Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

2025 Water Quality Report
Marine Corps Installations Pacific
Marine Corps Base Camp S.D. Butler, Camp Kinser
Okinawa, Japan

Introduction

This is an annual report on the quality of tap water delivered to Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp S.D. Butler, Camp Kinser. The purpose of this report is to provide you, our customers, with general information about the quality of water you drink.

What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to require all community water systems in the United States to provide their customers with a brief annual water quality report called a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Last year (2025), over 50 different drinking water contaminants were evaluated for compliance. Only contaminants measured in concentrations above their respective analytical methods' detection limits are reported in this CCR.

Safe Drinking Water

Drinking water regulations require that all installation water supply systems are sampled and analyzed for a variety of contaminants in drinking water. Last year (2025), your drinking water met health-based water quality standards regulated by the Japan Environmental Governing Standards (JEGS). The primary purpose of the JEGS is to provide environmental compliance criteria and management practices to be used by United States Department of Defense installations in Japan. MCB Camp Butler, G-F, Environmental Affairs Branch (EAB) and Air Force 18th Medical Group, Bioenvironmental (BE) personnel are committed to providing safe drinking water to you and your family. Our routine monitoring program, which follows water quality standards and monitoring requirements set forth in the JEGS, enables us to maintain optimal water quality on Camp Kinser.

Information about Drinking Water Contaminants

All drinking water, including bottled water, may contain small amounts of contaminants dissolved in the water. The presence of trace contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, naturally occurring radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from municipal wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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 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, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. They may enter the environment from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants 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 JEGS prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Special Considerations

Our monitoring program identifies contaminants in drinking water and allows us to avoid potential health impacts if we consume water containing contaminants over long periods of time above the standards set forth in the JEGS. However, some individuals may be more vulnerable to contaminants than the general population. For example, immunocompromised individuals such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, the elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from contaminants. These individuals or their caretakers should seek medical advice about drinking water from their health care providers if they have questions.

Camp Kinser Water System Information

The Camp Kinser drinking water system is jointly operated and maintained by the G-F Facilities Maintenance Branch and the 18th Civil Engineer Squadron. The drinking water is purchased from the neighboring municipality Urasoe City, and the drinking water is produced at the Chatan Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The water supply to the treatment plant is a combination of surface waters (reservoirs and rivers), groundwater wells, and a desalination plant fed by the East China Sea. Chatan WTP utilizes both conventional and activated carbon water treatment processes and ozone as its disinfectant. In addition, chlorine residual is maintained in the distribution system for additional protection as water travels to the tap.

Monitoring of Your Drinking Water

G-F EAB is responsible for drinking water monitoring of Marine Corps-owned infrastructure including all non-housing areas on Camp Kinser. BE is responsible for maintaining the water quality of Air Force-managed military family housing areas on Camp Kinser. Together, G-F EAB and BE are committed to providing safe drinking water to you. We use only United States (U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and GOJ approved laboratory methods to analyze your drinking water. Trained personnel collect water samples from the distribution system. Samples are then shipped to an accredited laboratory where a full spectrum of water quality analyses are performed. BE and contracted personnel collected all required routine monitoring samples in 2025, none of which were at a level higher than the JEGS Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the water sometimes look rusty?

Rusty or reddish tinted water may occur because of a sudden change in pressure due to fire hydrant flushing, water main breaks, or other disturbances that result in a change to normal water flow. Iron causes the discoloration and is not a health risk. The normal flow of water will usually clear the mains within two hours or less. Check your water by flushing a commode bowl three times every 15 to 20 minutes. If you live on or near the end of a long distribution line, additional flushing may be required. Galvanized iron pipes or fittings within a home or building may also cause discolored water. Running the water will clear the piping system. If the hot water is rusty, the water heater may need to be flushed.

What is a Boil Water Notice?

Any time a drop in pressure occurs from a water main break or system maintenance, the G-F EAB will issue a Boil Water Notice and immediate sampling requirements go into effect. Boil Water Notices in these cases are precautionary and do NOT necessarily mean that contamination has been detected or is suspected. In other cases, if total coliform bacteria are detected as part of our routine sampling program, a Boil Water Notice will also go into effect as a precaution while corrective measures are taken. In this case, resampling continues until the corrective measures are completed.

Is it okay to drink from a garden hose?

The water that supplies the water hose is safe but a garden hose may be treated with chemicals and can contain bacteria and other substances. Drinking from a garden hose is highly discouraged.

Will using a home water filter make the water safer or healthier?

Most filters improve the taste, smell and appearance of water, but they may not necessarily make the water safer or healthier. If you use filters, please keep in mind that they require regular maintenance and replacement or the filter itself can impact water quality.

What can I do to improve the quality of my drinking water?

Running the cold water tap for 30 seconds prior to use helps to flush out small amounts of metals that may leach into water that has been sitting in metal pipes overnight. Water used for consumption should always come from the cold water tap. Hot water has more potential to leach metals into the water.

How will I know if my water is not safe to drink?

Your water supplier must notify you if your water does not meet standards or if there is a waterborne disease emergency. The notice will describe any precautions you need to take, such as boiling your water.

I don't like the taste/smell/appearance of my tap water? What's wrong with it?

Even when water meets standards, you may still object to its taste, smell, or appearance. Taste, smell and appearance are also known as aesthetic characteristics and do not pose adverse health effects. Common complaints about water aesthetics include: temporary cloudiness (typically caused by air bubbles) or chlorine taste (which can be improved by letting the water stand exposed to the air).

Does the water system have a lead problem?

The JEGS state that 90% of samples must be below the action level, and the water system met that criterion in 2024. The water system is monitored on a triennial basis, next monitoring is scheduled in 2027. 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. 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 the water for drinking or cooking.

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 industrial 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, food packaging, and cookware. They are also used in some fire-fighting foams such as aqueous film-forming foam, or AFFF, used for fighting petroleum fires.

Is there a federal regulation for PFAS in drinking water?

Yes. On April 10, 2024, the EPA announced a final rule on drinking water standards for certain PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). These standards were applied to overseas installations on September 28, 2025 through the DoD policy memo titled *Policy for Monitoring and Treatment of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Department of Defense Drinking Water Systems outside the United States*. The standards within this memo apply to all DoD-operated water systems and all drinking water purchased from Host Nation treatment plants. The standards set maximum contaminant levels (MCL) for several PFAS in drinking water, mandate initial monitoring to be completed by April 26, 2027, establish routine monitoring and notification requirements, and require compliance for all regulated drinking water purveyors to comply with the specified MCLs by April 26, 2029. The DoD has sampled your drinking water for PFAS since 2017 and we will continue to protect the drinking water on our installation and ensure compliance with standards in advance of the deadline. The DoD policy memo establishes the following MCLs listed in **Table 1** as a running annual average (RAA):

Table 1: New EPA PFAS MCLs.

Chemical	MCL (ppt)
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	4.0
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	4.0
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	10
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	10
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA or GenX)	10
Mixture of two or more: PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	Hazard index of 1

Protecting the health of our personnel, their families, and the communities in which we serve is a priority for the Department. DoD is committed to complying with requirements of the DoD policy and

the continued provision of safe drinking water to those that work and live on DoD installations.

Has Camp Kinser tested its water for PFAS in 2025?

Yes. Quarterly samples were collected from Camp Kinser water tank. Six of the 29 PFAS analytes covered by the analytical methods were detected in your water system. The results are provided in the Water Quality table. The detected level for PFOS is above the new MCLs, and PFOA and PFHxS are below the new MCL. There are no MCLs for the remaining three detected PFAS.

What is next?

Camp Kinser's initial monitoring for PFAS in accordance with DoD policy is complete. Based on these results, the installation will begin compliance monitoring for PFAS in 2027. Operational and infrastructure changes are currently being evaluated to ensure our water complies with the PFAS MCLs by April 2029 in accordance with the DoD policy.

Is a Japanese translation of the CCR available?

All sections of the CCR are written in English. Please contact the G-F EAB for a Japanese translation.

CCR の全てが英文の文書です。日本語訳希望者は施設技術部環境保全課までご連絡下さい。
基地内： 645-1425
基地外から：098-970-1425

Where can I go for additional information?

This CCR will be posted on the MCIPAC web page at https://www.mcipac.marines.mil/Resources/Environmental-Notices/

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Abbreviations and Definitions

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

CY (Calendar Year): Period of time from January through December. Data reported in the consumer confidence report were for samples collected in the reported calendar year unless otherwise stated.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): Average of analytical results for samples collected at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

µg/L (Microgram per liter): Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water. Microgram is one millionth of a gram.

mg/L (Milligram per liter): Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water. Milligram is one thousandth of a gram.

ND (Non-detect): Concentration of contaminant below the detection limit or reporting limit of analytical method.

ng/L (Nanogram per liter): Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water. Nanogram is one billionth of a gram.

N/A (Not Applicable): Not applicable for this contaminant.

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances): A group of manufactured chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products since the 1940s.

PFAS AL (PFAS Action Level): Per Department of Defense policy issued on 11 July 2023, when the concentration of PFOA, PFOS, or the sum of PFOS and PFOA exceeds 70 parts per trillion (ppt), DoD components will provide alternative drinking water and take actions to lower PFOS and/or PFOA concentrations to below 70 ppt.

PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid): A chemical subset of PFAS.

PFOS (Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid): A chemical subset of PFAS.

ppt (parts per trillion): Unit of concentration often used to express the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water. Also expressed as nanograms per liter (ng/L).

RAA (Running Annual Average): Average of analytical results for the samples collected during the previous four calendar quarters.

2025 Water Quality Table

Camp Kinser							
Inorganic Chemicals	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest Level Detected**		**MCL**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Arsenic	No	mg/L	0.002		0.010	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	mg/L	0.006		2.0		
Chromium	No	mg/L	0.003		0.02		
Selenium	No	mg/L	0.007		0.05		
Sodium	No	mg/L	15		N/A[1]		
Nitrate (as N)	No	mg/L	0.4		10		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching septic tanks/sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate/Nitrite (as N)	No	mg/L	0.4		10		
Microbial Contaminants	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Number of Positive Samples**		**MCL[2]**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	N/A	0		>1 positive sample per month, or any repeat sample is positive	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Synthetic Organic Compounds	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest Level Detected**		**MCL**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Various	Yes*	µg/L	ND		Various	N/A	Manmade compounds
Volatile Organic Compounds	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest Level Detected**		**MCL**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Various	No	µg/L	ND		Various	N/A	Manmade compounds
Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproducts	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest RAA/ LRAA**	**Range**	**MRDL[3]/MCL[4]**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Free Chlorine	No	mg/L	0.22	ND[5] – 0.62	4.0	N/A	Drinking water disinfectant for treatment
Total Trihalomethanes	No	µg/L	52	26 – 62	80		By-products of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	No	µg/L	8.3	5 – 12	60		
Lead and Copper	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**90th Percentile Value**		**Sites Exceeding AL / No. of Sites**	**AL[6]**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Lead	No	mg/L	Next sampling in 2027 [7]			0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing systems
Copper	No	mg/L	Next sampling in 2027 [7]			1.3	
Radionuclides	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest Level Detected**		**MCL**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Gross Alpha	No	pCi/L	Next sampling in 2028 [8]		15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
PFAS	**Violation? Yes/No**	**Units**	**Highest RAA**	**Range**	**MCL[9]**	**PFAS AL[10]**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
PFOA	No	ppt	0.0	ND – 3.8	4.0	70	Runoff from industrial processes and fire-retarding foams
PFOS	No	ppt	1.5	ND – 6.0	4.0	70	
PFOS + PFOA	No	ppt	N/A[11]	ND – 9.8	N/A	70	
HFPO-DA	No	ppt	0	ND	10	N/A	
PFHxS	No	ppt	1	ND – 5.7	10		
PFNA	No	ppt	0	ND	10		
PFBS	No	ppt	N/A[11]	ND	N/A		
Hazard Index	No	-	0.1	0.0 – 0.1	1		
PFBA	No	ppt	N/A[11]	ND – 2.3	N/A		
PFHxA	No	ppt	N/A[11]	ND – 3.7	N/A		
PFPeA	No	ppt	N/A[11]	ND – 2.9	N/A		

Notes:

1. No MCL established for Sodium. Monitoring is required so that concentration levels can be made available upon request.
2. This is the total coliform-related operational evaluation level (OEL). The MCL for *E. coli* is exceeded when routine and repeat samples for total coliform are positive or when a system fails to take repeat samples following positive samples.
3. The MRDL for Free Chlorine is based on a running annual average (RAA) of monthly averages, computed quarterly.
4. The MCLs for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are based on locational running annual averages (LRAA) of quarterly samples.
5. The location with non-detectable free chlorine residual was flushed until a detectable free chlorine residual was established.
6. The AL for Lead and Copper is based on a 90th percentile value – i.e., no exceedance in the AL in more than 10% of all sampled taps.
7. The latest lead and copper sampling was conducted in 2024. Next sampling event will be in 2027.
8. The latest Gross Alpha sampling was conducted in 2024. Next sampling event will be in 2028.
9. The new PFAS MCLs was established by DoD PFAS policy memo on 28 September 2025. Overseas installations must comply with new PFAS MCLs by April 2029.
10. DoD PFAS AL was in effect during the sampling period prior to 28 September 2025.
11. N/A used here to denote no calculation of running annual average due to lack of established MCL.

*Monitoring Violation

1. Synthetic Organic Compounds

Synthetic organic compounds (SOCs) at Camp Kinser are to be monitored for 2 consecutive quarters every 3 years. However, due to shipping

delays, contractor error, and laboratory error, consecutive quarterly frequency requirements were not met for the thirty (30) SOCs. Repeat samples were collected in the next quarter and results were ND.