



2006 Annual Consumer Confidence Report

*An annual report detailing the quality of water
supplied to you by the City of Ocoee.*

ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

We're pleased to once again present the City of Ocoee's Annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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, protect our water resources, and ensure the quality of your water. Our water source is **ground water pumped from the Floridan Aquifer**. This water requires very little treatment; we add chlorine for disinfection and fluoride for the promotion of good dental health.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Charles Smith Director of Utilities (407) 905-3100 ext. 4000**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, our office hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. We are located at 1800 A.D. Mims Road, Ocoee, Florida 34761.

The City of Ocoee routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2006. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

Terms and Abbreviations:

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Applicable (N/A) – does not apply

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level –(AL) the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The “Maximum Allowed” (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 Contaminant Level Goal - The “Goal” (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.

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.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and ground water. 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 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 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

All 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.



Test Results Table

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of sample analysis	MCL/ Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage of positive samples	MCLG	MCL		Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	4/2006	Yes	16.5%	N/A	For systems collecting at least 40 samples per month: presence of Coliform bacteria can not exceed 5%		Naturally present in the environment
Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Date of sample analysis	MCL/ Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radiological Contaminants							
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	01/2003	No	1.4	0.7-1.4	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/l)	02/2003	No	2.1	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	03/30/05	No	0.014	0.012-0.014	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	03/30/05	No	6.0	5.0-6.0	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	03/30/05	No	0.680	0.306-0.680	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.2 ppm; and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel (ppb)	03/30/05	No	1	ND-1.0	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil.
Selenium (ppb)	03/30/05	No	2.0	ND-2.0	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Sodium (ppm)	03/30/05	No	25.5	12.9-25.5	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Date of sample analysis	AL violation Y/N	90 th percentile Result	No. of Sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	08/2005	No	0.282	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	08/2005	No	1.0	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP Contaminants)							
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	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	2006	No	1.4	0.6-2.8	N/A	4	Water additive to control microbes.
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	8/2006	No	16.9 (Annual average)	13.9-19.9	N/A	MCL= 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	8/2006	No	11.9 (Annual Average)	10.8-13.0	N/A	MCL= 60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Violation and Explanation

Due to an administrative oversight our office failed to process and convert raw data in several monitoring areas causing us to resubmit the 2005 Consumer Confidence Report to the community. This violation had no impact on the quality of the water our customers received, and it posed no risk to public health. We have established a tracking and data file to ensure that all reporting and data table conversion requirements are met in accordance to NPDWR.

Additionally, the City of Ocoee received a 16.5% failure rate for bacteriological testing for the month of April 2005, the EPA acceptable range of failure is 5%. *Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.* It was determined that the process for the collection of these particular samples were compromised and caused the high rate of failures. The City retested the same sample sites the following day and all sites passed 100%. The collection guidelines for sampling have been restructured to ensure that all test samples collected are handled properly and that the samples are submitted according to EPA and laboratory specifications.

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 (800-426-4791).

SAVE WATER

Here are some helpful tips to save and protect our

1. Repair faucets and leaks right away.
2. When washing a vehicle always use an automatic shut off nozzle.
3. Use a water displacement device in toilet tank to limit the amount of water for each flush.
4. Use the dishwasher only when full.
5. Retro fit your indoor faucets with water saving devices.
6. Wash only FULL loads of laundry.
7. Do not let water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
8. Take short showers instead of long baths.
9. Water the lawn only in the early morning or evening hours.
10. Connect up to reuse if it is available in your area.

For more conservation ideas and tips, please contact Diana Wagner, Water Conservation Coordinator, at 407-905-3100 ext. 4009; or visit us on our website at: www.ci.ocoee.fl.us.

water resources:



Cross-Connection Control Program



Backflow Prevention Device

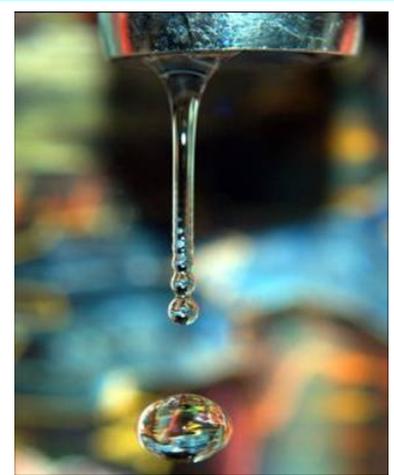
The City of Ocoee's Utility Department's highest directive is to treat and then deliver to our customers safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all water quality requirements and standards. The water that is sent to you goes through miles of water mains that serve both homes and businesses. The pressurized drinking water flows by hydrants and through numerous valves as it crisscrosses the City into your homes or businesses. It is vital that no foreign materials or contaminants make their way into the drinking water lines. To ensure that this does not happen, the City has implemented a Cross Control Program. This program works first to identify and then either eliminate or manage possible cross-connection points. A cross-connection is a physical connection between a contaminated water source and the City's drinking water system. Common cross-control connections can occur from: commercial air conditioners, hair salons, dentist's chairs, and so forth.

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a potential danger when submerged in swimming pools or when it is attached to chemical sprayers for weed control. Those same garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by pool chemicals or lawn care products. Poorly installed valves in your toilet have the ability to become a source of cross contamination as well.

Community water supplies are subjected to cross connection unless the appropriate backflow prevention devices are installed. The City has inspected commercial and institutional facilities in our water service area to ensure that any potential cross-connections are identified and corrected by the implementation of a cross control protection device. These devices are inspected and tested to make sure that they are providing maximum protection.

For additional information on backflow prevention devices and who needs them, please contact Mark Brownold at: 407-905-3100 ext. 4202.

Where does the water come from and what chemicals are added?



Your drinking water comes from deep wells (approximately 1500 feet deep), which are drilled into the Floridan Aquifer. As water travels underground, it can pick up contaminants such as microbes which can be organic or inorganic; as well as organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts (trace) of some of these contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

As mentioned earlier in this report, The City of Ocoee routinely monitors for contaminants in the drinking water and in accordance with Federal and State monitoring requirements. The State of Florida allows us to monitor some of these contaminants less than once a year because the concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently. In 2004, the State of Florida determined that there are three (3) potential contamination sources near the City's deep wells which have been identified as petroleum storage tanks. For further information, please see <http://dep.state.fl.us/swapp> or call 407-905-3100 ext. 4000.

The City also adds chlorine for disinfection and fluoride (.8ppm) which aids in the promotion of good dental health. The softness or hardness of water is measured in *grains*. 0 -100 grain is considered to be soft water, 100-150 is medium, and 150-180 is considered to be hard water. The City of Ocoee measures out to be 130 grains.



POWR **Protect Ocoee's** **Water Resources**



In previous Consumer Confidence Reports, we have provided you with information about the contents of the water that you drink. Included in those reports was information on various aspects of the POWR Program. This program works in tandem with the Consumer Confidence Report in that it encourages all of us to conserve and protect our drinking water resources. The Mayor, City Commissioners, and the City Staff are committed to preserving both the City's water quality and water resources, and your commitment to do the same is our goal. Through our public outreach program, education in this area is gaining momentum in our community. Schools, homeowners associations, and other community-based organizations have become aware of the POWR Program and are actively requesting additional information and speaking appearances from the POWR team.

This year, as in previous ones, POWR has scheduled landscaping seminars featuring very knowledgeable speakers from Central Florida. The focus of these seminars is on drought tolerant landscaping and irrigation since irrigation consumes 75% of our fresh water resources. Fortunately, this percentage has been decreasing as the City introduces reclaimed water into the pre-plumbed neighborhoods. Pre-plumbed neighborhoods are those areas that have had the reclaimed water lines (infrastructure) put in place by the builder. Those neighborhoods that are not pre-plumbed pose a challenge to the provision of reclaimed water. The City continually assesses the need to extend the reclaimed water system and will continue to expand in all areas as it becomes financially viable.

Until the time that the entire City is on the reclaimed water system for irrigation, the POWR program will play an invaluable part in the educational outreach process to help conserve and protect our drinking water resources. For more information about the POWR program you can visit the City of Ocoee website at: www.ci.ocoe.fl.us or call us at 407-905-3100 ext. 4009.