This Is Your Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality.

What are drinking water standards?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA sets standards for approximately 90 contaminants in drinking water. For each of these contaminants, EPA sets a legal limit, called a maximum contaminant level, or requires a certain treatment. Water suppliers may not provide water that doesn’t meet these standards.

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the main federal law that ensures the quality of Americans’ drinking water. Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards. The SDWA covers all public water systems with piped water for human consumption with at least 15 service connections or a system that regularly serves at least 25 individuals.

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 simply calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 on drinking water from their health care provider. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Notice:

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Why Do I Need To Read This?

A survey conducted by the American Water Works Research Foundation in 1989 found that nearly two-thirds of water consumers surveyed said they received “very little” or “no” information on the quality of their water. The water quality reports will increase the availability of information. Information on water quality in your area is available from several sources, including your public health department and your water supplier. You can determine whom to contact by checking your water bill or by calling your local town hall. You can also contact your state drinking water program or call EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. EPA has also prepared a consumer’s guide to drinking water called “Water on Tap: A Consumer’s Guide to the Nation’s Drinking Water.”

Where Can I Get More Information?

If you are interested in learning more about your water department, or if you have questions about water quality or this report, your questions can be answered by calling The Town of Orange Park Public Works Department at (904) 264-7411.

Customers Views Welcome

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Microbiological contaminants

Total Coliforms. Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment and used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special filters are used to eliminate harmful bacteria from the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, radio, or television. To comply with water-quality regulations, we have treated the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.
**The Water We Drink**

We’re pleased to present to you this year’s annual Drinking Water Quality 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 a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continuously improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

**Orange Park, FL 32073**

904.269.5116

**www.sirspeedyop.com**

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**Some Questions You May Have About Your Drinking Water**

**What Is the Source of My Water?**

The Town of Orange Park draws from 4 water wells consuming an average of 0.27 million gallons of water daily from the Upper Florida Aquifer. Due to the excellent quality of this groundwater source, disinfection through chlorination and aeration are the only treatment processes required to produce a safe and potable water supply for our community. We are proud to report that THE TOWN OF ORANGE PARK MET ALL FEDERAL AND STATE STANDARDS FOR DRINKING WATER DURING 2015.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated that there are five sources of potential contaminants. The 2014 assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/wqassess to help promote water pollution prevention in your neighborhood by organizing the cleanup of a river, lake, stream or canal in your community.

**Is Our Water Meeting Other Rules That Govern Our Operations?**

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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Certain 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 activities, and wildlife.
- (B) Disinfectants and disinfection by-products, which are naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and grease discharges, or hosing down.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential use.
- (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 naturally occur 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 enforces regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by the 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 at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. There may be various sources of contamination that affect the quality of drinking water. Additional significant health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

The Town of Orange Park routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where included otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015.

Data collected before January 1, 2015, and contained in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

**Public Works Department**

706 10th Street

Orange Park, Florida 32073

(904) 266-7411

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**WHAT THE WATER DEPARTMENT HAS PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE**

The Town Public Works Department wants to assure you, the customer, that we are doing everything possible to continue to provide you the very best drinking water possible. The Town is in the process of implementing projects recommended by our water and wastewater master plan. The goal of the plan is to ensure our water and wastewater services are sufficient by identifying improvements to the existing water and wastewater service systems and volume at peak demand periods and provide better fire protection to areas which have minimal pressure. At this time our largest current project is replacing the 16” water main on Plainfield between Wells and Kingsley Ave in conjunction with storm water and paving improvements.

We want to assure you that the safety and security of our water plants is our highest priority, and you can be certain we will do everything possible to safeguard our water plants and provide water distribution systems free of any disruptions.

There has been a lot of media attention about lead in the drinking water in various areas of the country. A lot of the problems are from municipalities which have lead service lines feeding homes and buildings with consumer water breaking down the lead. The Town of Orange Park does not have any lead water main or service lines in the community. We sample every three years to check for any lead at Copper connections, and to confirm that we do not exceed EPA standards.

**Definitions You Need to Know**

- **Maximum Contaminant Level** (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 (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 that is based on the level at which the disinfectant is no longer effective.
- **Range of Results**: The upper and lower limits of detection for a particular contaminant.

**Recommended Lead Language**

If your tap water has a lead content above the MCL, **you and your family may need to take steps to minimize lead exposure.**

- **Minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.**
- **Minimizing lead exposure is especially important for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Orange Park is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components associated with service lines and home plumbing.**

**Drinking Water Quality Report**

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