

A close-up photograph of water being poured from a glass pitcher into a clear glass. The water is captured in mid-pour, creating a dynamic splash and bubbles. The background is a blurred wooden surface.

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2018



*Presented By:*  
**Coweta County Water  
& Sewerage Authority**

## Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2018. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Monthly board meeting schedules and minutes are posted on our website.

Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection

by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



## Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminant. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;
- Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;
- Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Conserving Your Dollars

How would you like to conserve water and lower your monthly bill? CCWSA will provide rebates to our customers for replacing toilets with low-flow, high efficiency models. Since the inception of our Toilet Rebate Program, 429 inefficient toilets have been replaced, resulting in a cost savings of \$43,440 for our customers and conserving over 8,000 gallons water per day. You may be eligible for this rebate if your home was built prior to 1993. Please contact us for more information.

## Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment has been completed for our system. The purpose of the assessment is to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source to potential contaminant sources. The report includes background information and a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate, or Lower. It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of Higher does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area. The assessment findings are summarized in the table below:

SUSCEPTIBILITY OF SOURCES TO POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT SOURCES		
SOURCE NAME	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING	SWAP REPORT DATE
CCWSA B.T. Brown Reservoir	Lower	March 2009
CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well	Lower	March 2009
Newnan Utilities Hershall Norred Surface Water Treatment Plant	Lower	Unknown
City of Griffin Still Branch Surface Water Treatment Plant	Lower	2001
City of Atlanta Hemphill and Chattahoochee Surface Water Treatment Plant	Lower	Unknown

If you would like a copy of any utility's Source Water Assessment, you can reach out to each utility during their regular business hours at the following numbers: Newnan Utilities at (770) 683-5516; City of Griffin at (770) 229-6603; City of Atlanta at (404) 982-1468; and Coweta County Water & Sewerage Authority at (770) 254-3710.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The water that is produced and distributed by the Coweta County Water & Sewerage Authority (CCWSA) is collected from several sources: the CCWSA B.T. Brown Surface Water Treatment Plant, CCWSA Hugh Murphy Groundwater Well, Newnan Utilities Hershall Norred Surface Water Treatment Plant, City of Griffin Still Branch Surface Water Treatment Plant, and City of Atlanta Hemphill and Chattahoochee Surface Water Treatment Plants.



### DID YOU KNOW?

CCWSA B.T. Brown Surface Water Treatment Plant received the GAWP Gold Award in 2018 for **100% compliance** with State and Federal regulations!

## Lead in Home Plumbing

If present, 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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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 water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).



## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to water quality, please contact Carl Corley, Water Operations Manager, at (770) 254-3710.

## Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we show only those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 4th stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public upon request. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES															
				CCWSA B.T. Brown Water Treatment Plant		CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well		Newnan Utilities		City of Griffin		City of Atlanta			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Chlorine Dioxide</b> (ppb)	2018	[800]	[800]	80	0–350	NA	NA	80	40–230	580	NA	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Chlorine</b> (ppm)	2018	[4]	[4]	1.95	1.65–3.06	1.65	1.53–2.12	1.43	0.98–1.60	1.9	NA	1.67	1.00–1.80	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Chlorite</b> (ppm)	2018	1	0.8	0.33	0.0–1.0	NA	NA	0.26	0–0.69	0.14	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	2018	4	4	0.71	0.42–0.81	0.87	0.79–1.10	0.79	0.68–0.96	1.04	NA	0.74	0.37–0.82	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]</b> (ppb)	2018	60	NA	21.0	15.1–29	NA	NA	3.82	2.18–8.26	39	NA	61	19–61	Yes <sup>1</sup>	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Nitrate</b> (ppm)	2018	10	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.31	NA	0.79	0.52–1.1	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]</b> (ppb)	2018	80	NA	42.2	16.3–64.3	NA	NA	11.70	7.57–15.75	73	NA	78	29–78	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b> (Positive samples)	2018	TT	NA	1.0	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	0	NA	1.9	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Total Organic Carbon</b> (ppm)	2018	TT	NA	1.5	1.2–2.1	NA	NA	2.5	2.1–3.2	2.5	NA	1.27	1.0–1.27	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Turbidity</b> (NTU)	2018	TT	NA	0.23	0.03–0.23	NA	NA	0.17	0.04–0.17	0.18	NA	0.50	0.02–0.50	No	Soil runoff

## REGULATED SUBSTANCES (CONT)

				CCWSA B.T. Brown Water Treatment Plant		CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well		Newnan Utilities		City of Griffin		City of Atlanta			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Turbidity</b> (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2018	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff
				CCWSA											
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE								
<b>Copper</b> <sup>2</sup> (ppm)	2016	1.3	1.3	0.054	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits								
<b>Lead</b> <sup>2</sup> (ppb)	2016	15	0	2.2	0/30	No	Lead services lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits								

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE - PART 4 (UCMR4)

		CCWSA B.T. Brown Water Treatment Plant			CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well			City of Atlanta		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
<b>Bromide</b> (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	32.6	21.2–32.6	
<b>Bromochloroacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	3.9	3.3–5.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Bromodichloroacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	3.97	2.6–5.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Chlorodibromoacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	0.77	0.44–1.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Dibromoacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	0.50	0.40–0.76	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Dichloroacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	13.5	12–18	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Manganese</b> (ppm)	2018	0.016	0.011–0.024	0.29	0.11–0.49	0.018	0.004–0.018			
<b>Monobromoacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	0.41	0–0.84	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<b>Quinoline</b> (ppb)	2018	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.046	0.026–0.046			
<b>Trichloroacetic Acid</b> (ppb)	2018	9.17	7.0–12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	

<sup>1</sup>The City of Atlanta had two separate violations in July and October of 2018. The July violation affected 1,050 residences along Mount Vernon Hwy. and the October violation affected 120 residences along LaGrange Blvd. Subsequent testing has shown that the Mount Vernon Hwy. location is back in compliance. The City of Atlanta will be taking preventative measures to reduce the water age in their distribution system.

<sup>2</sup>Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the county

## Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

**LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average):** The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as the highest LRAAs.

**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.

**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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.