

**For More Information**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jay Angell, Supervisor of Water Production / Analyst at (863) 471-5113. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

**Country Club of Sebring  
City of Sebring  
368 S. Commerce Ave.  
Sebring, FL 33870**



**2017 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The  
**Country Club  
of Sebring**  
City of Sebring

PWS ID #6284076

Once again we are proud to present our annual drinking water report, covering all drinking water testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2017. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to your homes and businesses. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Please remember that we are always available to assist you, should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

### Source of 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:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- 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.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

Our primary drinking water supply is from a Groundwater Source called the Floridan Aquifer System. This aquifer is one of the major sources of groundwater in the United States, covering a total area of about 100,000 square miles. It underlies all of Florida, Southern Georgia, and small adjacent parts of Alabama and South Carolina. We have 2 wells at the plant that are used to draw from this groundwater source. Our groundwater supply is not exposed to air and is not subject to direct pollution and contamination like a river or reservoir. In fact, groundwater is the highest quality water available to meet the public health demand of water intended for human consumption. Water is drawn from this aquifer and pumped to storage facilities where it is aerated and then injected with Chlorine for disinfection purposes. Demand for good, safe drinking water is high. Every day we provide our customers an average of 170,000 gallons of water.

### All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

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 water poses a health risk. 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### Required Additional Health Information for 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 Sebring 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Source Water Assessment Program

In 2017 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 no potential sources of contamination identified for this system. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site at [www.dep.state.fl/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl/swapp) or they can be obtained from Jay Angell, Supervisor of Water Production / Analyst at (863) 471-5113.

We have been monitoring for unregulated contaminants (UCs) as part of a study to help the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) determine the occurrence in drinking water of UCs and whether or not these contaminants need to be regulated. At present, no health standards (for example, maximum contaminant levels) have been established for UCs.

### Important Health Information

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



We routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The test results table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2017.

### Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were found in the water.

The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Radiological Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	04/15	14	N/A	0	15	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226,228, or combined radium (pCi/L)	04/15	4	N/A	0	5	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Level Detected	MCLG	MCLG	MCL	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	04/15	0.236	N/A	2	2	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	04/15	1.1	N/A	50	50	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Fluoride (ppm)	04/15	0.48	N/A	4	4	N	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	04/15	20.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Synthetic Organic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Level Detected	Range of results	MCLG	MCL	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Dalapon (ppb)	07/16	ND	N/A	200	200	N	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way

Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or [MRDLG]	MCL or [MRDL]	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	MONTHLY 2017	3.43	0.53 - 3.43	4	4	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (five) [HAA5] Stage 2 (ppb)	08/17	49	39.20 - 49.0	N/A	60	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] - DDBP (ppb)	08/17	46.9	45.7 - 46.9	N/A	80	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	90th Percentile	# of Samples over AL	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	07/16	0.179	0	1.3	1.3	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	07/16	0.0113	0	0	15	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

## Secondary Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Highest Value	SMCL
Chloride (ppm)	04/15	24	250
Iron (ppm)	04/15	0.604	
Maganese (ppm)	04/15	0.0106	0.05
Sulfate (ppm)	04/15	12	250
Zinc (ppm)	04/15	0.005	5
Color (units)	04/15	2	15
pH (SU)	04/15	7.86	8.5
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	04/15	216	500

## Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## Community Participation:

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your Drinking Water. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 368 South Commerce Ave. These meetings are televised live on Comcast channel 6, the local Government Access Channel. A copy of the agenda for upcoming meetings may be requested from the City office by calling (863) 471-5100.

## Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through the mains.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen, disinfectant levels, and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use and avoid using hot water, to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

## Definitions

To help you better understand the terms used in these tables, we have provided the following definitions:

**Action Level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**ETDS** – entrance to the water distribution system

**LAAMRR** – lowest annual average monthly removal ratio

**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 (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.

**MRR** – monthly removal ratios

**NA** – not applicable

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

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

**pCi/L (picocurie per Liter)** – measure of the radioactivity in water.

**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.

**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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**WTP** – water treatment plant