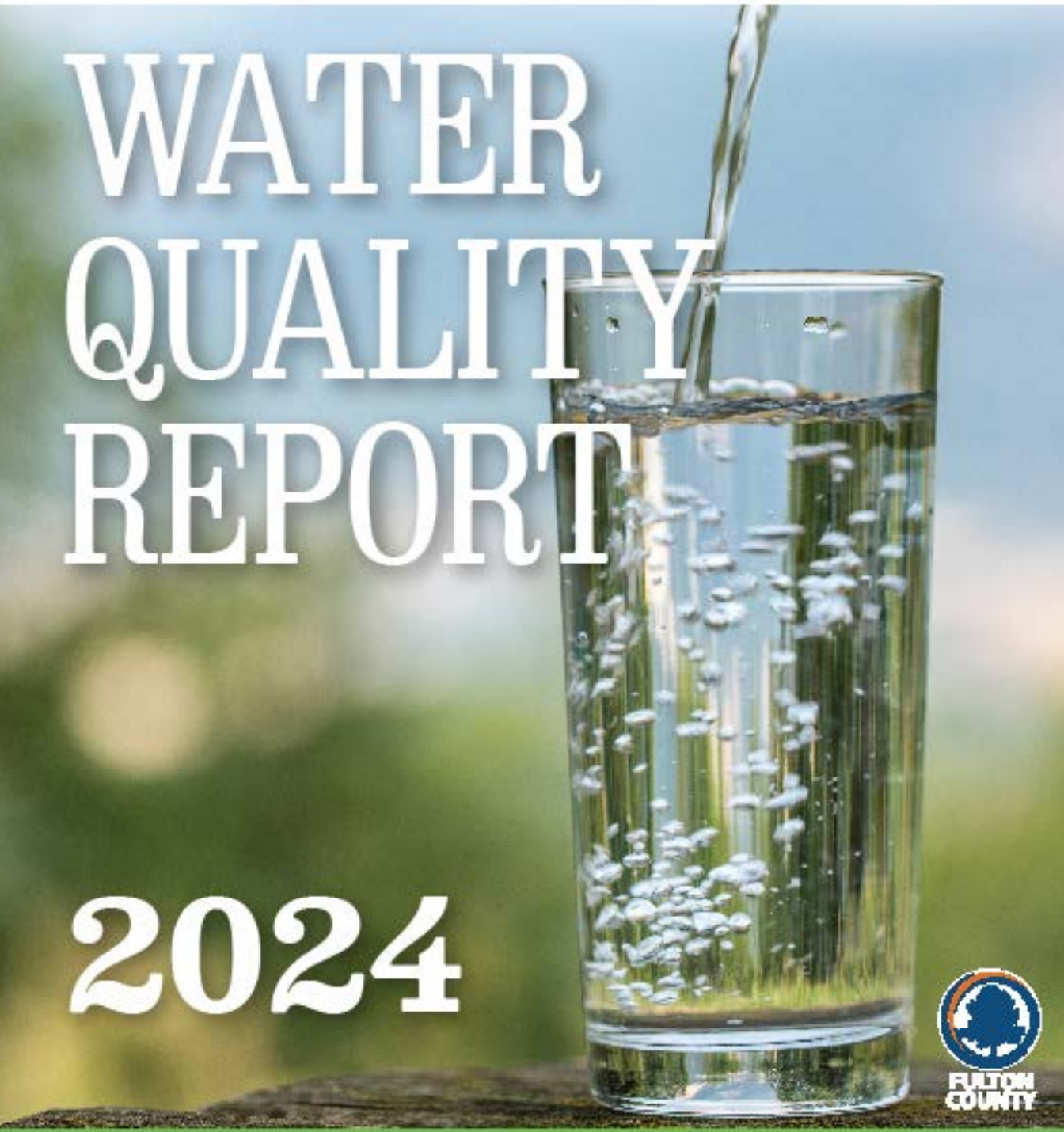
WATER QUALITY REPORT



2024

FULTON COUNTY

Safe and Clean Drinking Water

David E. Clark, P.E.
Director

I am proud to share with you this year's drinking water quality report also known as our Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). It serves as a reminder that in the midst of a world filled with uncertainty, two things remain constant: the quality of your drinking water and the reliability of our system. The results contained in this report shows that Fulton County's drinking water continues to remain safe and of excellent quality, having once again met or exceeded all state and federal standards.

At Fulton County, we use some of the best technology available for water treatment and delivery to ensure the quality and safety of our drinking water. Working together with our customers allows us to set priorities for building, maintaining, and protecting our infrastructure while preparing for future needs and concerns. With our customers in mind, we work hard to provide quality services at a fair price, and our water professionals go above and beyond to make sure those services are readily accessible and available.

Please take a few minutes to review this report, which contains information on Fulton County's water source, treatment and monitoring processes, laboratory results, ongoing projects, and volunteer opportunities. We realize that understanding water quality data can be complicated and that this report may not answer all your questions.

For additional information or inquiries about this report, please call me at 404-612-7400 or contact me via email at David.Clark@fultoncountyga.gov.

Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Data obtained before January 1, 2023 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations.

Award Winning Excellence

When you turn on a faucet at your home, you're receiving a resource that has traveled hundreds of miles, and is the result of dedicated work by many men and women to make sure you receive clean and safe water. Maintaining our drinking water system involves routine sampling, flushing of water lines, and ongoing maintenance. It is a team effort, consisting of more than 250 hardworking professionals who regularly monitor water quality, testing every stage of the water treatment process to ensure that our water flows reliably from "river to tap."

Our employees, facilities, and programs have consistently been recognized among the water industry for our outstanding water and service delivery. ***Below is a listing of some of our most recent awards:***

American Water Works Association (AWWA)

- American Water Works Association (AWWA)'s President's Award, Tom Lowe AFCWTP
- AWWA Partnership for Safe Drinking Water Director's Award, Tom Lowe AFCWTP
- AWWA Partnership for Safe Drinking Water Longevity Award, Tom Lowe AFCWTP

Georgia Association of Water Professionals

- Platinum Award, Tom Lowe AFCWTP
- Platinum Award, Big Creek WRF
- Platinum Award, Johns Creek Environmental Campus (JCEC) WRF
- Platinum Award, Camp Creek WRF
- Platinum Award, Little River WRF
- Platinum Award, JCEC and Little River Land Application Systems (LAS)
- Education Program of Excellence

Get Involved

The Public Education and Outreach Team provides free water quality and conservation programs to Fulton County residents, businesses, and the community. Not only do our program offerings include school programs, guided tours, community workshops and special events, we host a variety of stewardship opportunities that thrive on the support of the communities we serve! To find out how to get involved, contact our PEO team at 404-612-7400 or visit our website at www.fultoncountyga.gov/publicworks.

Your Opinion Matters

At Fulton County, we believe informed customers are our best allies. We encourage you to participate in our public hearings associated with environmental permitting and reviewing of new facilities and projects. Notice of upcoming meetings are posted at the Fulton County Government Center, as well as under "Upcoming Events" on Fulton County's website at www.fultoncountyga.gov. For More information, please contact Corlette Banks at 404-612-7400 or Corlette.Banks@fultoncountyga.gov.

Did you know that the source for Fulton County's drinking water system is the mighty Chattahoochee River?

Protecting our Water Sources

Your water source is closely monitored by the State of Georgia, Fulton County, and several environmental groups. This surface water supply is processed at the Tom Lowe Atlanta-Fulton County Treatment Plant (Tom Lowe AFCWTP), which is located in Johns Creek. The plant produces drinking water of the highest quality and has consistently won numerous awards in the water industry.

In conjunction with the Atlanta Regional Commission, Fulton County completed a source water assessment that itemized potential sources of surface water pollution within the watershed area of our water supply. The Chattahoochee River was found to have a medium risk of potential pollutant loads. The full source water assessment report can be found on our website at www.fultoncountyga.gov.

Water System Overview

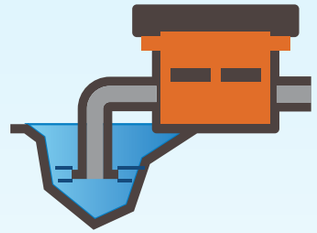
Our system is supplied by two drinking water reservoirs with a total capacity of 895 million gallons (mg), which equates to 30 days of supply. Additionally, our system contains:

- 9 elevated storage tanks
- 3 ground storage tanks
- 2 high pressure zones
- 5 pump stations
- 16.7 mg reserve capacity
- 1,200 miles of water mains
- 85,274 water meters
- 12,897 fire hydrants
- 24,892 drinking water tests
- 315,000 population served
- ***Cities served: Alpharetta, Johns Creek, Milton, Roswell***

From River to Tap: Providing You Clean Drinking Water

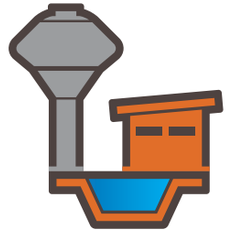
The River

Fulton County's tap water comes from the Chattahoochee River.



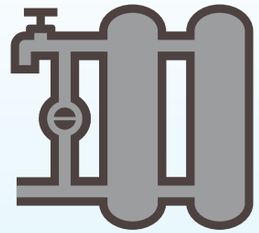
The Treatment Facility

Your drinking water is treated at the **Tom Lowe Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant.**



Treated Water Storage

After your drinking water has been treated, it is stored in elevated and ground storage tanks until you need it.



Water Distribution

After treatment, clean water travels through miles of pipe infrastructure, which is maintained by the Fulton County Department of Public Works.

Water Testing

Throughout the process and before final distribution to your homes and businesses, your water is tested for quality assurance.

Residences and Businesses

We serve more than 315,000 individuals within our drinking water service area. Cities served are Alpharetta, Johns Creek, Milton and Roswell.

Understanding Your Water

Additional definitions are reported below:

90th Percentile: Calculation that determines compliance with the regulation for copper and lead. If this number is less than the action level, then the system is compliant.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): The unit used to express a measurement of turbidity, or cloudiness of a liquid.

Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet maximum contaminant level or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Parts per billion (ppb): One part per billion is the same as one penny in 10 million dollars.

Parts per million (ppm): One part per million is the same as one penny in 10 thousand dollars.

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

Turbidity: Measurement of the cloudiness of the water. A good indicator of water quality and effectiveness of disinfectants.

This data table **shows the results of contaminant monitoring in your water. The data shows that substances detected in our monitoring pose no known health risk at these levels.**

EPA Regulated Substances or Contaminants Monitored in the Water Plant

Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	Highest Amount Detected	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Fluoride (ppm)	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth	4	4	0.71	0.68 – 0.71
YES	Nitrate (measured as Nitrate – Nitrate)	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	10	10	0.49	N/A
Meets EPA Standards	**Substance**	**Typical Source**	**EPA Highest level Allowed (MCL)**	**Treatment Technique (TT)**	**Amount Detected**	**Range Detected (lowest to highest)**
YES	Total Organic Carbon [TOC](ratio)	Naturally present in the environment	TT	TT => 1	1.00	1.00 – 1.00
YES	Turbidity	Soil runoff	TT	TT = 1	0.20	N/A
YES		Soil runoff	N/A	TT + % samples less than 0.3 NTU	100% (lowest monthly percentage)	N/A

EPA Regulated Substances or Contaminants Monitored in the Distribution System

Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	Highest Amount Detected	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Chlorine (ppm)	Water additive used to control microbes	4	4	1.62	0.02 – 1.62
Meets EPA Standards	**Substance**	**Typical Source**	**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**	**90th percentile (90% of samples taken were below this amount)**	**90th percentile (90% of samples taken were below this amount)**	**# of samples above AL (No more than 5 samples above AL allowed)**
YES	Copper (ppb) (collected in August 2018)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	1300	1300	190	0 out of 50 samples taken
YES	Lead (ppb) (collected in August 2018)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	15	0	1.9	0 out of 50 samples taken
Meets EPA Standards	**Substance**	**Typical Source**	**Maximum Contaminant Level**	**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**	**Highest Number of Positive Samples Reported**	**% of positive samples in the total # collected**
YES	Total Coliform (percentage of positive samples in total # of samples collected per month)	Naturally present in the environment	5% of monthly samples are positive	0	4	2.2
YES	Fecal Coliform or E. coli bacteria (number of positive samples)	Human or animal fecal waste	0	0	0	N/A
Meets EPA Standards	**Substance**	**Typical Source**	**Maximum Contaminant Level**	**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**	**Highest Level Detected Average**	**Range Detected (lowest to highest)**
YES	Haloacetic Acid HAA5** (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	60	N/A	33.8	19.6 – 42.8
YES	Trihalomaethane** TTHM (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	80	N/A	73.2	18.6 – 80.8

**Stage 2 monitoring for TTHM/HAA5 is based on locational running averages.

Waiver Period: January 1, 2023 through midnight December 31, 2025 for the following Synthetic Organic and Inorganic Chemical Contaminants:: Alachlor, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Atrazine, Benzo (A) Pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlorodane, Dalapon, Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Adipate, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), Dinoseb, Diquat, Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate, Endothall, Endrin, Ethlyene Dibromide (EDB), Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexaclorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxymyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Simazine, 2,4-D, Toxapene, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin).

Inorganic Constituents: Asbestos and Cyanide

Additional copies of this report are available at your public library.

Summary of 2023 Water Test Results

Fluoride

This water additive promotes strong and healthy teeth. The amount added meets standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Lead

Out of 50 samples, none had lead levels above standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Copper

Out of 50 samples collected, none had copper levels above standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Checking for Lead and Copper in Your Water

Fulton County is required to submit samples collected at customer taps to the state once every three years; our last sampling cycle was September 2021. The US EPA has established an "action level" of 15ug/l for lead and 1300 ug/l copper. Our system is in compliance of these limits

(See the Lead-Copper results in this report).

Information from the EPA About Drinking Water Contaminants

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 and, in some cases, radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

Microbial Contaminants

Such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Organic Chemical Contaminants

Including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;

Inorganic Contaminants

Such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and herbicides, from agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

Radioactive Contaminants

Which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Special Notice for Immuno-Compromised Persons

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available on the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800-426-4791.**

Lead in Drinking Water

At Fulton County **the safety and quality of the water we supply to you is of great importance to us. Our results show that we have been very successful in our treatment process to minimize the tendency for lead to enter the water.**

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. The Tom Lowe Atlanta - Fulton County Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components inside homes or commercial buildings. 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 the water for drinking or cooking. Periodically clean out the aerators (screens on the faucet). These screens can trap sediment and debris over time. 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 (800-426-4791) or online at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Revisions to the Lead-Copper Rule

In compliance with the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revision, Fulton County Public Works has been investigating the material of water service lines in its water service area, including the pipes that bring water from the water main to the precise plumbing within the building.

To date, through a review of historical records and tax documents, Fulton County has determined that 62% (43,718 services) were built after the Georgia effective date of the Federal Lead Ban on January 1, 1990 and are therefore non-lead. Through the same historical review, we estimate that 94% of our distribution system was built after 1990, and we believe it is unlikely that those services are lead. However, we are planning to undertake a field investigation of a statistically significant number of our services beginning early next year to verify we have no lead lines in our system.

Should I be concerned about lead in my water?

The primary way lead and copper can enter drinking water systems is through the corrosion of (1) the plumbing material inside your home or (2) the service line going to your home. If that service line is composed primarily of lead, there is a potential for lead contamination (especially, if corrosive water flows through the line or sits stagnant in it). Fortunately, the North Fulton distribution system has virtually no lead service lines. The internal home plumbing of concern is "copper piping with lead solder" which was banned in Georgia in 1986. Homes built between January 1, 1983 and June 30, 1988 are what we target. To protect you from lead and copper contamination that could occur from your home plumbing, Fulton County uses corrosion control techniques that reduce the water's ability to leach lead and copper from the pipes into the water stream. With these measures in place, any concern about lead in drinking water should be at a minimum.

Leak Detection Saves Water & Money

Many of these leaks are simple and inexpensive to fix, and just take some basic detective work to find. To become a leak detective and save your home from water waste and potential damage, download a Leak Detection Checklist from our Water Conservation Page: www.fultoncountyga.gov/water-conservation.

Did you know **that the average U.S. household loses nearly 10,000 gallons of water to leaks each year?**

Some fixes are as simple as replacing a worn-out washer or tightening a connection. If you find that it's time to replace a faucet, shower head, or toilet, be sure to look for the WaterSense label! WaterSense labeled products are third-party tested for both efficiency and performance, so you know you'll be saving water without sacrificing function.

look for WaterSense Meets EPA Criteria

Want to be alerted to leaks as soon as they happen? A smart leak detector can help. There are a wide variety of leak detectors available, from simple water sensors placed near an appliance to whole-house flow monitors that can provide real time water usage data and even shut off your water in an emergency. Fulton County customers may be eligible for a rebate when installing certain types of smart leak detectors. Learn more on our Water Efficiency Rebates page: www.fultoncountyga.gov/water-efficiency-rebates.

Fulton County Department of Public Works

141 Pryor Street SW, Suite 6001
Atlanta, GA 30303
www.fultoncountyga.gov/publicworks

404-612-7400

Water testing performed from:
January 1 to December 31, 2023
WSID 1210005

This document includes important information about your drinking water.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Robb Pitts, *Chairman, (At-Large)*
Bridget Thorne, *District 1*
Bob Ellis, *District 2*
Dana Barrett, *District 3*
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Dick Anderson, *County Manager*

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