



# Water Quality Report

## NCTAMS PAC Water System

*(Wahiawa & Schofield Wells)*

**This report meets federal and state requirements for Consumer Confidence Reports. This report is updated annually and reflects monitoring data collected from Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2023.**

The Navy is pleased to provide you with this year's annual Water Quality Report for the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) Water System.

This document provides information about the water that was delivered to you during the 2023 calendar year. It describes where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards for safe drinking water.

The Navy's goal is, and always has been, to provide you safe and dependable drinking water.

### Water Provider

The Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii operates the water system servicing your area. As the Navy water provider in the State of Hawaii (State), we primarily supply water to military installations and housing.

### Drinking Water Standards

Last year, as in years past, your drinking water met all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State regulations. The regulations require us to test your water for contaminants on a regular basis, making sure it is safe to drink, and to report our results accordingly.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA regulations limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration does the same for bottled water.

In the latest compliance monitoring period, we conducted tests for over 70 contaminants that have potential for being found in your drinking water. Tables 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, and 1-4 show the concentrations of regulated contaminants found. In all cases, the levels measured met both EPA and State requirements for safe drinking water.

We are continually working to protect your drinking water from contaminants. The State's Department of Health completed the Source Water Assessment in 2004 which identifies the susceptibility of your water supply to contamination. The source water assessment is available for review by contacting NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs at 808-471-7300.

### Source of Water

Your drinking water comes from a blend of two sources: the Navy's Wahiawa Well and Army's Schofield Wells. Ground water is naturally filtered as it travels from the surface to the aquifer below ground. The water is pumped up from the aquifer, disinfected, fluoridated, and piped into the NCTAMS drinking water distribution system.

Since the mid-1980's, the Army has processed its drinking water through an air-stripping treatment plant which is designed to remove organic chemicals [Tri-chloroethylene (TCE) & Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)]. After treatment, the water is disinfected, fluoridated, and piped into the NCTAMS drinking water distribution system.

### Possible Source of Contaminants

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. It can also pick up other substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 808-471-7300.

### Potential Contaminants

Contaminants that may be present in your source water include:

**Microbial contaminants** – such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants** – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

**Radionuclide contaminants** – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**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. The Navy 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may request to have the Navy test your water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Navy Water Requirements

In accordance with Navy policy, chlorine and fluoride are added to your water supply after the water is pumped from the ground. We try to maintain the Navy's recommended concentration of approximately 0.2 parts per million (ppm) for chlorine and 0.7 ppm for fluoride throughout the distribution system.

### For Questions/Concerns and Additional Copies

For questions/concerns or, more information, please contact:

**NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs Office (PAO)**

**Telephone: 808-471-7300**

**Email: [NFHI\\_PAO\\_DL@us.navy.mil](mailto:NFHI_PAO_DL@us.navy.mil)**

For additional copies of this and other Navy water reports, visit:

- <https://cnrh.cniv.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Environmental/Water-Quality-Information/>
- <https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/Facilities-Engineering-Commands/NAVFAC-Hawaii/About-Us/Our-Services/Environmental/Water-Quality-Reports/>

*Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly.*

### Official Address

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JBPHH, HI 96860-3139

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# Water Quality Data Table

The following tables list contaminants that were detected during the latest round of sampling required by EPA and State regulations. The water samples were collected from either the source water or distribution system and analyzed by the State, Army, and/or the Navy. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. You may obtain more information about contaminants and potential health effects by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or the State's Department of Health at 808-586-4258.

**Contaminants in the Navy's Source Water**

**Table 1-1**

Contaminants (units)	MCL (Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Year of Sample	Typical Sources of Contaminants	Violation
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.88	0.88 <sup>1</sup>	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.95	0.95 <sup>1</sup>	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits	No
<b>Unregulated Contaminants<sup>3,7</sup></b>							
Lithium (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	nd	2023	Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters	n/a
Perfluorinated and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances in Drinking Water (PFAS)	n/a	n/a	nd	nd	2023	Synthetic chemical used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications	n/a

**Contaminants in the Army's Source Water**

**Table 1-2**

Contaminants (units)	MCL (Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	Year of Sample	Typical Sources of Contaminants	Violation
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	nd	nd	2022 <sup>2</sup>	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.99	0.99 <sup>1</sup>	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.73	0.73 <sup>1</sup>	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits	No
<b>Organic Contaminants</b>							
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	5	0	0.84	nd – 1.10	2023	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories	No
<b>Unregulated Contaminants<sup>3,7</sup></b>							
Chlorides (ppm)	250 <sup>4</sup>	n/a	35	nd – 35	2023	Naturally-occurring	n/a
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	17	17 <sup>1</sup>	2023	Naturally-occurring	n/a
Lithium (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	nd	2023	Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters	n/a
Perfluorinated and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances in Drinking Water (PFAS)	n/a	n/a	nd	nd	2023	Synthetic chemical used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications	n/a

**Contaminants in the Distribution System**

**Table 1-3**

Contaminants (units)	MCL (Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Year of Sample	Typical Sources of Contaminants	Violation
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.235 <sup>5</sup>	0 – 0.364	2021 <sup>2</sup>	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.68	0.48 – 0.88	2022 <sup>2</sup>	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No

**Disinfection Agent**

**Table 1-4**

Contaminants (units)	MRDL (Allowed)	MRDLG (Goal)	Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	Year of Sample	Typical Sources of Contaminants	Violation
Residual Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.70 <sup>6</sup>	0.47 – 0.70	2023	Water additive used to control microbes	No

## Table Definitions:

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

**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.

**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.

**MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 contamination.

## Table Abbreviations:

**n/a** not applicable.

**ppm** parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**nd** not detectable.

**ppb** parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

## Table Notes:

- Only one sample collected.
- The State and EPA require us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. The date of the last sample collected is as indicated.
- These results are for informational purposes. There are no set standards. EPA will use this data to help determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate these contaminants. At this time, these contaminants do not have MCLs or MCLGs.
- This is a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level not enforced by EPA.
- Per the Lead and Copper Rule, results are measured as 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value of the samples collected.
- After each quarter, a running average is calculated using the preceding 12 months of data. The posted amount is the highest running average.
- National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs), or secondary standards, are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects in drinking water. EPA recommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply with the standard.

**Note:** 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

# PFAS Testing

## What are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and where do they come from?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals. PFAS have been used in a variety of industries and consumer products around the globe, including in the U.S., since the 1940s. PFAS have been used to make coatings and products that are used as oil and water repellents for carpets, clothing, paper packaging for food, and cookware. They are also contained in some foams (aqueous film-forming foam or AFFF) currently used for fighting petroleum fires at airfields and in industrial fire suppression processes. PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment and some are persistent in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.

## Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water?

On April 10, 2024, the US EPA established MCLs for a subset of PFAS chemicals.

Compound (ppt)	MCL (Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)
PFOA	4.0	0
PFOS	4.0	0
PFHxS	10	10
PFNA	10	10
HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX Chemicals)	10	10
Mixtures containing two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	1 HA	1 HA

EPA requires implementation of sampling in accordance with the new MCLs within three years of the publication date and implementation of any required treatment within five years.

These limits did not apply for the 2023 calendar year because they had not been published. However, the DoD proactively promulgated policies to monitor drinking water for PFAS at all service owned and operated water systems at a minimum of every two years. The DoD policy states that if water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than the 2016 EPA health advisory (HA) level of 70 ppt, water systems must take immediate action to reduce exposure to PFOS or PFAS. For levels less than 70 ppt but above the 4 ppt level (draft at the time of policy publication), DoD committed to planning for implementation of the levels once EPA's published MCLs take effect.

## Has the NCTAMS Water System tested its water for PFAS in 2023?

Yes. In February and August 2023, samples were taken from NCTAMS's Wahiawa Deep Well.

## Below MRL

We are pleased to report that drinking water testing results were below the Method Reporting Limit (MRL) for all 29 PFAS compounds covered by the sampling method, including PFOA and PFOS. This means that PFAS were not detected in your water system as shown in Table 1-1. In accordance with DoD policy, the water system will be resampled every two years for your continued protection.