



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2020

Presented By



**COWETA
COUNTY**
WATER & SEWERAGE
A U T H O R I T Y



Quality First

Once again, we are pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2020. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your family.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

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 - 5		
SOURCE NAME	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING	SWAP REPORT DATE
CCWSA B. T. Brown Reservoir	Low	March 2009
CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well	Low	March 2009
Newnan Utilities Hershall Norred Surface Water Treatment Plant	Low	Unknown
City of Griffin Still Branch Surface Water Treatment Plant	Low	2001
City of Atlanta Hemphill and Chattahoochee Surface Water Treatment Plant	Low	Unknown

If you would like a copy of any utility's source water assessment, you can reach out to that utility during its regular business hours at the following numbers:

Newnan Utilities (770) 683-5516 | City of Griffin (770) 229-6603 | City of Atlanta (404) 982-1468 | CCWSA (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. These sources are 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.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons 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>.



QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to water quality, please contact Judy Caldwell, Water Quality Coordinator, (470) 686-1819.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. 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.

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 two 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.

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We remain vigilant in
delivering the best-quality
drinking water
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What type of container is best for storing water?

Consumer Reports has consistently advised that glass or BPA-free plastics such as polyethylene are the safest choices. To be on the safe side, don't use any container with markings on the recycle symbol showing "7 PC" (that's code for BPA). You could also consider using stainless steel or aluminum with BPA-free liners.

How much emergency water should I keep?

Typically, 1 gallon per person per day is recommended. For a family of four, that would be 12 gallons for 3 days. Humans can survive without food for 1 month, but can only survive 1 week without water.

How long can I store drinking water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate, even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria prior to filling up with the tap water, the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water could be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

Test Results

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

Our water is monitored for many different types of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here we show only those standards 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 fourth 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 U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water in order to determine if U.S. EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data is available to the public and can be obtained by contacting CCWSA at 770-254-3710. 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.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES									
				CCWSA B. T. Brown Water Treatment Plant		CCWSA Hugh Murphy Well			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	[4]	[4]	2.09	1.15–2.57	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2020	[800]	[800]	90	ND–440	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	2020	1	0.8	0.26	ND–0.99	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	4	4	0.59	0.07–1.12	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2020	60	NA	26.5	17.8–32.6	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	10	10	ND	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)	2020	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2020	TT	NA	3.0	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon¹ (ppm)	2020	TT	NA	1.6	1.3–2.6	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2020	80	NA	51.9	25.5–93.9	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)	2020	TT	NA	0.24	ND–0.24	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2020	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				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	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	[4]	[4]	1.4	1.10–1.60	1.93	NA	1.42	0.80–1.7	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2020	[800]	[800]	70	ND–140	120	NA	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	2020	1	0.8	0.18	ND–0.87	0.67	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	4	4	0.82	0.51–0.93	0.96	NA	0.72	0.54–0.79	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2020	60	NA	4.11	2.61–6.52	43	NA	56	24–56	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	10	10	NA	NA	0.31	NA	0.8	0.77–0.82	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)	2020	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.4	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2020	TT	NA	0	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon¹ (ppm)	2020	TT	NA	1.43	1.30–1.60	2.5	NA	1.67	0.67–1.67	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2020	80	NA	12.40	12.28–14.00	59	NA	72	27–72	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)	2020	TT	NA	0.10	0.03–0.10	0.18	NA	0.45	0.01–0.45	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2020	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

				CCWSA B. T. Brown Water Treatment Plant		Newnan Utilities		City of Griffin		City of Atlanta			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2019	1.3	1.3	0.062	0/30	0.065	NA	0.18	NA	0.152 ²	1/66 ²	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2019	15	0	3.8	2/30	0.94	NA	4.7	NA	6.1 ²	6/66 ²	No	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing systems, including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

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 which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

Table Talk

Get the most out of the Testing Results data table with this simple suggestion. In less than a minute, you will know all there is to know about your water:

For each substance listed, compare the value in the Amount Detected column against the value in the MCL (or AL, SMCL) column. If the Amount Detected value is smaller, your water meets the health and safety standards set for the substance.

Other Table Information Worth Noting

Verify that there were no violations of the state and/or federal standards in the Violation column. If there was a violation, you will see a detailed description of the event in this report.

If there is an ND or a less-than symbol (<), that means that the substance was not detected (i.e., below the detectable limits of the testing equipment).

The Range column displays the lowest and highest sample readings. If there is an NA showing, that means only a single sample was taken to test for the substance (assuming there is a reported value in the Amount Detected column).

If there is sufficient evidence to indicate from where the substance originates, it will be listed under Typical Source.

¹The value reported under Amount Detected for TOC is the lowest ratio of percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

²Sampled in 2018.

