



NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY (NSA) SOUDA BAY 2024 DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



Is our water safe to drink?

Yes. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay's drinking water system provides water that is safe and Fit For Human Consumption (FFHC) commonly defined as "potable", per the initial determination of the Installation Commanding Officer's Record of Decision memorandum dated December 13, 2013, and as consistently confirmed by laboratory sampling results (received weekly, monthly, quarterly, yearly, etc.).

The base's drinking water complies with the Department of Defense's (DoD) Environmental Final Governing Standards Greece (FGS), which are derived from both U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Greek drinking water standards. When Greek and U.S. standards are different, the *most protective* requirement is adopted into the FGS. This assures U.S. personnel and Greek employees have access to drinking water that meets or exceeds both nation's requirements.

Where does our water come from and how is it treated?

NSA Souda Bay purchases drinking water from the Chania Water Authority (DEYACH). The sources of the drinking water are deep wells and natural springs at the foot of the White Mountains. DEYACH chlorinates the water prior to distribution. NSA Souda Bay provides additional filtration, UV disinfection, and increases chlorination before the water is distributed on base.

Why are there contaminants in drinking water?

The level of contaminants in NSA Souda Bay's drinking water are below all requirements. Drinking water, including bottled water, is reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants, since the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) are groundwater and natural springs. As water travels through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. It is important to note that the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, regulations limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Regular sampling is conducted to detect the level of contaminants in the water system. The sampling frequency is defined by the level of risk for each contaminant and by how often and at what levels it has appeared in prior sampling events. If the results are above regulatory limits, NSA Souda Bay personnel will be notified via e-mail and public notification. A detailed list of contaminants found in our drinking water is included in this report, along with a comparison to the maximum levels considered safe for the public.

Although the drinking water is qualified as FFHC, there is always the risk for contaminants to be present, including:

- **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 stormwater 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



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

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water website, www.epa.gov/safewater/sdwa and the EPA's Drinking Water Standards web site: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

Source water assessment

The U.S. Navy frequently assesses NSA Souda Bay's water system. In March 2024, the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC), Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), together with the Navy and Marine Corps Force Health Protection Command (NMCFHPC) and technical support staff, conducted a comprehensive sanitary survey of the NSA Souda Bay drinking water system. The final report was issued in June 2024. Sanitary surveys are performed every three years. They provide an evaluation of the adequacy of the drinking water source, facilities, equipment, operation and maintenance for production and distribution of safe drinking water. Five significant findings were issued. NSA Souda Bay has closed four out of the five significant findings from the 2024 report and is continuously working towards improving the drinking water system based on the recommendations of the report.

Do I need to use special precautions?

No precautions are necessary for the general population. 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. Some people who drink Trihalomethanes in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lower the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking website, www.epa.gov/safewater/sdwa.



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Water Quality Data Tables

During 2024, more than 295 tests were performed at NSA Souda Bay for over 50 parameters/contaminants. While some parameters/contaminants are tested for daily, others are completed weekly, quarterly, annually or even less frequently in accordance with U.S. Navy requirements. Unless otherwise noted, the table below (Table 1) only lists the contaminants that were detected during calendar year 2024. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. All contaminants detected in NSA Souda Bay drinking water are below the allowable FGS and EPA Maximum Contaminate Levels (MCL).

Table 1. Detected compounds under FGS and EPA rules.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>FGS MCL</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Chlorite (ppm)	1.000	0.8	0.02	2024	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromate (ppm)	0.010	0	0.006	2024	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Nitrate (ppm)	10.00	10.00	2.05	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	0.50	1.00	0.01	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	80	NA	21.71	2024	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	NA	30	2024	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Barium (ppm)	2.00	2.00	0.1	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Beryllium (ppm)	0.004	0.004	<0.002	2024	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.203	2024	No	Water additive, promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead (ppb)	10	0	<1	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	2	1.3	<0.025	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Thallium (ppm)	0.002	0.0005	0.0005	2024	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories.



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Lead and Copper Sampling Information

Lead and Copper test results are all below thresholds. During 2023, Lead and Copper tests at consumer's taps were performed at NSA Souda Bay. Results are summarized at Table 2 of this report. The complete lead tap sampling data is, as required, available for review to any interested member of the NSA Souda Bay community.

In 2024, NSA Souda Bay and Region EURAFCENT personnel created a Lead Service Line (LSL) inventory report for the installation in accordance with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. This report establishes an inventory of service line materials and identifies the locations of possible LSLs, which is a key step to getting them replaced to protect public health. In NSA Souda Bay there were no LSLs found.

If you want access to this data, contact NSA Souda Bay Public Works Department –Environmental Office. Contact details are at the end of this report.

Additional Information for Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. NSA Souda Bay Public Works Department (PWD) is responsible for providing water and removing lead pipes on base, and ensures that materials used in plumbing components are lead free. Before using water for drinking or cooking, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the NSA Souda Bay Public Works Department –Environmental Office. Contact details are at the end of this report. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Table 2. Lead and Copper Sampling Results Summary.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>FGS AL</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>Your Water (90th percentile)</u>	<u>Range of Results</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Copper - at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.317	0.051 – 0.317	Sep 2023	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Lead –at consumer taps (ppm)	0.015	0	0.002	0.0005 – 0.002	Sep 2023	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.



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Unit Descriptions

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
NA	NA: not applicable

Important Drinking Water Definitions

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
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	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.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Points of Contact

For more information, please contact the Public Works Department - Environmental Office and members of the Installation Water Quality Board, at DSN 314-266-1973, commercial (+30) 282-102-1973 or email to emmanouil.kefalogiannis.ln@us.navy.mil.