

2023 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 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 2023 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed 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 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, 2023. Data obtained before January 1, 2023 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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.

In order 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							
Arsenic (ppb)	Oct-23	N	4.5	ND-4.5	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.023	0.011-0.023	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	Oct-23	N	6.1	ND-6.1	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	Oct-23	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	N	0.2	ND-0.2	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.35	0.34-0.35	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.019	ND-0.019	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Oct-23	N	3.6	3.5-3.6	N/A	160	Salt water 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
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	Oct-23	N	0.44	ND-0.44	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.0023	ND-0.0023	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
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)	Oct-23	N	5.2	5.2	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Oct-23	N	4.5	4.5	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 & Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine (ppm)-(Stage 1)	Jan-Dec 23	N	0.67	0.60-0.73	0	10	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)-(Stage 2)	Sept-23	N	1.2	N/A	N/A	60	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)	Oct-23	N	0.16	0 of 30	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	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. The University of West Florida 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>.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Level Detected (average)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Unregulated Contaminants-UCMR 5				
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) (ppb)	May-Dec 23	0.0014	0.0013-0.0014	Found in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) (ppb)	May-Dec 23	0.0016	0.0014-0.0016	Found in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) (ppb)	May-Dec 23	0.0023	0.0018-0.0023	Found in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppb)	May-Dec 23	0.0020	0.0018-0.0020	Found in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products

We monitored for Unregulated Contaminants (UCs) in 2023 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 detected analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. For the complete report including the non-detected contaminants contact us at 850-474-2525. 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.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation (Y/N)	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Secondary Contaminants*							
Iron (ppm)	Oct-23	N	0.69	ND-0.69	N/A	0.3	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

* Our water system exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for the Secondary Contaminant (Non-Health Based) Iron and was therefore, in violation of federal and state water quality standards for Iron. The results are listed above. This exceedance does not have an effect on your health.

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

In the above tables, 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.

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.

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).

We are monitoring the first 6-month period of 2024 and the second 6-month period of 2024 for unregulated contaminants (UCs) 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. They will be displayed as required in our 2024 Water Quality Report. However, if you would like a copy of those results sooner, please contact Michael Cobb at 850-474-2525 to get a copy as soon as they are received by us. 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.

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.