

2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report NAS Pensacola Saufley Field

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual 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 from wells. Emerald Coast Utility Authority (ECUA) has 32 wells distributed throughout its service area that pump water from the Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer. In general, Saufley Field Water System customers receive water from ECUA wells closest to our system. As such, the water delivered to customers is usually a blend of water from more than one well. Each well is considered a separate treatment plant, where water quality parameters are adjusted to comply with operating standards. Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters are installed on eleven wells for iron or organic contamination removal. Calcium Hydroxide (lime) is added for pH adjustment; Phosphoric Acid is added for corrosion control in the distribution system, and Chlorine is added for disinfection. Fluoride is added at select wells, as a source of fluoride treatment.

The recharge area for ECUA wells is limited to the area of Escambia County, south of Cantonment. Because the Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer does not have a confining layer above it, virtually everything that falls on the ground has the potential to reach the main producing zone of the aquifer and affect the quality of our water supply. This concern is referenced in the NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT Public Information Bulletin 87-2, March 1990 and again, in the Escambia County 2004 Grand Jury Report on Groundwater Contamination. This report can be reviewed on line at: [www.clerk.co.escambia.fl.us/downloads/2004Grand Jury Ground Water Contamination.tif](http://www.clerk.co.escambia.fl.us/downloads/2004Grand%20Jury%20Ground%20Water%20Contamination.tif).

ECUA is well aware of this threat to the groundwater and over the years has worked with Escambia County and the City of Pensacola in strengthening their Wellhead Protection Ordinances. For more specific information concerning each well, please contact the ECUA. The tables in this report contain data from ECUA's water quality testing. In addition, our system tests for microbiological contaminants, disinfectant and disinfection by products and also tests for lead and copper.

In 2012, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on ECUA. The assessment was conducted to provide information about potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of their wells. There are fourteen potential sources of contamination identified for this system with low to moderate susceptibility levels. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from (ECUA/NAVFAC - William Taylor at 452-3131 x3003).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact William Taylor at 452-3131 x3003. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Emerald Coast Utility Authority and the Naval Air Station Pensacola 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, 2012. Data obtained before January 1, 2012, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've 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.

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. MRDLG's 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 million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

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.

Pico curie per liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

| 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) | 1/2008 & 4/2011 | N | 6.0 | ND-6.0 | 0 | 15 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L) | 1/2008 & 4/2011 | N | 4.4 | 0.11-4.4 | 0 | 5 | 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 |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Antimony (ppb) | October 2011 | N | 0.7 | ND-0.7 | 6 | 6 | Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder |
| Barium (ppm) | October 2011 | N | 0.079 | 0.10-0.079 | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Cyanide (ppb) | October 2011 | N | 30 | ND-30 | 200 | 200 | Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories |
| Fluoride (ppm) | October 2011 | N | 0.57 | ND-0.57 | 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 |
| Mercury (inorganic) (ppb) | October 2011 | N | 0.2 | ND-0.2 | 2 | 2 | Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland |
| Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) | October 2012 | N | 4.2 | 0.3-4.2 | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | October 2011 | N | 9.4 | 2.6-9.4 | N/A | 160 | Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil |

| 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 |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| 1,1 – Dichloroethylene (ppb) | Jan- Dec 2012 | N | Average 1.0 | ND-1.09 | 7 | 7 | Discharge from industrial chemical factories |
| Tetrachloroethylene (ppb) | Jan- Dec 2012 | N | Average 1.77 | ND-2.31 | 0 | 3 | Discharge from factories and dry cleaners |
| Trichloroethylene (ppb) | Jan- Dec 2012 | N | Average 1.46 | ND- 2.31 | 0 | 3 | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories |
| Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | | | | | | | |
| 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) | Jan-Dec 2012 | N | 1.19 | 0.93-1.54 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb) | July-Sept 2011 | N | Average 1.27 | ND-2.76 | NA | MCL = 60 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) | July-Sept 2011 | N | Average 3.83 | 3.38-4.14 | NA | MCL = 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products* | | | | | | | |
| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Dates of sampling (mo/yr) | MCL Violation (Y/N) | Level Detected | Range of Results | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | July 2012 | N | 1.12 | 0.48-1.12 | NA | 60 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | July 2012 | N | 10.80 | 2.28-10.80 | NA | 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

| Contaminant and Unit of Measurement | Dates of sampling (mo./yr.) | AL Exceeded (Y/N) | 90th Percentile Result | No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL | MCLG | AL (Action Level) | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--|------|-------------------|--|
| Lead and Copper (Tap Water)* | | | | | | | |
| Copper (tap water) (ppm) | July 2012 | N | 0.38 | 1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (tap water) (ppb) | July 2012 | N | 6.2 | 0 | 0 | 15 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*Contaminant data marked with an asterisk are obtained from NAS Saufley Field only, all other contaminant data is from ECUA wells.

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. Saufley Field 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>.

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.*

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 (800-426-4791).