2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for East Milton Water System, Inc.

It is our pleasure 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 ground water drawn from six (6) wells; five (5) wells are in the Sand and Gravel Aquifer and one (1) well is in the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and lime for softening purposes.

In 2013 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated one potential source of contamination near our wells, with 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 or they can be obtained from our office 850-623-8750.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Dink Helms or Uwe Rogers at 850-623-8750. We encourage 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 Thursday of every month at our main office (8175 South Airport Road) at 7:00 pm.

East Milton Water System, Inc. 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, 2013. Data obtained before January 1, 2013, 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.*
***"ND"** means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.*
***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.*
***Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)** - measure of the radioactivity in water.*

2013 CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Microbiological Contaminants						
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)**	**MCL Violation Y/N**	**Highest Monthly Percentage/Number**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria	Jan – Dec 13	N	1	0	For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in 1 sample collected during a month.	Naturally present in the environment
Contaminant	**Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)**	**Violation Y/N**	**Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely source of contamination**
Fecal coliform and *E. coli* in the distribution system (positive samples)	Jan – Dec 13	N	1	0	0	Human or animal fecal waste

On December 23, 2013, we sampled the sources (Well 3, 4 and 6) and our regular distribution samples for bacteria. We were notified on December 24th, that one of ten distribution samples collected tested positive for Total Coliform Bacteria and *E. coli*, however all three well samples were clear. We retested the distribution sample on December 24th and the sample was absent of Total Coliform Bacteria and *E. coli*.

Health Effects: Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)**	**MCL Violation Y/N**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Results**	**MCL G**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Apr 08 & Jul 11	N	2	ND-2	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Apr 08 & Jul 11	N	1.3	ND-1.3	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	May & Jul 11	N	2.7	ND-2.7	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	May & Jul 11	N	0.035	ND-0.035	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppb)	May & Jul 11	N	0.3	ND-0.3	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Fluoride (ppm)	May & Jul 11	N	0.59	ND-0.59	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	May & Jul 11	N	1.1	ND – 1.1	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Aug 13	N	0.93	0.032-0.93	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	May & Jul 11	N	81.1	1.9-81.1	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Disinfectant or Contaminant 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
Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine (ppm)	Jan-Dec 13	N	0.46	0.33-0.55	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	Aug - 13	N	0.32	ND-1.5	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded 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)							
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun – Sept 12	N	0.083	0 of 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jun – Sept 12	N	3.7	1 of 30	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. East Milton Water System 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).

2013 CCR Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated Contaminants			
Contaminant	**Level Detected**	**Range**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Vanadium	0.287 ug/L	0.068 - 0.91 ug/L	Unavailable
Molybdenum	0.055 ug/L	N/A	Unavailable
Cobalt	1.8 ug/L	0.7 – 2.9 ug/L	Unavailable
Strontium	16.87 ug/L	7.0 – 97.2 ug/L	Unavailable
Chromium (total chromium)	0.32 ug/L	0.19 - 0.63 ug/L	Unavailable
Chromium-6	0.050 ug/L	0.038 - 0.065 ug/L	Unavailable

We monitored for unregulated contaminants (UCs) in 2013 as part of a study to help the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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) or likely sources have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. If you would like more information on the EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Since 2004 East Milton Water System, Inc. has installed 55 additional Fire Hydrants to serve the needs of our community. In the calendar year 2013, our staff installed 12 additional hydrants.
In cooperation with the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioner's our outside Technical Staff has flow tested all 242 fire hydrants in our water system area. The fire hydrants are painted based on a color code system established by AWWA manual M17 to allow the Fire Departments to easily identify a hydrant and the water flow rate. The base color for the hydrant is red and the caps are color coded to indicate the hydrants flow rate.

Red:	*0 – 499 gpm*	*Orange:*	*500-999 gpm*
Green:	*1000-1499 gpm*	*Blue:*	*1500-above gpm*

The East Milton Water System Board of Directors have budgeted for at least 10 fire hydrants to be installed in 2014. To support this effort, line size upgrades will be necessary. We ask for your patience when these upgrades are in your area.

We are pleased to offer additional information available on our website: eastmiltonwater.org
This site has easy access to information for commonly asked questions and links to additional water quality information. Our website also contains a link to the Santa Rosa County website for fire hydrant locations. This may be a helpful tool for our area homeowners. ACH Bank Drafting is available to our customers at no additional cost. If you are interested in this payment option, please inquire with our staff at the main office. Our staff will be happy to assist you with this information.
*Currently, **web pay** for payment of water charges is not available, but as community interest grows for this option the web pay service may be added in the future.*

When the water system was incorporated in 1967, it was established by a group of individuals in our community to provide quality potable water to the residents of our community. In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements to the water system that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in rate adjustments, as may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for understanding. We at East Milton Water System, Inc. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

East Milton Water System

8175 South Airport Road
Milton, FL 32583
Office: (850)623-8750 Fax: (850)623-1413
eastmiltonwater.org
Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
1-800-426-4791

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with safe and clean, quality water.