



CONTAMINANTS

THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER BEFORE WE TREAT AND PROTECT OUR WATER SUPPLY

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 EPA'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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- ➔ **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- ➔ **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- ➔ **Pesticides & herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential use.
- ➔ **Radioactive contaminants**, which are naturally occurring.
- ➔ **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.



A UTILITY OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATED TO LEAD

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. Hinesville's Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

WATER QUALITY

2020 | ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

YOUR WATER MEETS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS FOR WATER QUALITY



Last year we conducted more than 500 tests for over 80 drinking water contaminants. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided in 2020. Included

are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards. We are committed to providing you with the information because we want you to be informed. For more information about your water, please contact Utilities Manager Robert Norby at 912-876-8216.

In 2020, as in years past, the City of Hinesville met all state and federal regulations for water quality.



High quality water is more than the dream of the conservationists, more than a political slogan; high quality water, in the right quantity at the right place at the right time, is essential to health, recreation, and economic growth. Citizens of Hinesville can trust that your water is safe to drink.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Hinesville's Mayor and City Council meets the first and third Thursday of each month at the Hinesville City Hall. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Visit the City's website for Council Meeting dates and agendas.

cityofhinesville.org

YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK!

WSID GA1790000

SPECIAL POPULATION ADVISORY

YOUR HEALTH IS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

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, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

HOTLINE
EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline
1-800-426-4791

Water Quality Monitoring

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. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.



WHERE YOUR DRINKING WATER COMES FROM

The City of Hinesville's water comes from four groundwater wells withdrawing water from the Upper Floridan Aquifer. Source water assessment information may be obtained by contacting Robert Norby, Utilities Manager, at 912-876-8216. We will be happy to answer any questions.



For more information on the source of your water, please contact Utilities Manager Robert Norby at 912-876-8216.



Understanding the Data

The table in this report lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2020 calendar year unless otherwise noted.



The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing completed January 1 through December 31, 2020. The state requires the City to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.



2020 CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

WATER QUALITY DATA

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination
DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS							
Chlorine – Measured as Cl2 (ppm)	4 MRDL	4 MRDLG	1.41 AVG	0.83 – 2.05	2020	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	0	19.55	17.9 – 21.2	2020	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	0	4.38	4.37 – 4.39	2020	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.58 AVG	0.49 – 0.69	2020	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Copper – Action level at consumer taps (ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.094 90th percentile	0 of 30 Sites exceeding AL	2019	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead – Action level at consumer taps (ppb)	AL = 15	0	0.094 90th percentile	0 of 30 Sites exceeding AL	2019	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Turbidity: Turbidity has no health affects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms.

Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Fluoride: Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

Lead: See "Additional Information Related to Lead" provided on page 4.



TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- **AL (Action Level)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **AVG (Average)**
- **LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average)** – The average of samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **N/A (Not Applicable)**
- **ND (Not detectable at testing limit)**
- **NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units)**
- **pCi/l (picocuries per liter)** – A measure of radioactivity.
- **ppm (parts per million or milligrams per liter)** – Corresponds to one minute in two years
- **ppb (parts per billion or micrograms per liter)** – Corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years
- **TT (Treatment Technique)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.