

2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS – PWSID# 2241264

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Public Works Director, Ray Vaughn at (386)396-2310.

WATER SOURCE AND TREATMENT

Our water source is ground water from two wells that draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Our water is treated with aeration to manage dissolved gases, chlorine for disinfection and polyorthophosphate for iron sequestration.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

In 2024, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. A search of the data sources indicated two potential sources of contamination near our wells with a low susceptibility level. The assessment results are available on the DEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at:

<https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>

PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT

The Town of White Springs routinely monitors 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, 2024. Data obtained before January 1, 2024, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

LEAD SAMPLE RESULTS AVAILABILITY

We are required to periodically sample water from customer taps to determine lead levels. This report contains the 90th percentile and range of our most recent sampling. The individual results for each location sampled are available for review at Town of White Springs Public Works, Ray Vaughn, Director.

SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

To address lead in drinking water, EPA requires that all community water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials. Ours is available for review please contact Ray Vaughn, Public Works Director at (386)396-2310/ rvaughn@whitespringsfl.us.

WATER SOURCES AND CONTAMINANTS

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, 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.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

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 at: 1-800-426-4791.

EFFECTS OF LEAD

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Town of White Springs is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. 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 at:

<https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Contaminant - any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) - the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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 (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.

Not Detected (ND) - indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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.

Parts Per Trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part by weight of analyte to 1 trillion parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie Per Liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Results in the Level Detected column for Inorganic Contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

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
Arsenic (ppb)	07/2024	N	1.3	N/A	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	07/2024	N	0.0078	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	07/2024	N	0.8	N/A	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	07/2024	N	0.32	N/A	4	4	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 System does not add fluoride as it a naturally occurring additive from the water source. *
Sodium (ppm)	07/2024	N	4.2	N/A	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil.

STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Results in the Level Detected column for Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-products are the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected.

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
Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly	N	1.5	1 – 1.9	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

STAGE 2 DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Results in the Level Detected column for Stage 2 Disinfection By-products are the highest locational running annual average (LRAA), or highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

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
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	07/2024	N	22.74	N/A	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	07/2024	N	33.5	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 Exceeded? (Y/N)	90 th Percentile Result	No. of Sites Over AL	Range of Results	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	10/2024	N	0.103	0	N/A	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Lead (tap water) (ppb)	10/2024	N	2.7	0	N/A	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
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Listed below are recommended actions you may take, separately or in combination, to **reduce** your exposure to lead in your water:

- **Use your filter properly.** Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, it should be certified to remove lead. Read any directions provided with the filter to learn how to properly install, maintain, and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter. For more information on facts and advice on home water filtration systems, visit EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/home-drinking-water-filtration-fact-sheet> and EPA's Consumer Tool for Identifying Drinking Water Filters Certified to Reduce Lead.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Use cold water.** Do not use hot water from the tap for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- **Run your water.** The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, as well as the length and diameter of the service line and the amount of plumbing in your home.
- **Learn what your service line material is.** Contact Town of White Springs Public Works at 386-397-2310 or a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead, galvanized, or other materials.
- **Learn about construction in your neighborhood.** Contact Town of White Springs Public Works at 386-397-2310 to find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line if present.
- **Have your water tested.** Contact Town of White Springs Public Works at 386-397-2310 to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water.