

Additional Information About Lead

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. The City of Tarpon Springs 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 filer, 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 the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water 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, 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 your water tested, contact The City of Tarpon Springs Water Division at 727-937-2557. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

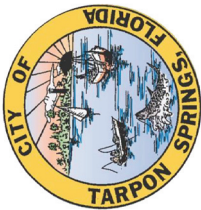
How can I get involved?

If you would like to learn more or have any questions or concerns about this report, please contact the City of Tarpon Springs Water Division at (727) 937-2557. If you would like to attend the City of Tarpon Springs Board of Commissioners meetings, regularly scheduled meetings are generally held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at the Tarpon Springs City Hall. The public may also participate in the meeting using Zoom or telephone or view only on television or YouTube. For more information, please visit: <https://www.ctsfl.us/board-of-commissioners-agenda/>

City of Tarpon Springs

325 E. Pine Street

Tarpon Springs, FL 34589



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The City of Tarpon Springs is pleased to present this year’s Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set forth by both federal and state regulatory agencies. ***The City of Tarpon Springs routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations, and we are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.*** This report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024, except where indicated otherwise. Data obtained before January 1, 2024, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

Where does my water come from?

City of Tarpon Springs drinking water is obtained from the Tarpon Springs Reverse Osmosis Water Facility (ROWF) which treats brackish groundwater from the City’s well field. The City’s own water sources are drawn from the Floridan Aquifer, and are treated through reverse osmosis filtration, aeration, chlorine disinfection, conditioning, and then corrosion control is added. Fluoride is also added for dental health purposes. The City also maintains the ability to purchase drinking water from Pinellas County on a limited, as needed basis. Pinellas County obtains their water from Tampa Bay Water, a regional water supplier serving ablend of groundwater and surface water.

It is the constant goal of the City to provide quality water to its valued customers. If you would like to learn more or have any questions or concerns about this report, please contact the City of Tarpon Springs Water Division at (727) 937-2557.

Source Water Assessment

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) performed a Source Water Assessment on our system in 2024. The assessment was conducted as part of the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program to provide information about any potential

sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. This program is meant to ensure that City drinking water is safe, not just at the tap, but at its source. Sixteen potential sources of contamination were identified for this system, ranging from low to moderate susceptibility levels, and this information is used by the City to inform wellfield protection efforts. The assessment results are available on the DEP SWAPP website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>. The assessment is designed to assist the community and utilities by locating ***potential*** sources of contamination, such as gas stations and recycling facilities in the vicinity or our wells, but does ***not*** indicate that any ***actual*** contamination of water sources has occurred.

What can affect drinking water quality?

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 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.***

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (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 (800-426-4791).

Lead Service Line Inventory

The City of Tarpon Springs conducted a complete survey of all drinking water service lines, totalling over 12,000 individual connections. The comprehensive review included an examination of all available historical records, including record drawings and ordinance reviews, as well as over 7,500 pipeline inspections of homes and businesses.



The City is pleased to announce that no lead service lines were found. To view the City’s Lead Service Line Inventory, please visit: <https://tarponsprings.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e72071e7c3748cabb13f86fcd0b261>

Water Quality Data Table

The following table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed in the table were found in your water. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA and the State allow 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 our data, though representative, may be more than one year old.

In the table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions at right:

PRIMARY REGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (mo/yr)	TT VIOLATION Y/N	RESULT	MCLG	TT	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION	
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliform Bacteria	1/24-12/24	No	0	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment	
The City of Tarpon Springs collects at least 360 bacteriological samples per year from the distribution system and has them analyzed by a state-certified laboratory.							
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
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Barium (ppm)	5/23	No	0.016	ND - 0.016	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	5/23	No	1.1	ND - 1.1	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	5/23	No	0.56	ND - 0.56	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
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	5/23	No	1.5	ND - 1.5	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	5/23	No	81	81	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Selenium (ppb)	5/23	No	2	ND - 2	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
DISINFECTANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL VIOLATION Y/N	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MRDLG	MRDL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS							
For chloramines, or chlorine, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. The range of results is the highest and lowest result of all the individual samples collected during the past year.							
Chlorine and Chloramines (ppm)	1/24-12/24	No	1.76	0.89 - 2.24	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
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 2 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
For disinfection byproducts, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA) of quarterly averages of all samples collected. Averages from early in the year are based on results from 2023. The range of results is the highest and lowest result of all the individual samples collected during the past year, and is not based on averages.							
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2, 5, 8, 11/24	No	2.98	0.28 - 1.7	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2, 5, 8, 11/24	No	15.50	1.00 - 11.7	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATES OF SAMPLING (mo/yr)	AL EXCEEDED Y/N	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	# OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEED-ING THE AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
LEAD AND COPPER (Tap Water)							
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	8/22	No	0.15	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	8/22	No	1.2	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
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							
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2, 5, 8, 11/20	No	3.6	ND - 3.6	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	2, 4, 7/20	No	1.9	ND - 1.9	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (µg/l)	2, 5, 8, 11/20	No	4.2	ND - 4.2	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Important Drinking Water 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.

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.

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.

“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.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation saves utility customers money and helps the environment by reducing well water withdrawals. According to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), a simple leaky faucet can waste anywhere from several gallons to hundreds of gallons per day! You can take simple steps today that will conserve water and conserve your money. Here are some great places to start:

- ▶ Check your irrigation timer in the dry season and the wet season. The Southwest Florida Water Management District provides guidance on irrigation scheduling to save water, keep your landscape healthy, and save money! <https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/residents/water-conservation/irrigation-scheduling>
- ▶ Check your sprinkler heads monthly while the system is running. Irrigation leaks waste a lot of water!
- ▶ **City year-round watering restrictions only allow for once per week watering for all sources except reclaimed water.** By placing rain gauges or measuring cups around your yard, you can test to make sure that you are not over-watering. See the link for more information: <http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/water/lawn-care-and-irrigation/>
- ▶ Fix any leaky faucets. The water they waste can be costly and they are often relatively easy to repair with do-it-yourself kits that provide instructions. Use a licensed plumber if preferred.
- ▶ For more information on these and other basic water conservation tips, visit the SWFWMD website: <https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/residents/water-conservation>

To learn about Florida-friendly plants that are low maintenance, attract wildlife, and require little irrigation or fertilizer, please visit <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/pinellas/florida-friendly-landscaping/>

If you have an interest in environmental issues and City service, the City is actively seeking applicants for membership on the citizen Sustainability Advisory Committee. If you are interested, please contact Holly Langston at hLangston@ctsfl.us

