



2025

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Gulf Breeze Regional Water System



GULF
BREEZE
REGIONAL
WATER
SYSTEM

A Message from the Mayor

"This Water Quality Report is required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to keep you informed about your drinking water. State law outlines not only the content of this report but also its format—even the font size—so the information can sometimes be dense or difficult to navigate.

What's most important is this: your water is clean, safe, and reliably delivered by the Gulf Breeze Regional Water System, which is owned and operated by the City of Gulf Breeze.

For decades, the City has taken a thoughtful approach by working with a citizens advisory board, the Gulf Breeze Regional Water Board, made up of residents from inside and outside its city limits.

This board plays a key role in advising the City Council on long-term planning for the utility. Gulf Breeze is unique in offering this kind of advisory board, giving all customers—whether inside or outside city limits—a voice in shaping decisions. That's especially important, given that our service area is nearly ten times the size of the city itself.

This booklet was created at the recommendation of the Gulf Breeze Regional Water System Board to help you better understand the quality, source, and delivery of your drinking water."

JB Schluter, Mayor, City of Gulf Breeze and Board Member of the Gulf Breeze Regional Water Board

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2025

We're pleased to present to you the 2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. We are proud to report that your drinking water continues to meet all currently implemented Federal and State requirements. 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, for this reporting period, is the Fairpoint Regional Utility System (FRUS) and Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA). If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff Huggins, Director of Public Services, at 850-934-5100.

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Our Water Source

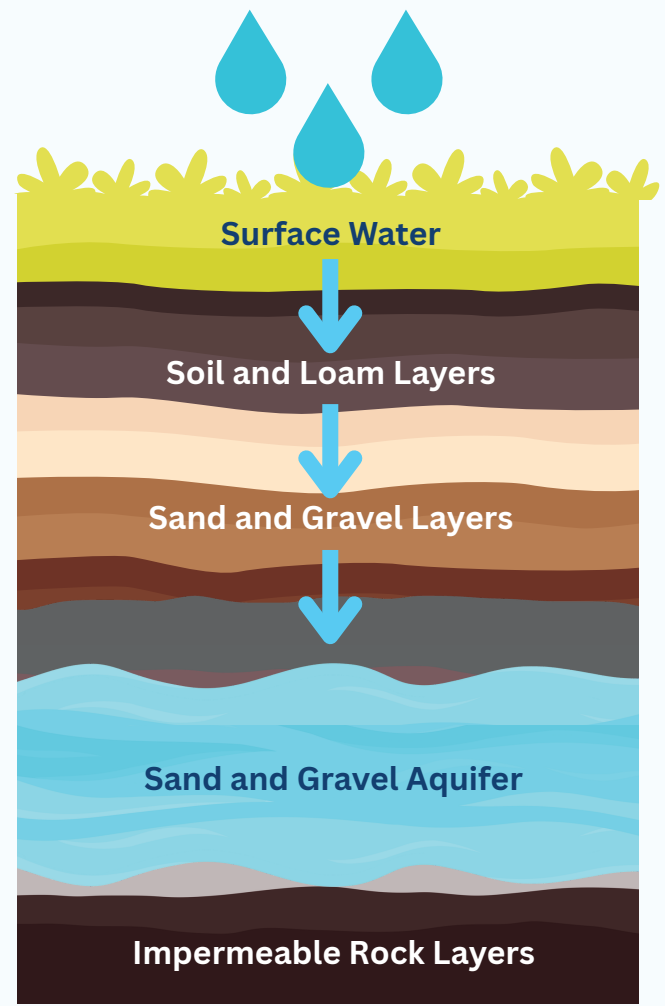
Our source of water is purchased from the FRUS and ECUA. FRUS is a wholesale purveyor of water, owned and operated by the City of Gulf Breeze, Midway Water System, and Holley-Navarre Water System. FRUS consists of six (6) wells which draw from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer and are chemically treated with lime and orthophosphates for pH adjustment and chlorine for disinfection. Additional information regarding FRUS water supply can be obtained from Donna Lupola, (850) 939-2427 x234.

ECUA has 28 active wells distributed throughout its service area that pump water from the Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer. In general, ECUA customers receive water from the wells (two to five) located closest to their residence. Each well is considered a separate treatment plant, where water quality parameters are adjusted to maximize operational efficiencies and to comply with regulatory standards.

Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters are installed on twelve (12) 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. To comply with Florida Senate Bill 700, all Fluoride treatment was discontinued in June of 2025. Additional information regarding the ECUA water supply can be obtained from the ECUA Laboratory Manager at (850) 969-6689.

The Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer is a high-quality, prolific source of water for our community. Because it does not have a confining layer above it, virtually everything that falls on the ground has the potential to affect the quality of our water supply. Rainfall that seeps into the ground can carry improperly disposed materials—such as motor oil, gasoline, pesticides, fertilizers, household chemicals, and other pollutants—down into the aquifer. For this reason, proper disposal of waste and careful use of chemicals are essential to protecting the quality of our drinking water supply.

The GBRWS is well aware of this potential risk to groundwater and over the years has supported Santa Rosa County in strengthening their Wellhead Protection Ordinances.





The GBRWS also regularly monitors your drinking water for total coliform bacteria that are generally not harmful themselves, but are naturally present in the environment, and typically serve as an indicator that other bacteria may be present. This is a process that we take very seriously and implement carefully each month.



Due to the quality of water received from FRUS and ECUA, the only treatment necessary by the City of Gulf Breeze is re-chlorination to boost the disinfection residual in our system.



In 2025 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on the FRUS and ECUA systems. The assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of the suppliers' wells. A search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near the FRUS wells. For ECUA, there are 61 potential sources of contamination identified, with a low to moderate susceptibility level. The ECUA's Wellhead Protection Program helps to protect the integrity of the ECUA water system. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAPP) website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/> or they can be obtained from the City of Gulf Breeze.



FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program

We encourage 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. Regular sessions are held the first and third Monday of every month. All meetings are at 5:30 p.m. in Gulf Breeze City Hall located at 1070 Shoreline Drive.

The Gulf Breeze Regional Water System and FRUS routinely monitor 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, 2025. Data obtained before January 1, 2025, and presented in this report, are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative, is more than one year old.

In the 2025 Tests Results Table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. We've provided the following definitions to help you better understand certain terms and abbreviations with which you might not be familiar:

- **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 Contaminant Level Goal (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 Contaminant Level (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 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.
- **Not Detected (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 per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (mg/L):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water, a quadrillionth of a curie per liter.



About Source Water

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 amounts 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 persons, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC (Centers 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

The test results table included in this report presents the results of compliance monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2025. As authorized and approved by the EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often 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, are more than one year old.



2025 TEST RESULTS TABLE

Contaminant and unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants (Sampled by FRUS, ECUA, and Midway Water)							
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	Aug 20 - Aug 23	No	6.3	ND-6.3	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 (pCi/l)	Jul 23, Dec 23, & Apr 24	No	3.66	ND-3.66	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants (Sampled by FRUS, ECUA, and Midway Water)							
Antimony (ppb)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	0.24	ND-0.24	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb)	7/23	No	0.6	ND - 0.6	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	0.084	0.0052 - 0.084	2	2	Leaching from ore processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Beryllium (ppb)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	0.64	ND-0.64	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Chromium (ppb)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	2.50	ND-2.50	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	Jul 23 - Aug 23	No	30	ND-30	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
*Fluoride (ppm)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	0.99	ND-0.99	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive that promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	Jul 23 & Apr 24	No	0.4	ND-0.4	NA	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing and solder
Mercury (ppb)	Jul 23 & Apr 24	No	0.2	ND-0.2	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nickel (ppb)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	2.5	ND-2.5	NA	100	Pollution from mining & refining operations; natural occurrence in soil
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Mar 25 - Aug 25	No	3.7	ND-3.7	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Sodium (ppm)	Jul 23 - Aug 23	No	120	1.7-120	NA	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Thallium (ppb)	May 23 - Apr 24	No	0.07	ND-0.07	0.5	2	Leaching from ore processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Sampled by Gulf Breeze Regional Water System

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 24	No	1.13	1.04-1.21	MRDGL=4	MRDL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA5 [Haloacetic-acids] (ppb)	July 25	No	3.6	ND-3.6	NA	60	By-products of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	July 25	No	9.4	2.7 - 9.4	NA	MCL =80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

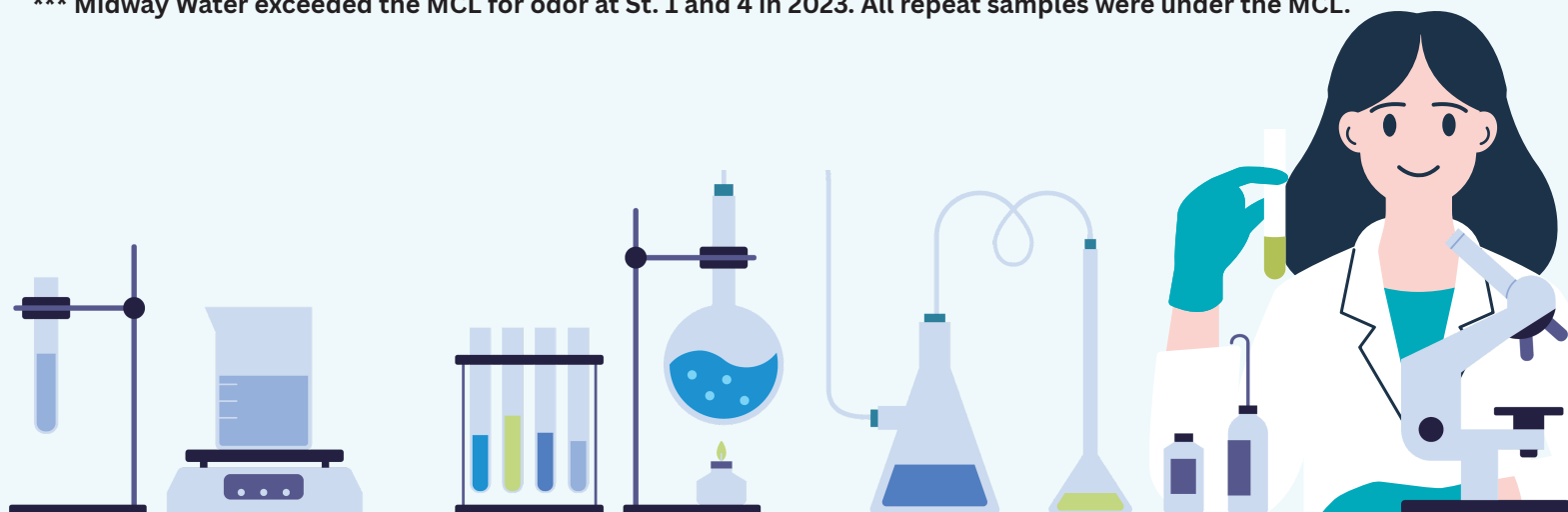
Secondary Contaminants Sampled by FRUS, ECUA, and the Midway Water System

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Aluminum (ppm)	Jul 23, Aug 23, & Dec 23	Yes**	0.25	ND-0.25		0.2	Natural occurrence from soil leaching
Odor (threshold odor number)	Aug 23 - Oct 23	Yes***	20	ND-20		3	Naturally occurring organics

*All Fluoride Treatment was discontinued in June of 2025 to comply with Florida Senate Bill 700.

** Secondary contaminant over MCL – Of all 7 FRUS wells sampled, Well 4's result was 0.25. There were no complaints or any ongoing issues, therefore, nothing else was required. Per FDEP, FRUS had to notify utilities to include in their CCRs. For reassurance, FRUS retested Aluminum at Well 4 in December 2023, and the results came back as “not detected”.

*** Midway Water exceeded the MCL for odor at St. 1 and 4 in 2023. All repeat samples were under the MCL.



Lead and Copper Survey Completed on 9-23-2024.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency has revised the Lead and Copper rule for all public drinking water systems. They have mandated that drinking water systems produce an inventory list of all service line material. The service line is the piping that extends from our water main to the customer's meter, as well as the piping that extends from the meter to the customer's home. Gulf Breeze Regional Water System has prepared this inventory in accordance with federal regulations. To view this service line inventory, contact Gulf Breeze Regional Water System at 850-934-5100 or visit the link below.

Oculus Link: [https://depdms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&\[guid=32.1699190.1\]&\[profile=Sampling](https://depdms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1699190.1]&[profile=Sampling)

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. Gulf Breeze Regional Water System 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 Gulf Breeze Regional Water System At 850-934-5100. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available using the following:

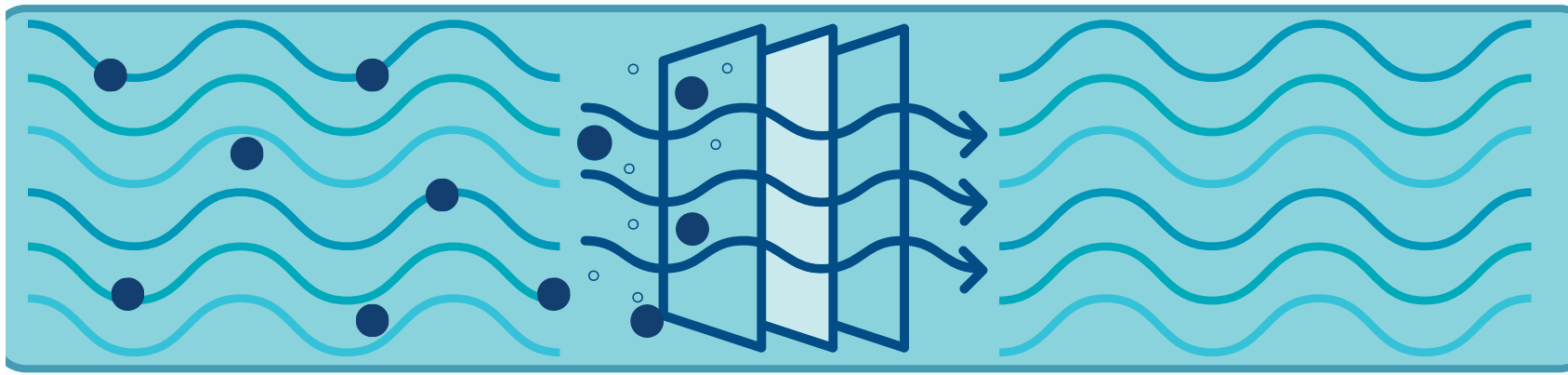
[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/d8f737e9/NfV9Q5qKAEed9qFR4qLxKA?](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/d8f737e9/NfV9Q5qKAEed9qFR4qLxKA?u=http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)
[u=http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)



Service Line Inventory

Lead in Drinking Water,
Testing Methods, and Steps
to Minimize Exposure





Lead and Copper (Tap Water) - Sampled by Gulf Breeze Regional Water System								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded	90 th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	Range of Tap Sample Results	MCLG	AL (Activation Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper, tap water (ppm)	Aug 23	N	0.27	0 of 30	0.02-0.48	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead, tap water (ppb)	Aug 23 & Apr 24	N	2.3	3 of 30	ND-360	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Lead & Copper Sampling

Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings, and fixtures may cause metals, including lead and copper, to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, Gulf Breeze Regional Water System conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites triennially. The last sampling was completed in August of 2023 and is set to be completed again in the summer of 2026. The most recent set of lead and copper tap sampling is available for review. To view the lead and copper tap sampling data, contact Gulf Breeze Regional Water System at 850-934-5100 or visit the link below.

[https://depdms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&\[guid=32.1576835.1\]&\[profile=Sampling\]](https://depdms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=getEntity&[guid=32.1576835.1]&[profile=Sampling])

Lead and Copper
Tap Sampling Data



System Improvements

In 2019 the Gulf Breeze Regional Water System under the guidance of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, began implementing a residential cross connection program. As a public water provider, the Gulf Breeze Regional Water System is responsible for overseeing prevention of water contamination from cross connections in the water distribution system. The cross-connection plan was developed using recommended practices of the American Water Works Association set forth in Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control: AWWA Manual M14, Third Edition.

We have been installing residential back flow devices at any connection that has an alternate water source such as an irrigation meter or a permitted well. These steps have been taken to prevent serious chemical or microbiological contamination events in our drinking water systems that could shut down the community's water supply. Water users can help prevent back flows by always having an approved backflow device at the hose spigot and an air gap between the level of liquid and whatever you are filling. In other words, don't leave the end of the hose in a place where contaminants can be drawn back through the hose and into your water pipes. These devices are inexpensive and can be found at most local hardware stores.

For more information on back flow and cross-connection go to www.epa.gov or floridadep.gov.



epa.gov



floridadep.gov

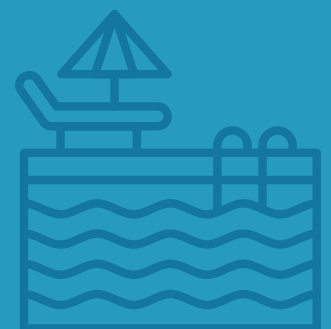
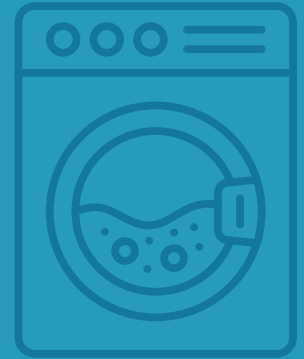
Thank You!



The City of Gulf Breeze appreciates the opportunity to continue serving your family with safe, high-quality drinking water. Providing reliable water service requires ongoing maintenance, upgrades, and long-term investment in the regional water system to ensure continued dependability and compliance with all regulatory standards.

From time to time, improvements to infrastructure and equipment may be necessary to maintain the quality and reliability our customers expect. As these projects are completed, associated costs may result in future adjustments to water rates.

Our staff remains committed to delivering dependable service and top-quality water to every customer, every day. We also encourage all customers to help protect our water resources, which are vital to the health of our community, the preservation of our environment, and the future of the families who call this area home.





GULF
BREEZE
REGIONAL
WATER
SYSTEM



GULF BREEZE

— Established 1828 —

City of Gulf Breeze, Florida
P.O. Box 640 · 1070 Shoreline Drive
(850) 934-5100 · cityofgulfbreeze.us

This report was designed by Josh Smith
of the Administrative Services Department