

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By
**Greater Pine Island Water
Association Inc.**



Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. 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 and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Source Water Assessment

In 2021, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) 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 five potential sources of contamination with a low susceptibility level identified for this system. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp, or they can be obtained by calling customer service at (239) 283-1071 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Mission Statement

Our mission at GPIWA is to produce clean, safe drinking water that exceeds all regulated standards and to strive to deliver all services as cost-effectively as possible with our members' interests in mind.

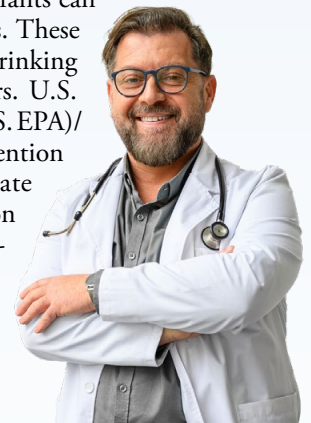


Source Water Description

Our system pumps groundwater from an aquifer known as the Lower Hawthorne from five production wells that are approximately 750 feet deep.

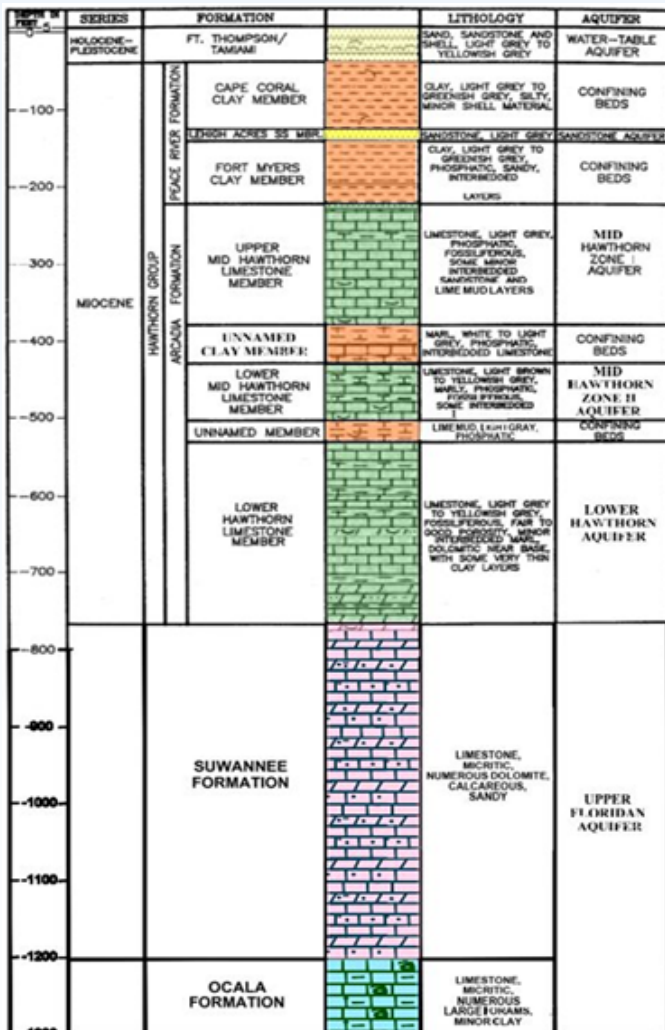
Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Nicole Scott, our customer service manager, at (239) 283-1071.



Substances That Could Be in Water

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:

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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses;

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; and

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Reverse Osmosis

Reverse osmosis is the opposite of osmosis, a process occurring in nature. Osmosis can be defined as the passage of a liquid from a freshwater solution to a more concentrated saltwater solution across a semipermeable membrane. The semipermeable membrane allows the passage of the water but not the dissolved contaminants, such as salt. Reverse osmosis is accomplished by applying pressure to a concentrated saltwater solution, forcing the pure water to flow through the semipermeable membrane to the weak freshwater side. Reverse osmosis rejects between 98 and 99 percent of dissolved solids (salts), color, bacteria, radioactive substances, and other inorganic or organic chemicals that may be present in groundwater systems.

Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health effects 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 parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Greater Pine Island Water Association Inc. 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. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.

Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have it tested, contact Greater Pine Island Water Association's customer service office at (239) 283-1071. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory is at GPIWA.com. Select More and then Lead and Copper Rule. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

Public Meetings

We encourage public interest and participation in our association's decisions affecting drinking water. Board meetings are typically held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, usually during February, April, June, August, October, and December, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pine Island Center office, 5281 Pine Island Road. All members are welcome. The annual membership meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday in February. Please check our website for the next scheduled board meeting.

Si usted quiere recibir este folleto en español, por favor llame al telefono (239) 283-1071.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.



RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	No	03/2023	12.1	NA	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 [combined radium] (pCi/L)	No	03/2023	1.41	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Barium (ppm)	No	03/2023	0.0024	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	No	03/2023	0.220	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; Water additive that promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	No	03/2023	74.8	NA	NA	160	Saltwater intrusion; Leaching from soil

STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG OR [MRDLG]	MCL OR [MRDL]	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chlorine (ppm)	No	01/2025-12/2025	1.36	0.24–2.7	[4]	[4.0]	Water additive used to control microbes

STAGE 2 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	No	08/2025	3.5	2.8–3.5	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	No	08/2025	21	19.1–21	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED FROM SITES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY)¹

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	AL EXCEEDANCE (YES/NO)	DATES OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	RANGE LOW-HIGH	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	No	08/2025	0.0039	0.00094–0.42	0/45	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	Yes	08/2025	0.5	0.36–37	1/45	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

¹ This table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please visit GPIWA.com and select More, then Water Quality Reports.



Treatment Process

Source water entering the plant is called raw water. Upon entry, a scale inhibitor is injected to prevent scaling. The addition of this chemical is commonly referred to as pretreatment. At this point, the raw water becomes the feed water. After pretreatment, the feed water enters a series of cartridge filters.

Upon passing through the cartridge filters, the water is pumped with high-pressure pumps into the reverse osmosis production units for primary treatment. When the feed water travels across the reverse osmosis membrane elements, it is separated into usable (product) and unusable (concentrate) water. Pretreatment keeps dissolved solids in liquid form during this separation. As required by permit, the concentrate is then discharged from the system by way of a pipeline to a deep injection well.

The amount of concentrate removed in the reverse osmosis process is approximately 15 percent of the feed water entering the system. The concentrate water is not drinkable, nor is it suitable for irrigation due to the high concentration of dissolved solids.

After the reverse osmosis units separate the water into product and concentrate, the product water flows toward the degasifiers. Product water coming out of the reverse osmosis units is of such high purity that it has little or no hardness. Prior to entering the degasifiers, some raw water is blended with the product water to increase alkalinity and hardness to a moderate level. This produces a more stable finished water for corrosion control. At this point, the water is called blend product. Approximately 17 percent of the total blend product is blend water.

The blend product water then enters the degasifiers, where hydrogen sulfide is stripped from the water. Hydrogen sulfide produces the objectionable sulfur or “rotten egg” odor often found in well water. Blend product water cascades down into the degasifiers. It is forcibly mixed with air from a blower. The air strips the hydrogen sulfide from the water, and the combined hydrogen sulfide and air leave through a tower connected to the top of the degasifiers. The water falls into the clearwell, where chlorine and caustic soda are added. Liquid chlorine (sodium hypochlorite) is added for disinfection and removal of any remaining hydrogen sulfide not removed by the degasifiers. Orthophosphate is added to the water as a corrosion inhibitor. Caustic soda (sodium hydroxide) is added to raise the pH of the water. This pH adjustment is the final step in the process of stabilizing the water for corrosion control. From the clearwell, the water is pumped to storage tanks, where it is called finished water. At this point, it is available for pumping to the consumer.



Reporting Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

We have been monitoring for unregulated contaminants (UCs) as part of a study to help the U.S. EPA determine their occurrence in drinking water and whether these contaminants need to be regulated. For example, we participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. All results reported were below the detection limit. At present, no health standards (e.g., maximum contaminant levels) have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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): 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): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.