

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Monitoring Performed January - December 2023

Inlet Beach Water System

Permit # 1660370

95 N Wall Street

Inlet Beach, Florida 32461

(850) 231-4498

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report). The purpose of this report is to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Water Sources: | Groundwater drawn through deep wells from the pristine Floridan Aquifer. The Floridan Aquifer is the primary source for drinking water in Florida. We also have the ability to supplement our water supply from Regional Utilities, should the need arise. In 2023, 14% of our water came from Inlet Beach's Well #2, 19% from Well #3, 67% from Well #4 and 0% from Regional. |
| Water Treatment: | Chlorine for disinfection purposes and hydrogen peroxide for oxidation of sulfur |

Source Water Assessment

In 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on the Inlet Beach Water System and Regional Utilities systems. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of the drinking water wells. There are two potential sources of contamination identified for the Inlet Beach Water system with low to moderate susceptibility levels. No potential sources of contamination were identified near Regional Utilities' wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>

We work around the clock to provide top-quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please help us make this effort worthwhile by protecting our source water.

- Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil.
- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides -they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources, or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use the EPA's (Environmental Protection Agency) Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Monitoring Schedule

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. We monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. The table below shows the most recent year of monitoring for these contaminant groups - (Date Monitored / Next Monitoring)

| Constituent Monitored | Date Monitored / Next Monitoring |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Inorganic Contaminants | 2021 / 2024 |
| Lead/Copper | 2023 / 2026 |
| Microbiological Contaminants | Monthly |
| Nitrates | Annually |
| Radioactive Contaminants | 2023 / 2027 |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides) | 2021 / 2024 |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | 2021 / 2024 |
| Disinfection By-products | Quarterly |

We failed to complete required sampling for the Secondary Contaminant, Iron, on time and therefore were in violation of monitoring and reporting requirements. Because we did not take the required number of samples, we did not know whether the contaminants were present in your drinking water. The monitoring period was October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. One sample was required for the contaminant, and none were taken. Sampling resumed in 2024

Questions?

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. If you have any questions about your water system, our office is open weekdays (except holidays) from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (closed for lunch). Please come by or call (850) 231-4498. If you have any questions about this report, please contact our General Manager, Tom Lesar, at (850) 231 4498

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend our annual meeting in Inlet Beach which will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (unless otherwise notified). The date and location will be announced again by mail at a later date.

Our Results

The table below contains results from the most recent monitoring of primary, secondary, and unregulated contaminants. The monitoring was performed in accordance with the sampling requirements established by Federal and State Laws. Although many more contaminants were tested, the table shows only those contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report - unless otherwise noted.

| Table of Detected Contaminants | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---|
| Primary Standards - Mandatory standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act used to protect public health. These apply to all public water systems. | | | | | | | |
| Contaminant & Unit of MSMT | MCL, TT, or MRDL (What's Allowed?) | MCLG (What's the Goal?) | Date Sampled (mo/yr) | Highest Level Detected | Range Low - High (MD) | MCL Violation | Major Sources |
| Radioactive Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Alpha emitters (pCi/L) | 15 | 0 | November 2023 | 2.1 | ND - 2.1 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Combined radium (pCi/L) | 5 | 0 | November 2023 | 1.5 | 0.6 - 1.5 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Barium (ppm) | 2 | 2 | February 2020 & May 2021 | 0.015 | 0.0089 - 0.015 | No | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | May 2021 & June 2021 | 0.46 | ND - 0.46 | No | Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] NO ₃ (ppm) | 10 | 10 | February 2023 | 0.1 | 0.1 | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | 160 | NA | February 2020 & May 2021 | 47 | 2.2 - 47 | No | Naturally occurring in the environment |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides | | | | | | | |
| Ethylene Dibromide (ppt) | 50 | 0 | August 2021 | 10 | ND - 10 | No | Discharge from petroleum refineries |
| Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products » | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine (ppm) | MRDL = 4 | MRDLG = 4 | January - December 2023 | 0.77 | 0.57 - 1.07 | No | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Total Haloacetic Acids HAA (ppb) | 60 | NA | February - November 2023 | 21.26 | LRAA Range 4.8 - 20.3 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes TTHM (ppb) | 80 | NA | February - November 2023 | 55 | LRAA Range 26.6 - 75.6 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

» There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

| Lead and Copper (Tap Water) | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Contaminant & Unit of MSMT | AL (Action Level) | MCLG (What's the Goal?) | Date Sampled (mo/yr) | 90th Percentile Result | Range Low - High (MD) | No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding AL | Exceedance | Major Sources |
| Copper (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | June 2023 | 0.83 | 0.01 - 0.95 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (ppb) | 15 | 0 | June 2023 | 0.014 | 0.001 - 0.054 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. These recommended actions are very important to the health of your family:

- Use only water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead.
- 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.

Lead levels in your drinking water are likely to be higher if:

- Your home or water system has lead pipes, or
- Your home has faucets or fittings made of brass which contains some lead, or
- Your home has copper pipes with lead solder and you have naturally soft water, and
- Water often sits in the pipes for several hours

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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead_2

General Information Regarding Drinking Water Contaminants

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. MCLs, defined in a List of Definitions in this report, are set at very stringent levels.

To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater run-off, and residential uses.
- 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.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 U.S. 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.

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 healthcare providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Center for Disease Control 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).

Abbreviations & Definitions

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Lowest 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 contaminant level 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 Detected (MD)

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfection 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 Applicable (NA)

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of the water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Not Detected (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above the detection limits of lab equipment.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): a measure of Radioactivity **ppb (parts per billion):**

micrograms per liter (µg/L) ppm (parts per million): milligrams per

liter (mg/L) ppt (parts per trillion): nanograms per liter (ng/L) **Threshold**

Odor Number (T.O.N.): The greatest dilution of a sample with odor-free water that still yields a just

detectable odor.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variance & Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.



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