SOUTH ISLAND PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

PipeLines

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What's In The Pipe? The heat has finally set in. A temperate and most enjoyable spring is giving way to the sultry summer. Water, always so precious, becomes even more so this time of the year. Wasting it affects us all. Be careful where and when you water your landscape, and do so sparingly. Use it instead for yourself. Bathe in it. Glory in its gift. Draw a cold, refreshing glass from your tap and drink it down, savoring every pure drop.

Speaking Of Purity... it's that time of year again. An Annual Water Quality Report is required of all public water utilities by the Environmental Protection Agency to inform their customers about water quality.

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.

Since Our Groundwater... is drawn from the Floridan and Cretaceous Aquifers deep below the earth's surface, it is considerably removed from the pollutants that can plague surface sources. Nonetheless, all drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Importantly, 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Looking at the Numbers... here's the report. It was generated using a variety of highly sophisticated lab tests for the monitoring period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 to detect more than 75 different water constituents, and then compared against federally mandated maximum levels:

Some contaminants are allowed to be monitored less often than once a year, in full accordance with the regulations. The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing. Data from previous monitoring is also noted. The test results follow:

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants							
4. Beta/photon emitters	N	5.5 ± 2.7	N/A	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural deposits *Tested 01/03*
5. Alpha emitters	N	5.6 ± 1.7	N/A	pCi/L	0	15	Decay of natural deposits *Tested 01/03*
6. Combined Radium	N	1.2 ± 0.78	N/A	pCi/L	0	5	Decay of natural deposits *Tested 01/03*
Inorganic Contaminants							
14. Copper	N	0 sample of 30 over Action Level	90th percentile 0.1110	ppm	0	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits *Tested 06/04 to 09/04*
16. Fluoride	N	1.1	0.44 - 1.1	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
17. Lead	N	1 sample of 30 over Action Level	90th percentile 5.0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits *Tested 06/04 to 09/04*
19. Nitrate (as nitrogen)	N	0.03	nd - 0.03	ppm	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	150.0	22.0 - 150	ppm			Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	N	4.0	2.7 - 6.1	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
73. TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)	N	32.0	16.7 - 47.1	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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.
Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.
Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.