

**Fripp Island Public Service District  
2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality  
Report**

The Fripp Island Public Service District (FIPSD) is pleased to provide our customers with our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. The purpose of this report is to inform you about the high quality of the drinking water delivered to you during 2009. Our constant goal is to continually provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Ernie Wilson or Angie Hughes at (843) 838-2400. We encourage public comment on decisions affecting our drinking water. The FIPSD Commission meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month. The meetings, held at the FIPSD Fire Department on Fripp Island, begin at 9:30 a.m. The public is welcome.

**Water Source**

The Fripp Island Public Service District purchases water from the Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJW&SA), which provides us with treated surface water from the Savannah River. The river water travels eighteen miles via an open canal to the BJW&SA water treatment plant located in the Chelsea area. Our water distribution system begins at the “Shrimp Shack” on St. Helena Island and terminates on Fripp Island.

**Water Quality Results**

The Fripp Island Public Service District, as well as the BJW&SA, routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. **Only detectable constituents are listed in the table.** In this table you will find many unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- *Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- *Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water
- *Action Level (AL)* - the concentration of a constituent, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- *Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a constituent in drinking water.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - The “Maximum Allowed” is the highest level of a constituent 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 “Goal” is the level of a constituent in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

The test results shown in **Bold Print** were provided by the FIPSD. All other test results were provided by the BJW&SA.

| <b>TEST RESULTS</b>           |             |                  |   |                  |            |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------------|---|------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Constituent                   | Date Tested | Violation Yes/No | Level Detected                                  | Unit Measurement | MCLG       | MCL                                 | Likely Source  |
| <b>Inorganic Constituents</b> |             |                  |   |                  |            |                                     |  |
| <b>1. Copper</b>              | <b>2007</b> | <b>No</b>        | <b>0.157<br/>90<sup>th</sup><br/>Percentile</b> | <b>ppm</b>       | <b>1.3</b> | <b>AL=1.3<br/>0 of 20<br/>sites</b> | <b>Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits.</b>             |
| 2. Fluoride                   | 2009        | No               | 0.8   | ppm              | 4.0        | 4.0                                 | Erosion of natural deposits. Added to drinking water to help prevent tooth decay |
| 3. Nitrate                    | 2009        | No               | 0.24  | ppm              | 10         | 10                                  | Runoff from fertilizer use and soil erosion.                                     |

### **Microbiological Constituents**

Routine monthly sampling **did not detect** the presence of total coliform bacteria in the water supplied by FIPSD. Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are performed to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply, and the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

### **Lead and Your Drinking Water**

In 2007, the FIPSD performed sampling for lead. Lead **was not detected** in our drinking water. 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 FIPSD 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 the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking 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>.

### **Additional Constituents Monitored**

For the radioactive isotope tritium, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has set a maximum contamination level of 20,000 pCi/l. Tritium levels in the Savannah River have been declining for more than two decades, and our levels are less than 2% of EPA's drinking water standard. In 2009, the average level of tritium in the Savannah River "raw water" was 359 pCi/l.

### **Important Information from the EPA**

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances include microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some constituents. The presence of these constituents does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about these constituents and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to constituents in drinking water than the general population. Individuals with compromised immune systems such as individuals with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, individuals who have undergone organ transplants, individuals with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological constituents are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).