

WATER DEPARTMENT

NEWS AND UPDATES

THE VALUE OF WATER



According to Fortune.com, water is the most undervalued resource.

In comparison to other places, Surfside seems to have a plentiful source of water. However, the effects of growth, drought, pollution, and increasing government regulation, impact water availability and water quality. Additionally, Surfside's water requires expensive treatment to meet current drinking water standards.

It is hard to put a value on a necessity. The United Nations considers access to affordable safe drinking water a human right. Due to this principle, the cost of water has historically been kept very low. As water sources become stressed, government regulations increase, and infrastructure ages, we can expect the cost of drinking water to increase. It is always a good idea to plan ahead and conserve our resources.

WATER QUALITY TESTING

How often do you think your drinking water is tested? One survey says the average person believes their drinking water is tested once a month. The following may surprise you. Here is how often Surfside's water is tested:

IN HOUSE SAMPLES: **Chlorine:** 4 locations in the system & 4 locations at the plant, 5 days per week. **Temperature, pH, color:** 3 locations in the system 5 days per week. **Iron and Manganese:** 5 locations at the plant, once per week. **Color:** 2 locations at the plant 5 days per week. **Temperature, pH, Conductivity, Salt, Chloride, Silica, Ammonia:** 2 locations at plant once per month. **UV254:** 3 locations at the plant, once per week, to monitor carbon efficiency.

LAB SAMPLES: **Coliform Bacteria:** 2 per month Apr-Oct, 1 per month Nov-Mar. **Disinfection Byproducts (TTHM/Haa5):** 2 locations, 4 times per year. **Lead and Copper:** 10 locations every 3 years. **Nitrates:** 1 per year. **Volatile Organics (VOC):** waiver for every 6 years. **Gross Alpha and Radium 228:** every 6 years. **Iron and Manganese:** every 3 years. **IOC (including nitrate, arsenic, iron):** waiver for every 9 years. **Herbicides:** waiver for every 9 years. **Pesticides and Soil Fumigants:** waiver for every 3 years. (A water system may apply for a waiver and, if the state determines that a source's susceptibility to contamination is sufficiently low, the waiver will be granted.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US: water@surfsideonline.org

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