2024 Water Quality Report

Burnt Store Public Drinking Water System

Prepared by the Charlotte County Utilities Department **PWS# 6080318**

We are proud to report that Charlotte County's Drinking Water Meets All Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State established water quality standards.

Mission Statement
To Exceed Expectations in the Delivery of Public Services Delivering Exceptional Service.

Vision Statement
To preserve and enrich our community's quality of life for those who live, work and play in our paradise.

Values
Charlotte CARES, Committed, Accountable, Resourceful, Energetic, Supportive.

Charlotte County Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table in this brochure shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. These same regulations require monitoring to occur in nine-year compliance cycles, made up of three, three-year compliance periods. These three-year compliance periods, result in some contaminants being monitored once every three years. This testing analysis may require some contaminant test results to be reported in this document from years other than calendar year 2024.

The Utilities Department operates the reverse osmosis water treatment plant and distribution system serving the Burnt Store service area. Our source water is groundwater from the Intermediate Aquifer and is treated through a two stage membrane treatment process, an aeration system, final chlorination, and pH adjustment before the water is pumped to the distribution system.

If you have any questions about the data provided in this Annual Drinking Water Quality Report or require additional information, please contact our Utility representative, Thomas Hill at 941-764-4300. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

How do I read this report? It's easy. The table shown on this report are the results of our water-quality analyses. The column marked "Level Detected" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" shows where this substance usually originates. Descriptions below explain other important details. You may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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.

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.

"N/A": means not applicable

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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.

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system."

What can I expect to find in my drinking 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 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 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.

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 U.S. 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."

Lead-Specific Information

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula -fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Charlotte County Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time.

You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Charlotte County Utilities at 941.764.4300. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at **https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead**

Nitrate/Nitrite Tier III Missed Sampling Violation

Our water system violated a drinking water sampling requirement over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2024, we did not monitor or test for Nitrate/Nitrite and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

The monitoring period for this contaminant was Jan. 1, 2024 through Dec. 31, 2024. One sample was required for Nitrate/Nitrite, which was not taken. Upon discovery of the missed sample on the morning of 1/17/2025, Charlotte County Utilities took a Point of Entry sample for the Burnt Store Water System and received the results from a certified laboratory the same day. Both Nitrate and Nitrite results were classified as “U”. This means that this sample was analyzed but the contaminants were not detected. The sample results received showed Charlotte County Utilities met/meets drinking water standards.

Source Water Assessment Plan: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system in 2024. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. Potential sources of contamination were identified to include industrial waste water and domestic wastewater treatment plants with a low level of susceptibility. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at **https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp**

Radioactive 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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	6/20	N	7.18	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	6/23	N	3.2	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Level Detected: Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

Lead and Copper (Tap Water) - Charlotte County Utilities

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceedance Y/N	90th Percentile Results	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6/23	N	0.030	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	6/23	N	3.0	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

Lead - The Utilities Department has performed a Lead Service Line Inventory for all customers with data and information available on the Charlotte County Utility website at **Conservation & Outreach | Charlotte County, FL**. 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 Utilities Dept. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-04791 or EPA's website located **http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead**

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
Sodium (ppm)	6/23	N	71	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.
Barium (ppm)	6/23	N	.0064	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

Stage 2 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	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	1/24-12/24	N	3.5	2 - 4	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	1/24-12/24	N	18.5	13 - 29	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	1/24-12/24	N	1.4	.7 - 1.7	MRDL G = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 (1-800-426-4791).**

We at Charlotte County Utilities work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. As part of water source protection, Charlotte County Utilities asks all our valued customers, Please DO NOT FLUSH your unused/unwanted medications down toilets or sink drains. More information is available at. http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/medications/pages/disposal.htm

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