

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection**  
**Proposed Human Health Criteria Rulemaking**  
**May 2016**

The Department is harnessing the latest science to better protect water quality in the State of Florida and ensure Floridians can continue to safely eat Florida seafood and drink local tap water.

Florida's current human health-based water quality criteria (HHC) were last updated in 1992, and DEP plans to update the HHC to incorporate new scientific information. In the development of this criteria, the department conducted a comprehensive risk assessment with input from a Peer Review Committee.

DEP's proposed HHC are based, in part, on EPA's new HHC recommendations, but use more robust risk models and more Florida-specific data than EPA. The criteria consider a range of environmental variables and account for the most at-risk populations, including young children, pregnant women and those whose diets comprise primarily of Florida seafood.

The Department is proposing to update 43 current criteria and adding criteria for 39 new compounds, almost doubling the number of regulated pollutants.

As part of the same rulemaking effort, the department also plans to establish a new sub-classification of surface waters (Class I-Treated, Treated Potable Water Supplies) and reclassify seven Class III surface waters that are currently used for potable water supplies into the new sub-classification. This rulemaking, which is in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 2016-1, Laws of Florida, will ensure that the state's surface waters that serve as source waters for drinking water facilities are protected from contaminants that could impact the quality of our public water supplies.