

**2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
For University of South Florida  
PWS ID# 6291882**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality 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 at USF would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensure the quality of your water.

Our water sources are from five ground water wells and the City of Tampa Water System. The water, pumped from the Floridian Aquifer, is chlorinated for disinfection purposes, treated with zinc phosphate for corrosion control, and distributed to the campus. Greek Housing and USF Health are fed separately from the City of Tampa Water System.

In 2009 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are 12 potential source(s) of contamination identified for this system with a moderate susceptibility level(s). The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or if you have any questions concerning this report or your water utility, please contact **Otis Singfield, Building Maintenance & Operations Manager, Physical Plant Utilities, at (813) 974-3314**. We encourage our customers to be informed about their water utility.

The University of South Florida routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated, this report is based on the monitoring results for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

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.

This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.

**In the table below, you will find terms and abbreviations you may not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** *The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to 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.*

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

**“ND”** means Not Detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**“N/A”** means Not Applicable.

**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.

## TEST RESULT TABLES

### 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
1. Barium (ppm)	05/2008	N	0.1	0.1	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2. Cadmium (ppb)	05/2008	N	0.1	0.1	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
3. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	11/2009	N	2.0	2.0	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
4. Sodium (ppm)	05/2008	N	10.0	10.0	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
5. Gross Alpha (incl Uranium) (pCi/L)	05/2008	N	6.5	6.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCiL)	05/2008	N	3.2	3.2	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

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

### Secondary Contaminates

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
7. Chloride (ppm)	02/2009	N	19.0	10.8 - 19.0	N/A	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
8. Sulfate (ppm)	02/2009	N	152	112 - 152	N/A	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
9. Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	02/2009	N	445	415 - 445	N/A	500**	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

\*\* Note: TDS may be greater than 500, if no other MCL is exceeded.

**Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)**

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
10. Total Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	08/2009	N	19.0	N/A – 19.0	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)**

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
11. TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/2009	N	29.4	N/A – 29.4	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

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. USF 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 you 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Tier 2 Notification Letter**

There was a violation of an administrative nature and not of a Contamination or health risk. University of South Florida has always provided safe drinking water that meets Department of Health standards for Public Water System. We are required to monitor drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. During the quarter ending in September 2009 as per requirements, we monitored for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids and found the drinking water to be safe. However, we were late in submitting the results of the tests to the Hillsborough County Health Department, which resulted in a reporting violation. The samples showed that our drinking water is safe to drink and we are meeting required drinking water standards.

**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 storm water 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.

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. 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 small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate 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**.

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 (1-800-426-4791).