



South Sumter Utilities 2021 Water Quality Report PWS # 3600009

Your Water is Safe to Drink

We are pleased to present you our 2021 Water Quality Report. We are required by law to send this assurance report annually, so our customers are informed about the quality of the water you are consuming. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water we provided last year. Included are details about the source of your water, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards. We are committed to providing you with the information because we want you to be informed. For more information about your water, call the utility office at (352) 259-2802.

Special Population Advisory

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Drinking Water Sources

Our water source is groundwater from wells that draw water from the Floridan Aquifer and is then chlorinated for disinfection purposes prior to distribution to our customers. In 2021, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are no potential sources of contamination identified for this system with low susceptibility. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

Contaminants in Water

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- *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.
- *Pesticides & herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential use.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data

The table in this report lists all the drinking water contaminants we detected during the 2021 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2021. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Lead-Specific Information

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. South Sumter Utilities 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 is available from the

Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Terms & Abbreviations

- AL - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- LRAA - Locational Running Annual Average.
- MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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.
- MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.
- MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- MRDLG - Maximum residual disinfectant level goal, or 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.
- MRL - Minimum Reporting Limit.
- NA - Not applicable
- ND - Not detectable at testing limit
- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- RAA - Running Annual Average

Table of Detected Contaminants

Substance	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper							
Copper (ppm) action level at consumer taps	1.3 (AL)	1.3	0.18	Sites Above the AL 0	May 2020	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) action level at consumer taps	15 (AL)	0	ND	Sites Above the AL 0	May 2020	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.01	0.009-0.01	Feb, May 2020	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)(ppm)	10	10	0.012	NA	Feb 2021	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.3	0.2-0.3	Feb 2020	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	160	NA	8.3	6.7-8.3	Feb 2020	N	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	3.4	ND-3.4	Feb 2020	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	1.8	0.6-1.8	Feb 2020	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
(There is convincing evidence that that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)							
Chlorine (as Cl ₂)(ppm)	4	4	1.6 (RAA)	1.3-1.9	Jan-Dec 2021	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids 5 (HAA5) (ppb)	60	NA	26.7 (LRAA)	12.3-32.3	Feb, May, Aug 2021	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	NA	39.6 (LRAA)	23.5-76.4	Feb, May, Aug 2021	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Your water was analyzed for hardness which resulted in a value of 169 mg/L.

“Water is perhaps one of our most precious resources. We must be vigilant in protecting our source water, committed to conserving this resource, and diligent in the treatment and distribution of water to the community. We at Jacobs, South Sumter Utilities are committed to delivering the highest quality drinking water possible, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year,” said DeAnna Simmons, Water Operations Supervisor. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call (352) 259-2802.

JACOBS prepared this water quality report as a service to South Sumter Utilities.