



# VC/Southwest Interconnect Water System's 2024 Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report



Volusia County Utilities is 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. We want you to understand the efforts we make to provide you with a dependable and safe supply of drinking-water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and protecting our water resources.

## Where Does My Water Come From and How is it Treated?

Seven wells provide VC/Southwest Interconnect with groundwater pumped from the Floridan Aquifer. This water system consists of four Water Treatment Plants. At the main plant, Glen Abbey, water is aerated for hydrogen sulfide removal and is followed by tank aeration, mixing and forced ventilation to remove trihalomethanes. Each of the interconnected facilities adds orthophosphate as a corrosion inhibitor and applies a combination of chlorine and ammonia (chloramines) to ensure the distribution system is safe from pathogenic bacteria.

## Understanding Source Water Quality:

The sources of drinking water for 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 bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operation, and wildlife.
- ◆ **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which may be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, 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 storm water 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.

## About Water Quality:

All 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 (800-426-4791) or by visiting the following website: [epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations](https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations)

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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)



Volusia County Utilities routinely monitors water quality parameters at each of our groundwater supply wells and again at the point of entry into our distribution system. This allows us to ensure that proper process controls are implemented in order to ensure water characteristics such as pH, alkalinity, and calcium levels are optimal when it leaves our water treatment plant.

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. Volusia County Utilities 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 and wish to have your water tested, contact Volusia County Utilities Operations at (386) 822-6465. 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>. Volusia County Utilities conducted a lead service line inventory as required by the EPA. During this inventory, there were no lead service lines found. For a copy of the full report, please contact Volusia County Utilities Operations Office at 386-822-6465.

## Key Terms in This Report:

Volusia County Water Resources and Utilities routinely monitors for more than 80 regulated contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws, rules and regulations. As you can see by the table below, laboratory analysis of our water yielded no violations of drinking water standards. All test results were well below the allowable levels. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

The primary contaminants include inorganic compounds (mostly metals that are naturally found in the environment), volatile compounds, pesticides, PCBs, and radionuclides. Secondary contaminants include compounds associated with the aesthetic quality of water. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the most recent results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2024 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.

In the water quality results tables, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms, we have 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.
- ◆ **“N/A”** means not applicable.
- ◆ **“ND”** means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
- ◆ **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 disinfectant to control microbial contaminants.
- ◆ **Action Level (AL);** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- ◆ **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 (ug/l);** One part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.
- ◆ **90th Percentile;** Value for which ninety percent of the sites sampled were either equal to or below.





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## Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	1/24 - 12/24	No	2.6	1.0 - 3.8	4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	1/24 - 12/24	No	36.3	18.5 - 40.2	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	1/24 - 12/24	No	48.6	39.7 - 60	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	3/23	No	0.023	0.018 - 0.023	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	3/23	No	0.12	N/A	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Mercury (ppb)	3/23	No	0.02	0.014 - 0.02	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from
Sodium (ppm)	3/23	No	19	16-19	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.

## Lead & Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded Y/N	90th Percentile	No. of Sampling Sites Exceeding AL (Action Level)	Range of Tap Sample Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	08/23	No	0.39	0	ND - 0.55	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	8/23	No	1.9	0	ND - 14	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

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## Unregulated Contaminants (Nationwide EPA Study)

Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	Level Detected (average)	Range of Results	Likely Source of Contamination
PFBS (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00783	0.0049 - 0.012	unavailable
PFBA (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00343	ND - 0.0079	unavailable
PFHxA (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00525	0.0032 - 0.0073	unavailable
PFHxS (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00346	ND - 0.0057	unavailable
PFOA (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00772	0.0050 - 0.012	unavailable
PFOS (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.01202	0.0059 - 0.022	unavailable
PFPeA (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00623	0.0037 - 0.0087	unavailable
PFHpA (ppb)	1/24, 4/24, 7/24	0.00105	ND - 0.0032	unavailable

Volusia County Utilities has been monitoring 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. At present, no health standards (for example, maximum contaminant levels) have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the detected analytical results of our UC monitoring in this annual water quality report. 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.

### Source Water Assessments:

The FDEP's Source Water Assessment & Protection Program is meant to ensure that your drinking water is safe, not just at the tap, but at its source. Initiated as part of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the program identifies potential threats to drinking water supplies with the goal to protect our vital resources. The most recent Source Water Assessment performed for VC/Southwest Interconnect by the Department of Environmental Protection was in 2024. There were 8 unique potential source of contamination identified for this system, all of which were identified as being of a low level or moderate level of concern. The assessment results are available on the FDEP



### Questions or Concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided in this report, please feel free to contact Volusia County Utilities Operations at (386) 822-6465. You may also choose to attend a Volusia County Council meeting. These meetings are typically held on Tuesdays, usually on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Public participation is held near the beginning of each meeting. View the County Council Calendar for exact dates and times at: <https://www.volusia.org/government/county-council/county-council-meetings/county-council-calendar.stml>