



2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Golden Gate  
Utilities – Collier County Water and Sewer District  
PWS# 5110117

We are pleased to present this summary on the quality of water provided to you during 2018. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services delivered to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

On April 3, 2018 Collier County Water Sewer District assumed operation of the Golden Gate Water Utility and immediately connected the Golden Gate water mains to the Collier County distribution system and took the Golden Gate water treatment plant offline. The data contained in this report is for water supplied to Golden Gate customers prior to 4/3/2018. The data for water supplied on and after 4/3/18 is contained in the Collier County Water Division 2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report which was previously mailed to affected customers and is also available on our website at <https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/your-government/divisions-s-z/water/consumer-confidence-report>. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Collier County Water customer service at 239-252-2380.

Prior to 4/3/2018 the water source for Golden Gate was groundwater from the Surficial Aquifer. The water was treated in two ways. Part of the water was treated by aeration and lime softening while the other portion was treated by reverse osmosis. The two types of water were blended, fluoridated, and disinfected with chloramines. In 2017 the Florida 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 14 potential sources of contamination identified for this system. The concern level is a low susceptibility level. 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).

Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of monitoring for the period of January 1 to April 3, 2018. Data obtained before January 1, 2018, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.



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 which, 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.

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.

<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
<b><i>Contaminant and Unit of Measurement</i></b>	<b><i>Dates of sampling (mo/yr)</i></b>	<b><i>MCL Violation Y/N</i></b>	<b><i>Level Detected</i></b>	<b><i>Range of Results</i></b>	<b><i>MCLG</i></b>	<b><i>MCL</i></b>	<b><i>Likely Source of Contamination</i></b>
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	7/14	N	2.7	NA	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	7/14	N	1.0	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>Contaminant and Unit of Measurement</b>	<b>Dates of sampling (mo/yr)</b>	<b>MCL Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Results</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Antimony	7/17	N	0.55	NA	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb)	7/17	N	0.74	NA	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	7/17	N	0.0098	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	7/17	N	0.65	NA	4	4	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
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	6/17	N	0.49	NA	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	7/17	N	0.05	N	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	7/17	N	49	NA	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

<b>Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
<i>Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement</i>	<i>Dates of sampling (mo/yr)</i>	<i>MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N</i>	<i>Level Detected</i>	<i>Range of Results</i>	<i>MCLG or MRDLG</i>	<i>MCL or MRDL</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
Chloramine (ppm)	1/18-3/18	N	3.9	0.8 – 5.9	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
<i>Contaminant and Unit of Measurement</i>	<i>Dates of sampling (mo/yr)</i>	<i>MCL Violation (Y/N)</i>	<i>Level Detected</i>	<i>Range of Results</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>MCL</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2/18	N	40.08	NA	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2/18	N	35.02	NA	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
<i>Contaminant and Unit of Measurement</i>	<i>Dates of sampling (mo/yr)</i>	<i>AL Exceeded (Y/N)</i>	<i>90th Percentile Result</i>	<i>No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>AL (Action Level)</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	7/17	N	0.90	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	7/17	N	3.5	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

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. Orange Tree Utilities 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>.

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 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 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 (800-426-4791).

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that another potentially harmful waterborne pathogen may be present, or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. In December 2017, the previous utility operators found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water

treatment or distribution. When this occurs, water utilities are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year the utility was required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed.