



2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Spring Lake Improvement District
115 Spring Lake Blvd.
Sebring, FL 33876-6143
(863) 655-1715 Clay Shrum, Water Superintendent

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed of the quality water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide you a dependable supply of drinking water.

This report will be mailed to customers in the *Spring Lake Breeze* and is also available at the District Office, located at 115 Spring Lake Blvd.

Our water source is wells; our wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Chlorine is added for disinfection and an orthophosphosphate blend is added for corrosion inhibition.

The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a "Source Water Assessment" on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. Potential sources of contamination identified include underground petroleum storage tanks. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection program at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Clay Shrum, Water Superintendent at (863) 655-1715. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 3 p.m. at the Spring Lake District Office.

Spring Lake Improvement District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2008.

In the table to the right, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these

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
Inorganic Contaminants							
11. Barium (ppm)	March 2008	N	0.101	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
16. Fluoride (ppm)	March 2008	N	0.28	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
20. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	March 2008	N	0.04	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
21. Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	March 2008	N	0.01	N/A	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer Use; leaching from Septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
23. Sodium (ppm)	March 2008	N	8.82	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Radiological Contaminants							
5. Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	April 2008	N	3.2	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Radium 226 +228 or Combined radium (pCi/L)	April 2008	N	2.4	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs and Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the following parameters monitored under Stage 1 D/DBP regulations, the level detected is the highest annual average of the quarterly averages: Bromate, Chloramines, Chlorine, Haloacetic Acids, and/or TTHM (MCL 80 ppb). Range of Results is the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites. For TTHMs monitored under rules adopted before the Stage 1 D/DBP rules (MCL = 100 ppb), the level detected is the highest running annual average calculated quarterly. The Range of Results is the range of results (lowest to highest) at the individual sampling sites. 							
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
78. Chlorine (ppm)	Jan. 08 to Dec. 08	N	1.34	0.7-1.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
79. Haloacetic Acids (five) (ppb)	Sept. 4, 2008	N	15.5	N/A	NA	MCL = 60/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection
80. TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	Sept. 9, 2008	N	49.44	N/A	NA	MCL = 80/100	By-product of drinking water disinfection
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
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
84. Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Sept 08	N	0.26	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

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Board News

The Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on May 13 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center. Highlands County Road and Bridge Superintendent Kyle Green addressed the Board on the process that the County uses to determine what roads in the County will be paved. Kyle and his paving supervisor will be inspecting all the Spring Lake roads for future consideration. Other items reviewed and discussed were:

- The Board is looking at several options to acquire additional land for the water control plan and future water quality issues. Engineer Gene Schriener has identified several large parcels that would be appropriate for our use, and the private owners are in the process of securing appraisals for future presentation to the Board.
- Attorney Bill Nielander reported that a proposal was made to the golf course to deed approximately 85 acres of land to the District, including necessary easements and right of ways. Most of these lands are existing ponds and small lakes, as well as land adjacent and surrounding these parcels. The District has asked for this land at no cost, and golf course owner, Mike Tellschow, will be making a presentation to the Board at its June meeting to discuss his thoughts on the proposal.
- The lot-mowing program is being given much thought and evaluation regarding future assessments. Up until 2007 the program was partially underwritten by the General Fund and is now structured to be self-sufficient. Cash flow and non-payment of taxes has caused a financial burden on this

program and funding alternatives are being discussed.

- The Board was presented information on the proposed expansion of the airport, and the opportunity to provide feedback to the Airport Authority, especially their concerns relative to storm water discharge into our Spring Lake system.
- The Flood Map Modernization Outreach Plan for Highlands County has been prepared and copies were presented to the Board. Spring Lake will continue to

maintain, inspect and possibly renovate its levees as a result of this FEMA mandated program. A copy of the Plan is available thru request at the District Office.

- The FY '10 budget process has begun and a public hearing has been set for Aug. 12; the Board will vote on the final fiscal year '10 budget at its Sept. 9 meeting.
- The next Board meeting will be held June 10, 3 p.m. at the District Office.

Cutters' Paddock Party

By Debbie Delaney
 Spring Lake residents, Harry and Mary Cutter, hosted their 5th Margaritaville Kentucky Derby Party. All guests were asked to wear wild Key West shirts and shorts, as well as a Derby hat if you had one. The Cutters are originally from Louisville, Ky., but have now put a Florida twist on their Derby celebrating. The greeters, Ruth Ann and Jay Payne, placed a lei on each guest and directed them to chance drawings with Harry.

The betting table was set with a station for each horse; write your name, the amount to bet, and place it in the cup. Frozen Margaritas flowed and guests munched on light snacks. *My Old Kentucky Home* was sung in unison with the TV broadcast and then all eyes were glued to the race. ... They're Off!



Cutters' Paddock Party on page 2

Spring Lake Breeze

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Upcoming Board Meetings
June 10
July 8
August 12
3:00 p.m. District Office

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A 50-1 long shot, No. 8 Mine That Bird won by six lengths and surprised a whole country of race enthusiasts. To everyone's surprise both Wiley Ferguson and Bill Warner bet the long shot and split the win. The chance-drawing winner was John Delaney.

The guests also sang *Happy Birthday* to host Mary Ann Cutter and then shared dinner, birthday cake, conversation and a great evening. It was an upset for the ages, better luck to everyone next year.



Aquatic Weed Control

District Foreman, Randy Nelson, and Corey Jones are managing the District's aquatic weed-control program. Randy has taken numerous classes to become certified by the State of Florida, and Cory is finishing his requirements of a full license as well. Corey has the main responsibility of traveling the District and spraying the many miles of canals, ponds and lakes of invasive and troublesome weeds that affect our drainage system.

Treatment of weeds involves the spot application of the aquatic herbicides such as Reward and other environmentally approved sprays. The Department of Environmental Protection oversees and enforces aquatic weed-control programs throughout the State. If not treated properly, flood control and fish and wildlife populations may be negatively impacted.



Field Foreman Randy Nelson sprays water lettuce.

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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, which a water system must follow.

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

"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: 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.

N/A: Not applicable

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.

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. It can also 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 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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. Immune-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)**.

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. Spring Lake Improvement District 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>.

As you can see by the following table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State Requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

We, at Spring Lake Improvement District, would like for 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. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided in this report, please feel free to contact our office.

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Property Association Officers

Several District Property Associations held their Annual Meetings and elected new officers for their organizations. The Lakeside Estates Homeowners Association held their meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the Community Center. Officers elected are:

- Don Cunning President and Park Maintenance Chairman
- Ron Wetherell Vice-President, Chairman of Architecture, Covenants, Restrictions
- MaryAnne McKenzie Secretary
- Dick Buschmann Treasurer
- Sandy Johnson Director and Chair of Community Activities

For further information you can contact the Association at P.O. Box 242, Lorida, Fla. 33857 or by e-mailing them at LakesideEstatesFlorida@gmail.com.

The Spring Lake Property Association held a meeting on Monday, Feb. 16, at the Community Center. Officers elected are:

- Ken Dandeneau President
- John Schroeder 1st Vice-President and Outside Liaison
- Linda Daffner 2nd Vice-President
- Tonya Mays Secretary and Beautification Committee
- Charleyne Yznanski Treasurer
- Dan Snyder Architecture and Welcome Committee
- Sam Heede Neighborhood Watch and Newsletter
- Wayne Roberts Violations

You can contact the SLPA for information by calling 655-2230 or e-mailing them at slpa2230@embarqmail.com. Their office is located in the shopping plaza off Route 98.

Sheriff's Department Service Calls

Captain Randy LaBelle is a Spring Lake resident and serves in the Criminal Investigations Division of the Highlands County Sheriff's Department. After the recent vandalism that took place at the basketball court in Pine Breeze Park, LaBelle provided the District with information on Spring Lake Calls for Service that involved the Sheriff's Department.

Spring Lake Calls For Service, District Zone 2 Jan. 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009:

January '08	51	September	30
February	48	October	53
March	77	November	36
April	61	December	41
May	46	January '09	38
June	52	February	46
July	39	March	42
August	58	Total	708

Of this total, 108 are Watch Orders for the community and area businesses. Traffic stops on Route 98 as well as inside the community totaled 92. Of the 92 traffic stops, 18 resulted in driver/occupant arrests.

Totals For The Period Listed For Offense Incidents Are:

Burglary-Residence	16
Burglary-Vehicle	7
Burglary-Other	2
Arson	3
Felony Vandalism	4
Misdemeanor Vandalism	8
Graffiti	1
Homicide	0
Misdemeanor Narcotics	5
Felony Narcotics	1
Grand Theft	7
Petit Theft	7



DRIVE-THRU PETS-OF-THE-MONTH



Brandie



Coco



Smedly

Hurricane Preparedness

The Improvement District has many responsibilities before, during and after a tropical storm and/or hurricane. Before the storm the District's canal levels will be lowered to accommodate the massive storm runoff that occurs. During the storm the District will make every reasonable effort to maintain a continuous level of service. With a full service generator in place, the District office will extend their hours of operation to provide information and guidance to residents. Following the storm District staff will work with the County to help restore all primary roadways and drainage systems at the earliest possible date.



discuss the various supplies you should have in place during hurricane season, as well as general preparation techniques and pool protection. The Highlands County Emergency Services Department is an excellent source for guidance and support, and they provide numerous publications and information at their facility on West George Boulevard. Simply stop by their office; all items are **free of charge**.

Here are the main terms that you should understand:

Tropical Storm Warning: Tropical storm conditions, including sustained winds from 39-73 mph, and is expected within 24 hours or less. It was this kind of storm that hit Spring Lake over Labor Day weekend of 2006 and caused substantial damage to the community; Tropical Storm *Ernesto*.

Hurricane Watch: An announcement or bulletin usually issued by the National Weather Service when there is the possibility that a hurricane may pass near or through the

area within 36 hours.

Hurricane Warning: A hurricane with sustained winds of at least 74 mph is expected within 24 hours or less. When a hurricane warning is issued, all precautions should be taken immediately.

For every year there is a pre-approved list of names for tropical storms and hurricanes. These lists have been generated by the National Hurricane Center since 1953. At first, the lists consisted of only female names; however, since 1979 the lists alternate between male and female.

Hurricanes are named alphabetically from the list in chronological order. Thus, the first tropical storm or hurricane of the year has a name that begins with "A," the second with a "B," etc. There are six lists that continue to rotate each year. The lists only change when there is a hurricane that is so devastating the name is retired (i.e., *Katrina*) and another name replaces it.

Here are the 2009 Hurricane names:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------|----------|--------|
| Ana | Erika | Ida | Mindy | Rose |
| Bill | Fred | Joaquin | Nicholas | Sam |
| Claudette | Grace | Kate | Odette | Teresa |
| Danny | Henri | Larry | Peter | Victor |
| | | | | Wanda |

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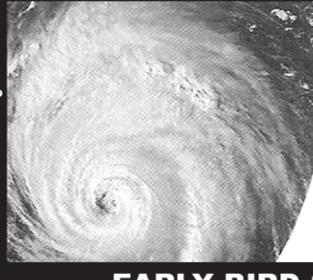
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