

2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Town of Bronson

PWS ID Number 2381178

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver 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. Our water source is groundwater from two wells drawing from the Floridan Aquifer. We treat our water using chlorination for disinfection.

In 2016 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>

*If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Erik Wise at our office between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday at (352) 486-2354.** We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our Town Council meetings. They are held the **first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 PM.***

*The **Town of Bronson** 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, 2016. Data obtained before January 1, 2016, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations*

As approved by EPA, the State has reduced the monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

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

- *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.*
- *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 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.*

TEST RESULTS TABLE

| 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) | 08/2015 | N | 0.0013 | N/A | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Chromium (ppb) | 08/2015 | N | 1.1 | N/A | 100 | 100 | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits |
| Mercury (inorganic) (ppb) | 08/2015 | N | 0.012 | N/A | 50 | 50 | Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland |
| Selenium (ppb) | 08/2015 | N | 2.9 | N/A | 0 | 15 | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines |
| Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) | 04/2016 | N | 2.1 | N/A | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | 08/2015 | N | 4.3 | N/A | N/A | 160 | Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil |

| Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| Disinfectant 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) | 01/2016 – 12/2016 | N | 1.08 | 0.4 – 1.8 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |

| Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|------|-----|---|
| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Dates of sampling (mo./yr.) | MCL Violation Y/N | Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contaminants |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) | 07/2016 | N | 2.03 | N/A | N/A | 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) | 12/2014 | N | 0.048 | 0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (tap water) (ppb) | 12/2014 | N | 0.5 | 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. Town of Bronson 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.

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. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

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 here at the Town of Bronson 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.

“Please DO NOT FLUSH your unused/unwanted medications down toilets or sink drains. More information is available at

***<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/medications/pages/disposal.htm>.*”**