



Destin Water Users, Inc.

**2021
ANNUAL
DRINKING
WATER**

Quality
Report

2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report **for Destin Water Users, Inc.**

This report is available on our website to all our customers and in the Destin Water Users Administrative Office located at 218 Main St., Destin, FL.

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The water quality report is an annual publication that is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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 sources are ground water from our 6 coastal wells and water purchased from South Walton Utility Company, Inc. (SWUCI). The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water source, the only treatments required at Destin Water Users and South Walton Utility Company are chlorine and/or sodium hypochlorite for disinfection purposes.

Destin Water Users (DWU) 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, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Data obtained before January 1, 2021, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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:

- (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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) **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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the number 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In the tables on the pages to follow, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions in alphabetical order:

- **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 billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$):** 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.

Visual Example:



2021 Contaminants Tables

Inorganic Contaminants

(Note: Data is a compilation of Destin Water Users, Inc. and South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)

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
Antimony (ppb)	10/20	N	2.8	ND-2.8	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium (ppm)	09/20, 10/20	N	0.169	0.012-0.169	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	09/20	N	4.7	ND-4.7	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	09/20, 10/20	N	0.93	0.08-0.93	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)	09/20	N	1.8	0.1-1.8	0	15	Residue from man- made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	10/20	N	0.7	ND-0.7	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and cropland
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	08/21	N	0.22	ND-0.22	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	09/20	N	1.3	ND-1.3	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	09/20, 10/20	N	122	1.3-122	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil

Radioactive Contaminants

(Note: Data is a compilation of Destin Water Users, Inc. and South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)

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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	06/17, 08/17, & 11/17	N	3.9	ND-3.9	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	06/17, 11/17, & 09/20	N	2.6	ND-2.6	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Stage 1 and Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

(Note: Data sampled by Destin Water Users, Inc.)

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine - (ppm)	01-12/21	N	1.09 (Average)	1-1.14	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	08/21	N	3.2	2.7-3.2	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	08/21	N	12.1	11.9-12.1	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

(Note: Data sampled by Destin Water Users, Inc.)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Violation (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	06-09/20	N	0.097	0 of 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	06-09/20	N	2.0	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. DWU 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>.

As you can see by the tables listed in this report, **our system had no violations**. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

In 2021, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and the system from whom we purchase water. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are twenty-two potential sources of contamination identified for Destin Water User's system with a low susceptibility level. There are twelve potential sources of contamination for South Walton Utility Company with low to moderate susceptibility levels. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAPP) website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800- 426-4791.



In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements to our water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary to address these improvements. Thank you for understanding.

If you have any other questions about the SWAPP information, this report, or concerning your water utility please contact DWU's Water Operations Superintendent Judd Mooso at (850) 337-3915 during office hours. We encourage you, our valued customers, to be informed about your water utility. To learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at 4pm on the third Tuesday of each month at the Destin Water Users, Inc. main office, which is located at 218 Main Street, Destin, FL 32541.

We at Destin Water Users, Inc. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.



- Check Faucets and pipes for leaks – a small drip can waste 20 gallons of water per day.
- Minimize use of kitchen sink garbage disposal units. The units require a lot of water to operate properly and add to the volume of solids in a sewage collection system, which can lead to maintenance problems. Instead of using a garbage disposal, compost kitchen scraps, and use the nutrient-rich compost to improve yard or garden soil.
- Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces loss from evaporation.
- Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water.
- Irrigate your lawn with reclaimed water. To find out if reclaimed water is available in your neighborhood, contact DWU's customer service at 850-837-6146 or CS@dwuinc.com.

For more information on how you can help conserve water please visit:
<https://floridadep.gov/comm/public-outreach/content/water-conservation-tips>