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2001 WATER QUALITY REPORT



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Destin Water Users, Inc.
P.O. Box 308
Destin, FL 32540

Planning Today for Your Tomorrows!


DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.

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2001 Water Quality Report



Destin Water Users, Inc. is dedicated to providing members with a safe, reliable source of drinking water.

Technicians at our state-of-the-art laboratory are constantly monitoring to assure our water meets the highest standards. Their commitment paid off with one of the best reports ever given by state inspectors under stringent new guidelines for national accreditation.

"In the 100-plus inspections I've conducted, Destin Water Users laboratory is second to none," said Lew Denny, Biological Scientist for the Florida Department of Health. "Destin Water Users utilizes the very best in techniques for microbiology and wet chemistry – there were no deficiencies. Customers can be assured they are getting a good and honest product."

We hope you'll join us in congratulating lab director Julia Tipton and her staff for their outstanding performance.

We are pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. With seven water wells located throughout the city, Destin Water Users draws an average of 3.3 million gallons per day from the Upper Floridan Aquifer. Due to the excellent quality of this groundwater source, disinfection through chlorination is the only treatment process required to produce a safe and aesthetically pleasing product for the community. We are proud to report that **OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR 2001.** Destin Water Users, Inc. 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 1st to December 31st 2001.



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.

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.

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

ppb: Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)
– one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

N/A: Not applicable

“ND”: Means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L: Picocurie per liter (a measure of radioactivity in water).

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

+ 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 (fluoride, lead, nickel, sodium and Gross Alpha) though representative, are more than one year old.

Customer Views Welcome

If you are interested in learning more about the water department and water quality or participating in the decision-making process, there are a number of opportunities available. Questions about water quality or this report can be answered by calling our laboratory director at 337-1640 ext. 118. Inquiries about member participation and policy decisions can be made by calling Destin Water Users, Inc. main office at 837-6146. The Destin Water Users, Inc. board meets at 4 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the main office at 135 Benning Drive. Board sessions are open to all members. Our website address is www.destinwaterusers.com.

General Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 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.

Water Quality Table

Substance & Unit of Measurement	Dates of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	* Highest Amount Detected	Range of Detections	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
INORGANICS							
Fluoride (ppm)	7/99+	N	0.82	0.31 - 0.82	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Lead (ppb) Point of entry	7/99+	N	1.0	ND - 1.0	N/A	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nickel (ppb)	7/99+	N	28	21 - 28	N/A	100	Pollution from electroplating operations
Sodium (ppm)	7/99+	N	141	25 - 141	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil
RADIOLOGICAL							
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	6/99+	N	1.6	ND - 1.6	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
Total Trihalomethane potential (ppb)	9/01 to 10/01	N	55.1 (average)	36 - 82	N/A	100	By-product of chlorination
LEAD & COPPER (tap water)							
Lead (ppb)	6/01 to 8/01	N	4 (90th percentile)	0 (# of sites above action level)	0	15 (action level)	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	6/01 to 8/01	N	0.33 (90th percentile)	0 (# of sites above action level)	1.3	1.3 (action level)	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliform Bacteria	8/01	N	1 (highest monthly number of positive samples)	N/A	0	Presence in more than one sample collected in a mth.	Naturally present in the environment.

* Results in this column for inorganics or radiological contaminants are the highest average at any sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point depending on the sampling frequency.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. Destin Water Users, Inc. is currently waived from asbestos monitoring.

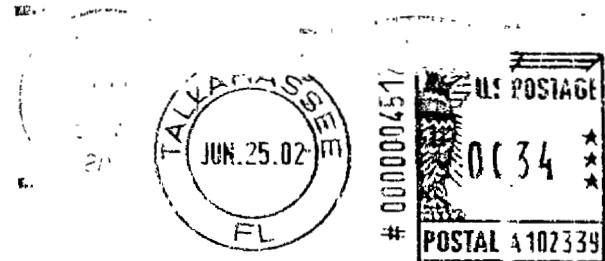
Special Info. Available

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 microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791.)



DESTIN WATER USERS, INC

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