



2024

Annual Water Quality Report

A Publication of the City of Winter Garden Water Division

We are 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 groundwater produced by six (6) deep wells that draw water from the Floridian Aquifer. Our primary method of treatment for drinking water is aeration and disinfection with Sodium Hypochlorite.

The City of Winter Garden routinely monitors for contaminants in our drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. 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.

The table on page 3 shows the results of our monitoring for 2024. These test results are from our most recent sampling dates. 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 one-year-old. We have learned, through our monitoring and testing, that small amounts of certain contaminants have been detected. The USEPA has determined that your water is **SAFE** at these levels.

In 2024 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 19 potential sources of contamination identified for this system with a range of 0.03 to 111.11 susceptibility level (low to high). The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/Welcome/detailsByPublicOutreachDate/3481481/10012024> or they can be obtained from The City of Winter Garden Water Treatment and Pumping Division at 407-656-4111 extension 2017 or email djones@cwgd.com.

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 Winter Garden 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 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 Winter Garden at 407-656-4111 extension 2017. 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>.

The City of Winter Garden has prepared an inventory of homes that may be affected by lead and copper service lines. The inventory can be found at: <https://www.cwgdn.com/807/Lead-Safe-Community>.

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 contaminant**, 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 run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas productions, mining or farming.
- C. Pesticides or Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water and residential use.
- D. Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off 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, 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.

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.

TERMS:

(ppm): parts per million or milligram per Liter (mg/l) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.

(ppb): parts per billion – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

(pCi/L): picoCuries per Liter – Picocuries per Liter are a measurement of the radioactivity in water.

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

(MCL): Maximum Containment Level – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

(MCLG): Maximum Containment Level Goal – The level of a containment in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

(Range): Indicates the lowest and highest analysis result.

(ND): Non-Detects – Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

(USEPA): United States Environmental Protection Agency

WATER TESTING RESULTS

When our water is tested, the highest number found is used as the established **LEVEL** for Winter Garden. This is then compared to the **MCL**, which is the highest level of the contaminant allowed by FDEP.

City of Winter Garden
Highest Level Found

FDEP
Highest Level Allowed

Contaminant & Unit of Measurement*	MCL/AL Violation?	Level	RANGE	MCLG	MCL	Sample Date**	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	NO	0.19	0.099 – 0.19	0	10	2/8/2023	Erosion of natural deposits, run-off from orchards, run-off from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	NO	0.019	0.012 – 0.019	2	2	2/8/2023	Discharge from drilling water, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	NO	0.21	0.12 – 0.21	4	4	2/8/2023	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives which promote strong teeth
Nitrate as Nitrogen (ppm)	NO	0.052	0.024 – 0.052	10	10	5/16/2024	Run-off from fertilizer use; leaching septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NO	21.0	10.0 – 21.0	NA	160	2/8/2023	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil
Trihalomethanes and Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters							
Chlorine (ppm)	NO	2.52	2.17 – 2.74	MRDLG =4	MRDL 4.0	01/24 – 12/24	Water additive used to control microbes
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NO	27.62	16.96 – 27.62	NA	MCL 80	05/24 – 11/24	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Halocetic Acids (Five) HAA5 (ppb)	NO	7.93	7.05 – 7.93	NA	MCL 60	05/24 – 11/24	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Radiological Contaminants							
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	No	4.2	ND-4.2	0	15	2-8-2023	Erosion of natural deposits

Copper and Lead (Tap water)								
Contaminant & Unit of Measurement*	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	Range	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	NO	0.0970	0.007 – 0.300	Zero sample sites above the action level	1.3	1.3	6/2023	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppm)	NO	0.31	0.005 – 0.049	Zero sample sites above the action level	0	15	6/2023	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
<i>Complete lead tap sampling data are available for review. If you are interested in examining the data, please call (407) 656-4111, ext. 2017.</i>								

Unregulated Contaminants				
Contaminant and Unit of Measure	Dates of Sampling (Mo / Yr)	Level Detected (Average)	Range	Likely Source of Contamination
PFBS Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (ppt)	Feb. 2024 and Aug. 2024	2.63	0.89 – 4.6	PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in blood of people and animals, in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and around the world.
PFHxA Perfluorohexanoic acid (ppt)	Feb. 2024 and Aug. 2024	0.80	0.1 – 1.8	
PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid (ppt)	Feb. 2024 and Aug. 2024	3.36	1.2 – 5.3	
PFOS Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (ppt)	Feb. 2024 and Aug. 2024	5.76	1.2 – 9.9	
PFPeA Perfluoropentanoic acid (ppt)	Feb. 2024 and Aug. 2024	2.03	0.89 – 4.3	

We sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants including 29 PFAS compounds (pre-polyfluoroalkyl substances) and 1 metal, lithium. You have a right to know these data are available. The table shows results for any of the 29 contaminants with detectable quantities. Unregulated contaminants do not yet have a drinking water standard, this monitoring will help EPA determine whether the contaminants should require ongoing testing and establish allowable maximum contaminant limits. If you are interested in examining the results, please call (407) 656-4111, ext. 2017.

* Contaminant(s) listed in previous reports may not be listed above if the contaminant(s) tested indicate measurements that are below minimum detection limits.

** The frequency of contaminants testing is determined by the FDEP. 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, may be more than one-year-old.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two (2) liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These persons should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

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

Violations: The City of Winter Garden Water Treatment & Pumping Division had no monitoring or reporting violations in 2024.

If you have questions regarding this report or your water utility please contact **David Jones, Chief Water Plant Operator** at djones@cwgd.com or 407-656-4111 Extension 2017 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00p.m. For questions regarding the City of Winter Garden **Cross Connection Control (Backflow) Program** contact **Robert Marino** at rmarino@cwgd.com or 407-877-3029. Please direct **Sustainability and Community Liaison** questions to **Donna Corbus** at dcorbus@cwgd.com or 407-877-5193.

The City of Winter Garden encourages you to attend one of our regularly scheduled commission meetings. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787. You may contact the City Clerk’s office at 407-656-4111 for meeting agenda.

To manage your water utility account and learn more about what is happening in your city, visit the City of Winter Garden’s website at www.cwgd.com.