

**2024**

# **City of Zephyrhills Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

**PWS#6512020**



We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is ground water drawn from wells. The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer.

In 2024, 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 8 unique, potential sources of contamination, all of which are of a low susceptibility level. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/> or they can be obtained from the City of Zephyrhills Utilities Department. Our Public Water System ID number is 6512020.

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. The water is treated with a corrosion control inhibitor to prevent excessive corrosion throughout our water distribution system and chlorinated for disinfection purposes.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact John Bostic III, Utilities Director, at 5335 8<sup>th</sup> St., Zephyrhills, FL, 33542, phone him at 813-780-0008, or email at [jbostic@ci.zephyrhills.fl.us](mailto:jbostic@ci.zephyrhills.fl.us)

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held each month on the second and fourth Mondays at 6:00 pm at City Hall.

The City of Zephyrhills 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 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.

In the tables of this report, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you to better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

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

**Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE):** An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant 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.

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

Water Quality Testing Results: Inorganic Contaminants							
Results in the Level Detected column for inorganic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.							
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
Arsenic (ppb)	05/2023	N	0.54	ND-0.54	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	05/2023	N	0.012	0.0034 - 0.012	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	05/2023	N	0.53	ND- 0.53	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead-pipe, casings, and solder
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	08/2024	N	3.6	0.39-3.6	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	05/2023	N	23	6.7-23	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Water Quality Testing Results: Radionuclides							
Results in the Level Detected column for radioactive contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	07/2020	N	5.1	1.2-5.1	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	07/2020	N	2.4	1.2-2.4	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	07/2020	N	0.69	0.24-0.69	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Testing Results: Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
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 (tap water) (ppm)	06/2023	N	0.62	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Water Quality Testing Results: Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
For bromate, 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 range of results of all the individual samples collected during the past year.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDL	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	01/2024 – 12/2024	N	1.34	0.6-1.9	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/2024	N	11.0	4.75-17.25	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids (five)] (ppb)	08/2024	N	2.03	1.08-2.98	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Water Quality Testing Results: Secondary Contaminants							
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
Chloride (ppm)	05/2023	N	31.0	11.0-31.0	N/A	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Copper (ppm)	05/2023	N	0.01	ND-0.01	N/A	1	Corrosion byproduct and natural occurrence from soil leaching
Iron (ppm)	05/2023	N	0.031	ND-0.031	N/A	0.3	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Manganese (ppm)	05/2023	N	0.0068	ND-0.0068	N/A	0.05	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Sulfate (ppm)	05/2023	N	66.0	3.9-66.0	N/A	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Total Dissolved Solids	05/2023	N	310.0	190.0-310.0	N/A	500	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Foaming Agents	05/2023	N	0.051	ND-0.051	N/A	0.5	Pollution from soaps and detergents

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.

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. The City of Zephyrhills is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact John Bostic III, Utilities Director, at [jbostic@ci.zephyrhills.fl.us](mailto:jbostic@ci.zephyrhills.fl.us). 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>. In order 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.

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 / CDC 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

The employees of the City of Zephyrhills Utilities Department work very hard to provide quality water to every customer. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our precious water source so that we will continue our proud heritage of being the **"City of Pure Water"**.