

2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Bushnell

PWS ID 6600210

We are pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is ground water from four wells spanning two water plant locations. The wells draw from the Floridian Aquifer and the water is then chlorinated for disinfection purposes, and aeration and polyphosphate are used for iron control.

In 2021, 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 six potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a susceptibility level ranging from low to high. Information on these potential sources of contamination is available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment website www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained at City of Bushnell City Hall.

This report shows our water quality results and what they mean. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact City Hall at (352) 793-2591. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at City Hall.

The City of Bushnell routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021. Data obtained before January 1, 2021 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations governing public water systems.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've 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 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.

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

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.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

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

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.

CITY OF BUSHNELL

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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)	6/2021	N	3.3	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226+228 or combined radium (pCi/l)	6/2021	N	2.7	N/A	0	5.0	Erosion of natural deposits

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
Barium (ppm)	3/2018	N	0.0666	0.03 - 0.0666	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	3/2018, 6/2021	N	0.658	0.331 - 0.658	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	3/2018, 6/2021	N	0.055	0.00 – 0.055	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Sodium (ppm)	3/2018	N	9.79	7.42 - 9.79	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil

We failed to complete required sampling for Primary and Secondary Inorganic Contaminants, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs) on time and therefore were in violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. Because we did not take the required number of samples, we did not know whether the contaminants were present in your drinking water, and we are unable to tell you whether your health was at risk during that time. The monitoring period was Jan. 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Two samples were required for each contaminant, and none were taken. Sampling resumed on April 22, 2022.

Some people who drink water containing specific contaminants could become seriously ill. Health effects language for individual contaminants can be obtained by visiting the EPA website at:

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/part-141/appendix-Appendix%20B%20to%20Subpart%20Q%20of%20Part%20141>

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1–12/2021	N	2.1	1.0 – 3.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	7/2021	N	38.36	20.41 - 38.36	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	7/2021	N	43.64	22.54 - 43.64	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	Number of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/2021	N	0.24	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Due to administrative oversight during a busy part of the year, our office failed to submit the Lead and Copper report required under the Safe Drinking Water Act in a timely manner. The report was due to the department by 10/10/21, and it was submitted on 11/8/21. This violation has no impact on the quality of the water our customers received, and it posed no risk to public health. We have established a report tracking file to ensure that all reporting requirements are met in the future.

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The City of Bushnell is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. 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 City of Bushnell is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of plumbing materials used inside homes and businesses. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for exposure to lead and copper by running your tap water for 30 seconds to two 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 as well as substances resulting from the presence of humans and animals.

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 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 storm water 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, the 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 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 (800-426-4791).

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers.

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).

We at the City of Bushnell 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 insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

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