

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND DRINKING WATER

The availability of safe, high quality water is among the most critical aspects of public health and wellness. With growing concerns regarding the spread of Coronavirus, Greater Pine Island Water Association (GPIWA) is taking the necessary steps to ensure safe, reliable and abundant water supply remains available to our Membership.

Is my tap water safe to drink?

You can have confidence the water you receive from GPIWA remains safe and wholesome for consumption and use. GPIWA employs a Reverse Osmosis (RO) filtration and disinfection process which meets the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) drinking water regulations to kill or remove pathogens, including viruses.

Additionally, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) states on their website, "The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water. Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, such as those in most municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19." The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that the, "presence of the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies and based on current evidence the risk to water supplies is low."

Is tap water safe to use for hand washing and sanitation?

EPA recommends that Americans continue to use and drink tap water as usual. According to the CDC, washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Do I need to buy bottled water or store drinking water?

EPA recommends that citizens continue to use and drink tap water as usual. There are no indications that COVID-19 is in the drinking water supply or will affect the reliable supply of water.

Where can I get additional information regarding COVID-19 and my drinking water?

Additional information about COVID-19 can be found at the following websites:

US EPA - <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>

CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>

FL Department of Health - <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/COVID-19/>