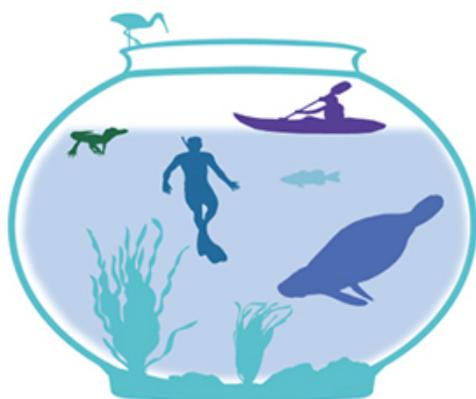


WARNING ON SAFETY OF OUR DRINKING WATER

June 21, 2016

The Florida Springs Institute has sent out the following press release regarding the quality of our drinking water.



Howard T. Odum
**FLORIDA
SPRINGS
INSTITUTE**

FLORIDA SPRINGS INSTITUTE: ELEVATED NITRATE NITROGEN LEVELS
FOUND IN FLORIDA'S DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Robert Knight
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June 21, 2016

GAINESVILLE, FL – The Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute (FSI) is concerned about elevated levels of nitrate nitrogen in much of the Floridan Aquifer (see attached maps). This same Floridan Aquifer is the source of water feeding our 1,000+ artesian springs in North Florida and is the principal supply of potable water for the region.

A substantial portion of the water in the Floridan Aquifer has been contaminated with nitrate by human activities, including the use of fertilizers and the disposal of wastewater in areas where the aquifer is most vulnerable. Resulting nitrate concentrations are well above harmful thresholds (numeric nitrate standard of 0.35 mg/L) in most of Florida's natural springs.

Elevated groundwater nitrate concentrations are also acutely toxic to humans. In some areas of North Florida, nitrate concentrations in drinking water wells are already above the safe drinking water standard of 10 mg/L.

While groundwater nitrate concentrations are rising throughout the region, most areas are still below this acute threshold. However, a growing body of medical literature is indicating that there may be chronic effects of nitrate at levels at or below those found in community drinking water supplies, including municipalities and in bottled drinking water. Human health issues that have been found to be exacerbated by sub-lethal nitrate concentrations in drinking water include various forms of human cancer and birth defects.

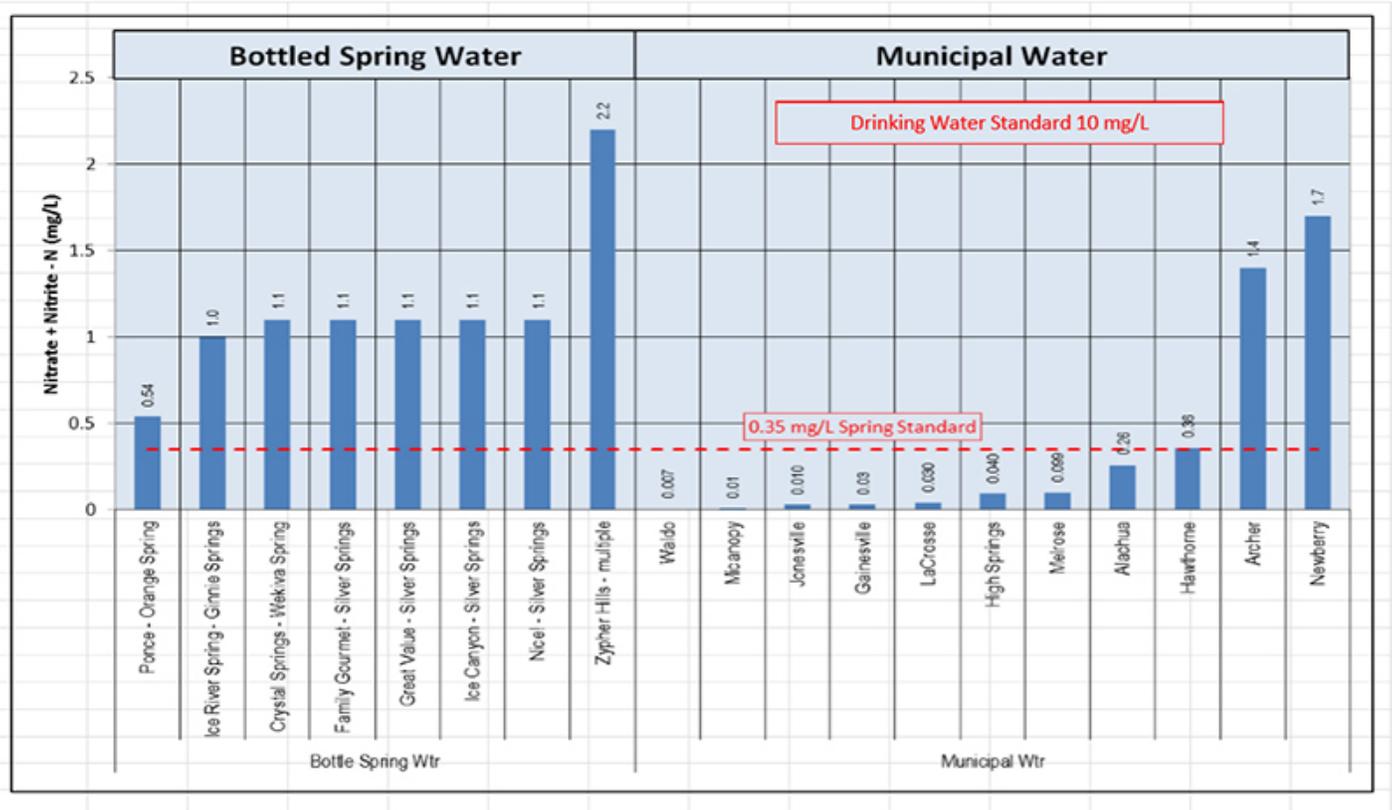
For these reasons the Florida Springs Institute is collecting, analyzing, and publishing nitrate data from a variety of potable groundwater suppliers.

For the health of our springs and our human population, we believe it is critical that the public is aware of this growing threat. If you are concerned about the health of our springs and

the availability of clean water for drinking and bathing, let your local and state leaders know.

-END-

Nitrate Nitrogen in Bottled Spring Water and Alachua County Municipal Supplies

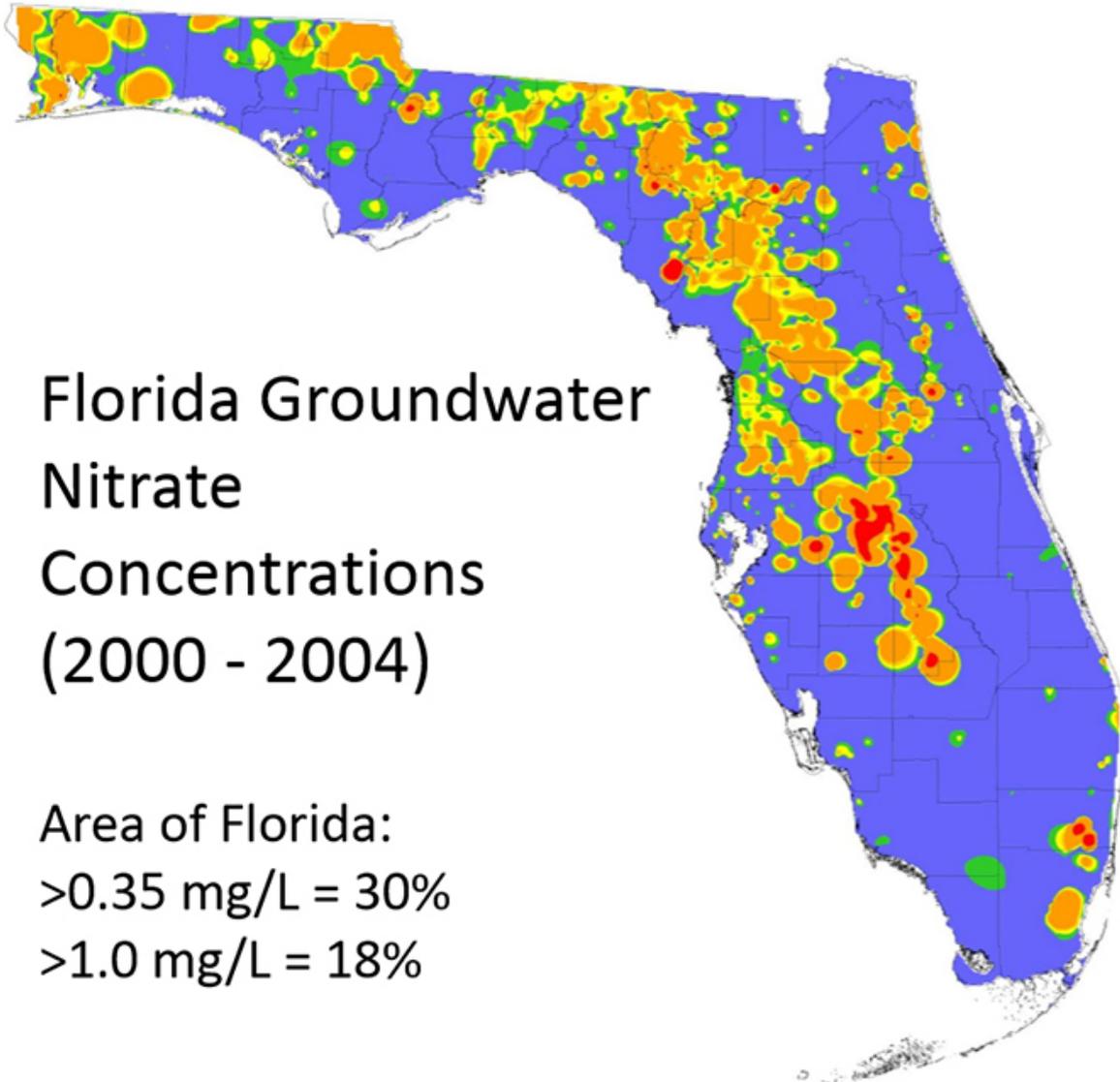
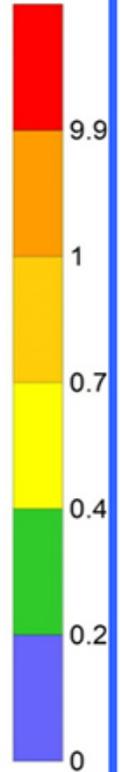


All samples collected in Alachua County, Florida (March 2016)

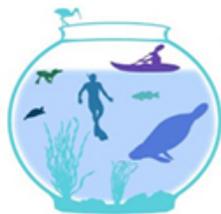
Florida Groundwater Nitrate Concentrations (2000 - 2004)

Area of Florida:
>0.35 mg/L = 30%
>1.0 mg/L = 18%

mg/L



Alachua County Groundwater Nitrate Concentrations in Private Wells 2005-2015



Howard T. Odum
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