

## **1,4-DIOXANE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **WHAT IS 1,4-DIOXANE?**

1,4-dioxane is a manufactured chemical that can occur as a colorless, flammable liquid that easily dissolves in water. It has been used as a stabilizer for chlorinated solvents and in producing medicines and glues. It is found in paints, lacquers, dyes, waxes, greases, cosmetics, detergents, and other consumer products. 1,4-dioxane has been identified as a contaminant of concern as it can remain in the groundwater for an extended period. The most common way people encounter 1,4-dioxane is by drinking contaminated water.

### **IS 1,4-DIOXANE REGULATED?**

1,4-dioxane remains an unregulated contaminant. The Health Advisory Level (HAL) for 1,4-dioxane was set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2012 at 0.35 parts per billion (ppb)/micrograms per liter. The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) established this HAL in December 2015.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) monitors state-suggested levels of 1,4-dioxane in groundwater, surface water, and soil per Florida Administrative Code

### **IS MY HEALTH AT RIS FROM DRINKING WATER WITH 1,4-DIOXANE?**

Few studies provide information on the health effects of 1,4-dioxane. Potential side effects from contact vary depending on how much, how often, and how long a person encounters the chemical. Per the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), the consumption of water that is at-or-below the established Health Advisory Level of 0.35 ppb for a lifetime should not cause harmful impacts on health.

### **IS MY WATER SAFE?**

Based on the most recent water samples, the concentration of 1,4-dioxane from two of the County's five water treatment plants indicated low-levels of 1,4-dioxane (0.127 and 0.114). 1,4-dioxane was not detected at the three remaining plants.

### **SHOULD I BOIL MY WATER?**

Based on the most recent water samples, the concentration of 1,4-dioxane in Seminole County's water distribution system is below the state's Health Advisory Level of 0.35 ppb. No alternative water source is necessary, and a boil water advisory is not in place.

### **WHAT IS THE COUNTY DOING TO MANAGE 1,4-DIOXANE IN MY WATER?**

Safeguarding Seminole County's drinking water is of the highest importance to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff. The County's potable water systems are sampled and tested for contaminants based on monitoring requirements established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

