

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

The City's drinking water source is from wells which draw from the intermediate aquifer. This brackish water is pumped to the treatment plant where it is treated using the reverse osmosis process. The water is then run through the aeration process to remove hydrogen sulfide. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant. This process is continuously monitored and adjusted as needed by plant operators who are certified by the State of Florida. The final product is delivered to the residents, businesses, and visitors located within the City of Venice.

The City of Venice routinely monitors for contaminants in 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 Jan. 1, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2023. Data obtained before Jan. 1, 2024, and presented in this report, is from the most recent testing done in accordance with governing laws, rules, and regulations.

Through monitoring and testing, some contaminants were detected, however, as you can see in the results table, our system had no violations.

To learn more about City services, please attend any of the regularly scheduled Venice City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285..

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Drinking water quality is essential to our beautiful community and the region.

The Utilities Department is committed to meeting state and federal water quality standards. I am pleased to report that this year's Water Quality Report highlights the performance of our drinking water systems and the work of our water professionals in delivering some of the nation's best drinking water.

Together, we remain committed to protecting public health and maintaining open communication with the public about our drinking water.

Javier A. Vargas, MPA, Utilities Director

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



HOW DO I READ THIS REPORT?

The tables shown in this report are the result of our water quality analyses. The column marked "Level Detected" shows the highest results from the last time tests were performed. "Likely Sources" show 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 have provided the following definitions:

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant 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 (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 (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:** Not applicable
- **Not Detected (ND):** Indicates 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 (ug/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.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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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
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	06/23	NO	0.87	N/A	0	5	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 (mg/l)	05/23	NO	0.002	N/A	2.0	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	05/23	NO	0.130	N/A	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	05/23	NO	34.10	N/A	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil
Antimony (ppm)	05/23	NO	0.00083	N/A	0.006	0.006	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics/electronics; solder

STAGE 1 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)	1/23-12/23	NO	1.80	1.20-2.10	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

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
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/23	NO	1.3	1.8	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/23	NO	10.5	8.2-18	NA	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	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	07/23-9/23	N	0.042	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Source Water Assessment Plan: In 2023, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) performed a Source Water Assessment, (SWA) on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There was no potential source of contamination identified for this system with a "high" susceptibility level, 2 potential sources with a "moderate" susceptibility level, and 19 potential sources with a "low" susceptibility level. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection website at: <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

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HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD

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 Venice 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at:

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

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE IMMUNO-COMPROMISED

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.

The EPA and Center for Disease Control (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).

FIND OUT THE FACTS

Concerns about drinking water quality have been in the recent news and caused many customers to use bottled water or install home treatment devices. As you have just read, tap water must meet the strict regulations of State and Federal agencies, and the City's water exceeds those regulations. We encourage you to learn about the quality of alternate water or the expected water quality from home treatment devices before purchasing additional treatment systems.

To learn more about City services, please visit our website at www.venicegov.com.

ATTENTION PROPERTY MANAGERS

If you are a property owner or manager, please provide this water quality report to your tenants. This report may be photocopied or posted in a prominent location at your facility. More copies are available by calling 941-480-3333 or emailing utilitiesservices@venicefl.gov.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their utility. If you have questions about this report or require additional information, please contact:

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Utilities Department

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Visit our website to view a recent Water Quality Assessment Report