



DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.

2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



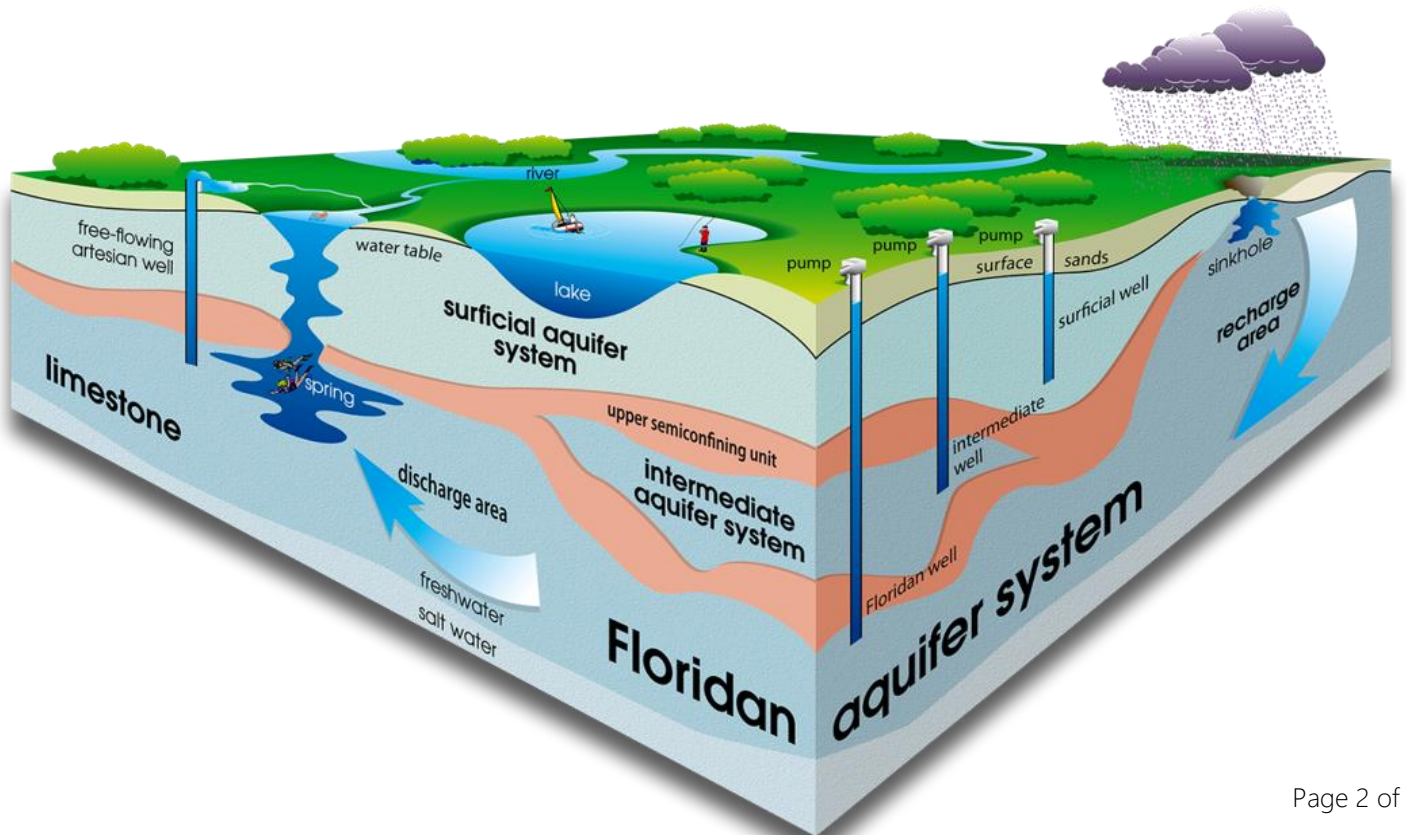
2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For Destin Water Users, Inc.

This report will be available on our website to all of our customers and is also available at the Destin Water Users Administrative Office at 218 Main St., Destin, FL.

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The water quality report is an annual publication that is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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 sources are ground water from our 6 coastal wells and water purchased from South Walton Utility Company, Inc. (SWUCI). All of these wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments required at Destin Water Users and South Walton Utility Company are chlorine and/or sodium hypochlorite for disinfection purposes.

Destin Water Users (DWU) 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, 2019 to December 31, 2019. Data obtained before January 1, 2019, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In the tables on the pages to follow, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions in alphabetical order:

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

2019 Contaminants Tables

Inorganic Contaminants

(Note: Data is a compilation of Destin Water Users, Inc. and South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)

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
Barium (ppm)	01/17-08/17	N	0.22	0.012-0.22	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	01/17-08/17	N	0.9	0.09-0.90	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 0.7ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	01/17-08/17	N	2.9	ND-2.9	0	15	Residue from man- made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nickel (ppb)	01/17-08/17	N	6.1	ND-6.1	N/A	100	Pollution from mining and refining operation. Natural occurrence in soil.
Sodium (ppm)	01/17-09/17	N	157* (Avg.)	ND-166*	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil.
Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	01/17-08/17	N	0.2	ND-0.2	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and cropland.

*Original and re-samples were averaged together and were found below the MCL, no violation per DEP.

2019 Contaminants Tables Continued

Radioactive Contaminants

(Note: Data is a compilation of Destin Water Users, Inc. and South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)

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)	08/17-11/17	N	3.9	ND-3.9	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	08/17-11/17	N	2.6	ND-2.6	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

(Note: Data sampled by Destin Water Users, Inc.)

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) Stage 1	01-12/19	N	1.09 (Average)	1-1.2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL= 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	08/19	N	8.39	4.46-8.39	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

2019 Contaminants Tables Continued

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
(Note: Data sampled by Destin Water Users, Inc.)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Violation (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (at the tap) (ppm)	06-09/17	N	0.1	0 of 30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (at the tap) (ppb)	06-09/17	N	2.5	0 of 30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits



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. DWU 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, 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>.

2019 Contaminants Tables Continued

Secondary Contaminants*							
(Note: Data is a compilation of Destin Water Users, Inc. and South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Highest Level	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Odor (Threshold odor number)	01/17-11/17	N	5*	ND-5*	N/A	3	Natural occurring organics

***Original and re-samples were averaged together and were found below the MCL, no violation per DEP.**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the tables above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

As authorized and approved by the EPA, the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than a year old.

As a point of information, South Walton Utility Company, Inc. monitored for unregulated contaminants (UCs) in 2019 as part of a study to help the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determine the occurrence in drinking water of UCs and whether or not these contaminants need to be regulated. At present, no health standards (for example, maximum contaminant levels) or likely sources have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of SWUCI's UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. All detections are shown on the table, but if you would like a copy of all SWUCI's 2019 UC data, contact Joe Ream, Water/Wastewater Director, at South Walton Utility at (850) 837-2988.

If you would like more information on the EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



2019 Unregulated Contaminants Table

Unregulated Contaminants (Note: Data sampled by South Walton Utility Company, Inc.)				
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Level Detected (average)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
Germanium (ppb)	05-12/19	0.021	0.34-16	Naturally occurring element; commercially available in combination with other elements and minerals; a byproduct of zinc ore processing; used in infrared optics, fiber-optic systems, electronics and solar applications.
Manganese (ppb)	05-12/19	2.99	ND-20.2	Naturally occurring element; commercially available in combination with other elements and minerals; used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries and fireworks; drinking water and wastewater treatment chemical; essential nutrient.
HAA5 (ppb)	05-12/19	0.4	0.3-0.55	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA6Br (ppb)	05-12/19	0.183	ND-0.43	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA9 (ppb)	05-12/19	0.263	ND-0.98	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (ppb)	05-12/19	693.9	ND-1670	Naturally present in the environment.
Bromide (ppb)	05-12/19	61.38	ND-240	Unavailable.

In 2019, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and the system from whom we purchase water. There are twenty-one potential sources of contamination identified for Destin Water Users' system with a low to moderate susceptibility range. There are twelve potential sources of contamination for South Walton Utility Company, with a low to moderate susceptibility range. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAPP) website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

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. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

As you can see by the tables listed in this report, **our system had no violations**. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements to our water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for understanding.

If you have any other questions about the SWAPP information, this report, or concerning your water utility please contact DWU's Water Operations Superintendent Judd Mooso at (850) 337-3915 during office hours. We encourage you, our valued customers, to be informed about your water utility. To learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at 4pm on the third Tuesday of each month at the Destin Water Users, Inc. main office, which is located at 218 Main Street, Destin, FL 32541.

We at Destin Water Users, Inc. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

Water Conservation Tips for Residents For Every Room in the House with Plumbing

- Repair leaky faucets, indoors and out.
- Consider replacing old equipment (like toilets, dishwashers and laundry machines).

In the Kitchen

- When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.
- Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.

- When buying a dishwasher, select one with a "light-wash" option.
- Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).
- Install faucet aerators.

In the Bathroom

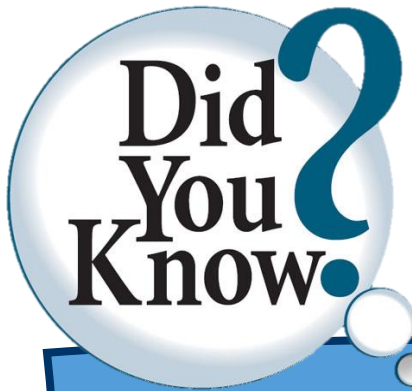
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.
- Repair leaky toilets. Add 12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later, your toilet is leaking.
- Install a toilet dam, faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.

Laundry

- Run full loads of laundry.
- When purchasing a new washing machine, buy a water saving model that can be adjusted to the load size.

Outdoors

- When mowing your lawn, set the mower blades to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention, has more leaf surface to take in sunlight, allowing it to grow thicker and develop a deeper root system. This helps grass survive drought, tolerate insect damage and fend off disease.
- Only water the lawn when necessary. If you water your lawn and garden, only do it once a week, if rainfall isn't enough. Avoid watering on windy and hot days. Water the lawn and garden in the morning or late in the evening to maximize the amount of water which reaches the plant roots (otherwise most of the water will evaporate). Use soaker hoses to water gardens and flower beds. If sprinklers are used, take care to be sure they don't water walkways and buildings. When you water, put down no more than 1 inch (set out a empty cans to determine how long it takes to water 1 inch) each week. This watering pattern will encourage more healthy, deep grass roots. Over-watering is wasteful, encourages fungal growth and disease, and results in the growth of shallow, compacted root systems that are more susceptible to drought and foot traffic. If an automatic lawn irrigation system is used, be sure it has been properly installed, is programmed to deliver the appropriate amount and rate of water, and has rain shut-off capability.
- Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.



Floridan Aquifer Facts:

- The Floridan aquifer is one of the highest producing aquifers in the world!
- It is found throughout Florida and extends into the southern portions of Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina.
- The upper Floridan aquifer is the principal source of water supply in most of north and central Florida.
- It is the source of many springs in Florida.
- The Floridan aquifer is replenished in a natural process called recharge. Recharge occurs when water seeps from the land's surface down through the layers of earth into an aquifer, such as after it rains.
- It is mainly composed of limestone and dolomite. Limestone acts as a sponge, absorbing and holding water. The texture, however, doesn't feel like a sponge at all! It is very hard and full of voids and crevices that allow water to move freely through it.



Aquifer core sample