

# City of Pembroke

## 2020 Annual Water Quality Report

GA Water System ID #0290001

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### Drinking Water Quality

The City of Pembroke is committed to providing its customers with the highest quality drinking water possible. We are proud to inform you that the City of Pembroke did not have any violations of water quality parameters during 2020. Our water continually meets or surpasses state and federal standards for safe drinking water. This annual water quality report will help inform you on where your water comes from, what it contains, and other information. For more information about your water or this report, please call Keith Cook, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, at 912-653-4422.

### Water Source for Pembroke

The City of Pembroke has two wells which pump groundwater from the Upper Floridian Aquifer. We perform treatments at each of the wells to include chlorine disinfection and fluoride is added for tooth and bone development. We also add Aquadene (Water Treatment Compound) for corrosion control and to prevent brown water. These wells pump water to a 150,000-gallon and 250,000-gallon elevated storage tank. The water then enters the distribution system for your consumption.

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 the following:

- ❖ **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 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- ❖ **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- ❖ **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 City of Pembroke 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.**

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations limiting the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

# *Important Information About Your Drinking Water*

Pembroke's City Council meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. We urge our citizens to attend these meetings to stay abreast and active in the decision making of Pembroke's 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA'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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range Low High</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b> (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)							
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	0.8	NA	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	4.1	NA	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.1	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u># Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.16	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

<b>Unit Descriptions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
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.

<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
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.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances 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

The City of Pembroke provides water and sewer services to the area without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap, religion or national religion. The City of Pembroke is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

*A copy of this report is available  
to the public at Pembroke City Hall*