

**2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**Naval Air Station Pensacola/Corry**

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

**Where Does My Water Come From?**

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:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- 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.

Our water source is ground water from ten (10) active wells. The wells are drawn from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments applied are chlorine for disinfection purposes, fluoride for dental health purposes, Orthophosphate for corrosion control, and caustic soda for pH adjustment.

Naval Air Station Pensacola 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.

In the table 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.

**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.

**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 million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample. One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**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. One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)** - measure of the radioactivity in water.

**2023 CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Radioactive Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Jan - Dec 2023	No	1.96	ND-1.96	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Jan – Dec 2023	No	2.97	0.645-2.97	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	0.041	0.016-0.041	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	0.65	ND-0.65	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	3.4	ND-3.4	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Mercury (ppb)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	0.3	N/A	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.
Nickel (ppb)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	9.1	ND-9.1	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	4.9	1.4-4.9	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	13.9	7.5-13.9	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	MCL or MRD Violation	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) (Stage 1)	Jan-Dec 2023	No	0.79	0.67-0.87	MRDLG = 4.0	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Total trihalomethanes (ppb)	Aug 2023	No	8.6	7.9-8.6	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling	AL Exceeded	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jul-Dec 2023	No	0.12	0 of 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jul-Dec 2023	No	2.8	2 of 30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

The 2023 Lead and Copper Sampling Event results reported showed the Naval Air Station/Corry water system to be in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. In 2023 lead levels at two of thirty taps sampled exceeded the action level (AL) of 15 parts per billion (ppb). However, because the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile result is below the AL, the system did not exceed the AL and is in compliance. We will continue to monitor as required by rule.

Unregulated Contaminants				
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Level Detected (average)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Dieldrin (ppb)	Jan - Dec 2023	0.0015	ND-0.0095	Unknown

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. Naval Air Station Pensacola 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>.

In 2023, the Florida 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. There are eight (8) potential sources of contamination identified for this system with low to moderate susceptibility levels. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp) or they can be obtained from Joelle O'Daniel-Lopez (850) 452-2269.

**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).**

**What are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and where do they come from?**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals. PFAS have been used in a variety of industries and consumer products around the globe, including in the U.S., since the 1940s. PFAS have been used to make coatings and products that are used as oil and water repellents for carpets, clothing, paper packaging for food, and cookware. They are also contained in some foams (aqueous film-forming foam or AFFF) currently used for fighting petroleum fires at airfields and in industrial fire suppression processes. PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment and some are persistent in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.

**Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water?**

On April 10, 2024, the US EPA established MCLs for a subset of PFAS chemicals.

Compound	MCL
PFOA	4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) (also expressed as ng/L)
PFOS	4.0 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX Chemicals)	10 ppt
Mixtures containing two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	1 (unitless)
	Hazard Index

EPA requires implementation of sampling in accordance with the new MCLs within three years of the publication date and implementation of any required treatment within five years.

These limits did not apply for the 2023 calendar year because they had not been published. However, the DoD proactively promulgated policies to monitor drinking water for PFAS at all service owned and operated water systems at a minimum of every two years. The DoD policy states that if water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than the 2016 EPA health advisory (HA) level of 70 ppt, water systems must take immediate action to reduce exposure to PFOS or PFAS. For levels less than 70 ppt but above the 4 ppt level (draft at the time of policy publication), DoD committed to planning for implementation of the levels once EPA’s published MCLs take effect.

**Has NAS Pensacola/Corry tested its water for PFAS in 2023?**

Yes. In May 2023 samples were collected from the Water Treatment Plant.

We are informing you that nine of the 29 PFAS compounds covered by the sampling method were detected above the method reporting limit (MRL). The results are provided in the following table. PFOA, PFOS, and PFHxS were detected above the new MCLs. There is no immediate cause for concern, but we will continue to monitor the drinking water closely.

PFAS				
Contaminant and Measurement	Unit of	Sampling Dates (mo/yr)	Level Detected	Likely source of contamination
PFBA (perfluorobutanoic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	3.6	Unavailable
PFBS (perfluorobutanesulfonic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	10.7	Unavailable
PFHpA (perfluoroheptanoic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	7.2	Unavailable
PFHxS (perfluorohexanesulfonic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	31.0	Unavailable
PFHxA (perfluorohexanoic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	24.1	Unavailable
PFOS (perfluorooctanesulfonic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	5.7	Used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties in or as fluoropolymers (such as Teflon), fire-fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films
PFOA (perfluorooctanesulfonic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	11.8	Surfactant or emulsifier; used in fire-fighting foam, circuit board etching acids, alkaline cleaners, floor polish, and as a pesticide active ingredient for insect bait traps; U.S. manufacture of PFOS phased out in 2002; however, PFOS still generated incidentally
PFPeA (perfluoropentanoic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	14.8	Unavailable
PFPeS (perfluoropentansulfonic acid) (ppt)		May 2023	5.5	Unavailable

For regulated PFAS above the new MCL and in accordance with DoD policy, Navy is coordinating with DoD to plan and program operational controls or additional treatment to ensure the drinking water meets the MCLs as soon as practicable at all of our impacted installations.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Joelle O'Daniel-Lopez (850) 452-2269. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.