

AUBURN WATER SYSTEM, INC



Consumer Confidence Report 2017

***We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets
all Federal and State requirements.***

We're pleased to present to you this year's Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality 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.

The source of our drinking water is ground water from seven wells which draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatment required is chlorine for disinfection purposes.



Want More Information?

We encourage our customers to be informed about Auburn Water System. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings or contact our General Manager, Doug Sims or Richard Laux, Operations Manager at (850) 682 -1258. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday and our office is located at 3097 Locke Lane Crestview, FL 32536.

In 2017, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system for which it indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

Auburn Water System, Inc. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water per 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, 2017. Data obtained before January 1, 2017, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

Definitions:

In the table below, 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.*

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.*

Not Detected (ND): *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.*

2017 CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Results	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	June 2017	N	0.17	0 of 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	June 2017	N	1.8	0 of 30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits .

Radioactive Contaminants							
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
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	March 2014 - April 2017	N	0.9	ND-0.9	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
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
Arsenic (ppb)	April 2017	N	3.8	2.1 –3.8	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	April 2017	N	0.02	ND– 0.02	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	April 2017	N	5	ND-5	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Fluoride (ppm)	April 2017	N	0.15	0.13 - 0.15	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.
Mercury (ppb)	April 2017	N	0.1	ND -0.1	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.
Nitrite (ppm)	April 2017	N	0.025	ND-0.025	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	April 2017	N	3	1.5-3	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 (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Stage 1: Chlorine (ppm)	Jan.– Dec. 2017	N	0.95	0.82-1.09	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	July 2017	N	1.5	1.2-1.5	N/A	MCL =60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	July 2017	N	6.4	5-6.4	N/A	MCL =80	By-product of drinking water disinfection



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 two 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>

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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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.

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 have had customers ask why they must install a backflow prevention device if they have not connected to the Auburn Water line with their water from a pond or a well that is being used for irrigation. Cross connections, which are when an unapproved water source is connected to a public water supply are very difficult for us to identify, since the connection would be buried underground. We have taken the stance that the safety of our drinking water is critical to the health and safety of our customers and is a basic responsibility of our company. If we did not enforce the requirement in all instances that we are aware of where a backflow device is needed due to the potential of a cross connection, and that illegal connection was present, we will have failed as a company and more importantly, failed you as our customers. These cross connections can cause serious illnesses, and for that reason we cannot take the risk of our water supply becoming contaminated.

We at Auburn Water System would like you to understand our commitment to improve the level of service we provide and our efforts to protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

The employees of Auburn Water System, are dedicated to providing excellent customer service. We offer our employees incentives to pursue additional educational opportunities. Currently, we have six Drinking Water Treatment Plant Operators and six Distribution System Operators. We can all be proud of our well trained staff.