

Is my water safe?

Last year your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water Officials vigilantly safeguards its water supplies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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

Where does my water come from?

We serve our customers with groundwater that is drawn from 2 wells that tap into the Upper Pascagoula aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

Our source water assessment has been completed. Our wells ranked lower in terms of susceptibility to contamination. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 water poses a health risk.

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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 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; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; 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; and 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 that 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). **How can I get involved?**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Larry Copling at 601-798-3103. We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Monthly meetings are held at 2:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month at our offices located: 17 White Chapel Rd., Carriere.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Additional Information for Lead 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. PEARL RIVER CENTRAL WATER ASSOCIATION 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless

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Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (MG/L)	4	4	1.30	.70	1.99	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	4.44	NA	4.44	2023	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	6.43	NA	6.43	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.08	.08	.08	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	.02	.02	.02	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppm)	0.2	0.2	.015	.015	.015	2019	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	0.5	0.5	0.5	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.

Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0.5	0.5	0.5	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.0097	NA	.0159	2019	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposit

Beryllium (ppb) 4 4 0.5 0.5 0.5 2019 No Discharge from metal refineries, Coal burning factories. Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries.

Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2019	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	.17	NA	.17	2019	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.173	NA	0.173	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppm)	0.05	0.05	.0025	.0025	.0025	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	2019	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore processing sites; drug factories

Radioactive Contaminants

Uranium (ppb)	0	30	0.5			2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits
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Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.00	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0.15	0.15	.0	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

TT Violation	Explanation ,contaminant, or rule	Duration	Corrective Action	Health Affects
Monitoring, routine major	Cyanide Failed to collect cyanide samples	01/01/20 - 12/31/22	cyanide samples will be taken on time in the future.	Some people who drink water containing cyanide well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience nerve damage or problems with their thyroid.

We received a Record Keeping violation in 2022. The annual report for 2022 was submitted after the deadline. Dates affected 12/01/2022 - 01/11/2023 We have submitted the report as required. The public notice was completed. Future reports will be submitted on time.

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations and Exemptions	Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.

MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

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