

Auburn Water System, Inc

2012



Consumer

Confidence

Report



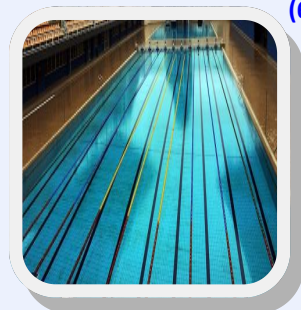
2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For Auburn Water System, Inc

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 6 wells. The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatment required is chlorine for disinfection purposes.

In 2012 the 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 a www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Doug Sims, General Manager or Richard Laux, Operations Manager at 850-682-3413 or 850-682-1258. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. They are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Board of Directors Room, 3097 Locke Lane, Crestview, Florida.

Just how small is a part per million or a part per billion?
In one Olympic-sized swimming pool
(660,000 gallons)



1 PPM = 1 1/4 two-liter bottles



1 PPB = 1/2 teaspoon



In the table to the right, 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.

INITIAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM EVALUATION (IDSE):

An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

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. MRDLG's 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.

Auburn Water System Inc. 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, 2012. Data obtained before January 1, 2012, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

2012 ANALYSIS TABLE

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							
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi / L)	March 08	N	0.9	ND-0.9	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic (ppb)	Jan-Feb 11	N	3.9	ND-3.9	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	Jan-Feb 11	N	0.02	ND-0.02	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	Jan-Feb 11	N	3.9	ND-3.9	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	Jan-Feb 11	N	0.2	0.14-0.2	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	Jan-Feb 11	N	7.0	2.0-7.0	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters

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)	Jan-Dec 12	N	1.3	1.19-1.49	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	July 12	N	8.02	7.2-9.2	NA	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	July 12	N	13.43	0.5-27	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

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
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-Sept 12	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)	Jun-Sept 12	N	1.5	0 OF 30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits



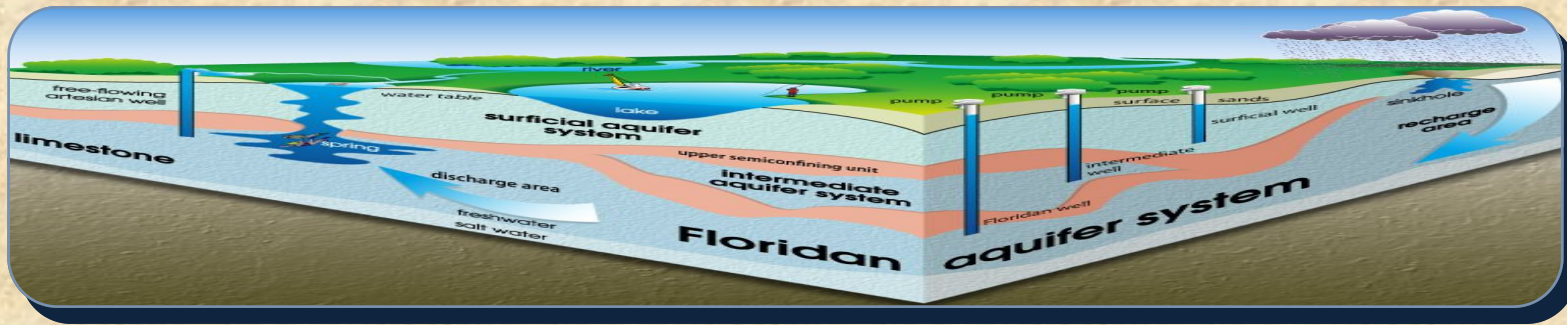
AQUARIUS

Today, Auburn Water System pumps your water from the Floridan Aquifer. Conserving this natural resource is vital. In the future, our aquifer will reach a point where no increase in demand can be placed upon it. At that point, Auburn Water System will have to find additional sources of drinking water. Any other source will cost our customers more. The more we conserve now, the further off in the future that day will be.

- Conservation helps to reduce the demand on our water source, the Floridan Aquifer, and is a sustainable solution to reduce the need to find expensive alternative water sources.
- Over the long term, conservation will help to keep rates lower longer because we can delay undertaking more expensive means of getting water.
- Other water source alternatives cost 5 – 14 times more than taking water from the aquifer with desalination of seawater being the most expensive.



AQUAFINA



From the EPA - Drinking Water Sources

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.

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.

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

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. Auburn Water System, Inc. 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>

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 at Auburn Water System, 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.