2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
University of West Florida

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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 from two wells. The wells draw from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and hydrated lime to stabilize the water (pH adjustment).

In 2024 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection conducted a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Michael Cobb, Environmental Health and Safety, at (850) 474-2435.

The University of West Florida (UWF) 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. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of 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.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts 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.

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.

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
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	0.0099	0.011 – 0.0099	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	0.1	ND – 0.1	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Chromium (ppb)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	6.1	3.4 – 6.1	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	0.2	ND – 0.2	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	1.1	ND – 1.1	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nickel (ppm)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	0.9	ND – 0.9	0.0045	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Aug-24-Sept-24	N	0.53	0.31-0.53	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Oct-23 & Aug-24	N	3.5	N/A	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil

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
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Aug-24	N	1.3	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Aug-24	N	2.4	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	**Dates of sampling (mo/yr)**	**MCL Violation (Y/N)**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Results**	**MCLG or MRDLG**	**MCL or MRDL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Stage 1 Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine (ppm)	Jan-Dec 24	N	0.66	0.60-0.70	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	Range of Tap Sample Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead & Copper (Tap Water)								
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.16	0 of 30	0.0015 - 0.29	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Oct-23	N	2.1	0 of 30	ND - 3.9	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting buildings to water mains; erosion of natural deposits

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. 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 and wish to have your water tested, contact the University of West Florida and Michael Cobb, Environmental Health and Safety, at 850-474-2435. The University of West Florida is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing in your home. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

The University of West Florida Water System only supplies drinking water to our main campus in Pensacola, FL. If you have any questions about the drinking water served to you when you are on campus, please contact Michael Cobb, Environmental Health and Safety, at 850-474-2435. For persons that work on campus, commute to, or are just visiting campus, questions about your drinking water served at your private residence should be brought to the attention of your local municipality.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency has revised the Lead and Copper rule for all public drinking water systems. They have mandated that drinking water systems produce an inventory list of all service line material. The service line is the piping that extends from our water main to the customer's meter as well as the piping that extends from the meter to the customer's home. The University of West Florida has prepared this inventory in accordance with federal regulations. To view this service line inventory, contact Robby Gibson, Utility Superintendent, at 850-474-2954 or visit:
https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1721529.1]&[profile=Sampling]

Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings and fixtures may cause metals, including lead and copper, to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, the University of West Florida conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites every three years. The most recent set of lead and copper tap sampling is available for review. To view the lead and copper tap sampling data, contact Michael Cobb, Environmental Health and Safety, at 850-474-2435 or visit:
https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1617567.1]&[profile=Sampling

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the tables above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that another potentially harmful waterborne pathogen may be present, or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment(s) and one Level 1 assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take six corrective actions, and we completed six of these actions.

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter *(a more stringent)* limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter (stringent) regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
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.

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 naturally occur 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people 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).

We at UWF would like 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. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call Michael Cobb, UWF Environmental Health & Safety Director, at 850-474-2525.