2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Apalachicola

We're 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. 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 three wells. The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the quality of our water, the only treatment required is chlorine for disinfection purposes.

In 2025 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 SWAPP website at https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/ or they can be obtained from Apalachicola City Hall at (850)653-9319.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Sheneidra Cummings, City Clerk at (850)653-9319. 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 meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Former Apalachicola Municipal Library, 74 6th St, Apalachicola, Florida.

The City of Apalachicola 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, 2025. Data obtained before January 1, 2025, and presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. 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.
Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

2025 CONTAMINANTS TABLE

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
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Jun-20	N	2.4	N/A	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	Nov-23	N	1.5	N/A	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	**Sept-25**	**N**	**0.23**	**N/A**	**10**	**10**	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	Nov-23	N	0.011	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	Nov-23	N	0.59	N/A	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 0.7 ppm
Nickel (ppb)	Nov-23	N	2.3	N/A	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operations. Natural occurrence in soil
Sodium (ppm)	Nov-23	N	30	N/A	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

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 25	N	1.26	0.56-1.95	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	Jan-Dec 25	N	24.72	7.51-49.73	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) – System Results	Jan-Dec 25	N	77.25	27.93-126.54	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*Compliance is based on an average of 4 quarters of data

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	Range of tap sample results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jan- Dec 23	N	0.12	0 of 20	ND- 1.1	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jan- Dec 23	N	3	0 of 20	N/A	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Secondary Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Odor (threshold odor number)	Dec 23	Y	8	N/A	0	3	Naturally occurring organics

Ten samples during 2025 (5 samples at Roberts Fish Dock (Jun-Oct) and 5 samples at Bay City Lodge (Jun-Oct)) had a Total Trihalomethanes result higher than the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) 80 parts per billion (ppb). However, the system did not incur an MCL violation because all annual average results at all sites were at or below the MCL. The TTHM's are shown in the Test Results Table. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Apalachicola received ty MCL violation for secondary contaminant odor. Secondary contaminants that consist of naturally occurring organics were found.

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.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily 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 components associated with service lines and in home plumbing. City of Apalachicola 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. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within you home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing dishes, or a load of laundry. You can all.so use a file4er certifies nu an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact City of Apalachicola, Rhett Butler, 850-653-9319. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.eps.gov/safewater/lead.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency has revised the Lead and Copper rule for all public drinking water systems. They have mandated that drinking water systems produce an inventory list of all service line material. The service line is the piping that extends from our water main to the customer's meter as well as the piping that extends from the meter to the customer's home. City of Apalachicola has prepared this inventory in accordance with federal regulations. To view this service line inventory, contact City of Apalachicola, Rhett Butler, 850-653-5466 or visit

https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1717120.1]&[profile=Sampling]

Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings and fixtures may cause metals, including lead and copper, to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, City of Apalachicola conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites every three years. The most recent set of lead and copper tap sampling is available for review. To view the lead and copper tap sampling data, contact City of Apalachicola or visit https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1622648.1]&[profile=Sampling]

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 stormwater 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.

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/Center for Disease Control (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 City of Apalachicola would like 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. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.