is a unit of measure for radioactivity in the water.

## **Reading the Water Quality Table**

The EPA requires the City of Oakland Park and all water suppliers in the United States to provide a summary report on laboratory tests taken on its drinking water throughout the year. The City of Oakland Park is considered a consecutive water distribution system as we purchase our water from the City of Fort Lauderdale through twelve (12) Master Meter locations throughout our distribution system. The 2015 Water Quality Table includes the most important information about your water. It shows the results of thousands of laboratory tests conducted on the City of Oakland Park's water and what they mean.

## **Types of Tests Performed**

The City of Oakland Park and the City of Fort Lauderdale, from whom Oakland Park buys drinking water for distribution, monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Each year, more than 40,000 tests are performed in state-certified labs to ensure that your water meets federal drinking water requirements. Water tests include daily bacterial and chemical tests on finished water; weekly bacterial quality tests of water in the distribution system; quarterly testing of water supply wells, and annual tests of all regulated and unregulated drinking water parameters.

## **Source Water Assessment**

In 2015, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) performed a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for the City of Fort Lauderdale. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program web site at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

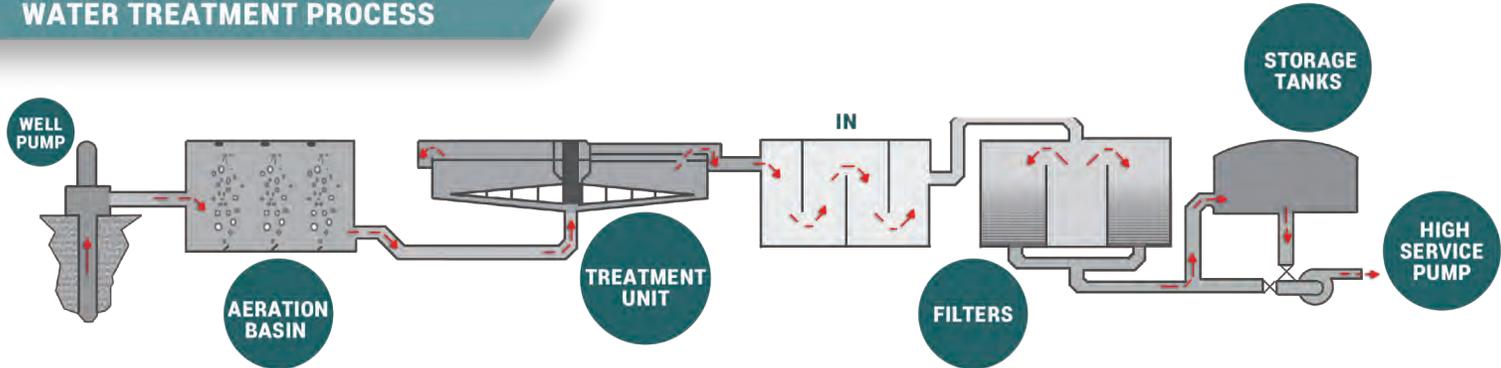
## **About Lead**

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. The City of Oakland Park is responsible for providing 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 your potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two 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 by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visiting the EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

The City of Oakland Park gets its water from wells that draw water from the Biscayne Aquifer, an underground water supply and the sole source of our drinking water. Before it reaches your faucet, your water travels from the Biscayne Aquifer to a City of Fort Lauderdale water treatment facility for lime softening, fluoridation, filtering, cleaning and disinfection. Once the water is treated, it is regularly tested to ensure its quality and safety before being pumped through miles of water mains to your faucet.

## WATER TREATMENT PROCESS



Ground water from the Biscayne Aquifer is drawn from well fields through pumps and a network of underground pipes. The water is aerated, which forces air through the ground water and helps to remove odors, iron, magnesium and carbon dioxide. Water is then transferred to the treatment unit where lime and chemical coagulants are added to remove calcium hardness. The water is disinfected with chlorine and ammonia to prevent bacteria growth. Fluoride is added to promote strong teeth. Twenty-two (22) dual media filters complete the process by removing suspended particles in the water. When the treatment process is complete, drinking water is delivered to our customers through a distribution system.



3650 NE 12th Avenue  
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## PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORY

**Operations Division:** (954) 630-4430

*Water, Sewer, Streets and Drainage*

**Municipal Services Division:** (954) 630-4452

*Garbage Collection, Recycling, Cart and Containers,  
Bulk Trash, Yard Waste, and Household Hazardous Waste*

**Utility Billing:** (954) 630-4280, *Select Option 7*

**Public Works Administration:** (954) 630-4414

**Public Works After-Hours Emergencies:** (954) 561-6275

### REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

**PW Administration:** 8:00AM - 5:00PM

**Municipal Services Division:** 8:00AM - 5:00PM

**Operations Division:** 7:30AM - 4:30PM

**Utility Billing:** 8:00AM - 5:00PM