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.

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

Water Disinfection

Any water supply can naturally be exposed to disease causing microbes. Statesboro follows state and federal regulations to prevent disease by disinfection with chlorine. Regulations require a detectable amount of chlorine throughout the water distribution system to ensure public safety. Certain by-products are formed during disinfection as a result of chemical reactions between chlorine and naturally occurring organic matter in the water. The addition of chlorine is carefully controlled so the levels of by-products are kept low, while disinfection remains effective.

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, and wildlife; Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban storm-water 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 storm-water runoff, and residential uses; Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-product of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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/EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cystoisospora and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

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

If you are interested in learning more about the water department or have any questions about the quality of water in Statesboro, please call Danny Lively at (912) 764-0693, or Matt Aycock, at (912) 764-1161. If you have any questions about public participation and policy decisions, please call (912) 764-0693.
**Sample 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. If we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our 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 detect 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.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance (Type of Measure)</th>
<th>Year Sampled</th>
<th>MCLG (mg/dL)</th>
<th>MCLG (mg/dL)</th>
<th>Amount Detected</th>
<th>Range (mg/dL)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine (ppm)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>ND–2.20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Water additive used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (ppm)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.61</td>
<td>0.85–2.44</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TTHMs (Total Haloalkanes) (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>80 NA</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>5.7–16.4</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tap Water Samples Collected for Copper and Lead Analyses from Sample Sites Throughout the Community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance (Unit of Measure)</th>
<th>Year Sampled</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Sites Above AL</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copper (ppm)</strong></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.066</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead (ppb)</strong></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1/50</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Source Water Assessment**

A Source Water Assessment was completed for the City of Statoeboro Water System. This report lists potential contaminants that could be detected within the system. If you are interested in a copy of this report, contact the City of Statoeboro, PO Box 348, Statoeboro, Georgia 30459.

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**Community Water Fluoridation**

The safety and benefits of fluoride are well documented. For over 70 years, U.S. citizens have benefited from drinking water containing fluoride, leading to better dental health. Drinking fluoridated water keeps the teeth strong and has reduced tooth decay by approximately 25% in children and adults.

Over the past several decades, there have been major improvements in oral health. Soft, tooth decay remains one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. Community water fluoridation has been identified as the most cost-effective method of delivering fluoride to all members of the community, regardless of age, educational attainment, or income level.

Nearly all water contains some fluoride, but usually not enough to help prevent tooth decay or cavities. Public water systems can add the right amount of fluoride to the local drinking water to prevent tooth decay.

Community water fluoridation is recommended by nearly all public health, medical, and dental organizations in the U.S. Because of its contribution to the dramatic decline in tooth decay, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) named community water fluoridation one of the greatest public health achievements of the 20th century. (Courtesy of CDC: www.cdc.gov/fluoridation)

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**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.

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**FOG (fats, oils, and grease)**

You may not be aware of it, but every time you pour fat, oil, or grease (FOG) down your sink (e.g., bacon grease), you are contributing to a costly problem in the sewer collection system. FOG coats the inner walls of the plumbing in your house as well as the walls of underground piping throughout the community. Over time, these greasy materials build up and form blockages in pipes, which can lead to wastewater backing up into basements and storm drains. These backups allow FOG to contaminate local waters, including drinking water. Exposure to untreated wastewater is a public health hazard. FOG discharged into septic systems and drain fields can also cause malfunctions, resulting in more frequent tank pump-outs and other expenses. Communities spend billions of dollars every year to unplug or replace grease-blocked pipes, repair pump stations, and clean up costly and illegal wastewater spills. Here are some tips that you and your family can follow to help maintain a well-run system now and in the future:

- Pour fats, oil, or grease down the house or storm drains.
- Dispose of food scraps by flushing them.
- Use the toilet as a waste basket.

Always:

- Scrape and collect fat, oil, and grease into a waste container such as an empty coffee can, and dispose of it with your garbage.
- Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes.
- Place a wastebasket in each bathroom for solid wastes like disposable diapers, creamers and lotions, and personal hygiene products, including nonbiodegradable wipes.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

- The number of Olympic-sized swimming pools it would take to fill up all of Earth's water: 800 TRILLION
- The average cost for about 5 gallons of water supplied to a home in the U.S.: 1¢
- The amount of Earth's water that is salty or otherwise undrinkable, or locked away and unavailable in ice caps and glaciers: 99%
- The daily number of gallons of potable home water use for each person in the U.S.: 50 MILLION
- The amount of water on Earth in cubic miles: 330 MILLION
- The amount of Earth's water that is available for all of humanity's needs: 1%
- The amount of the human brain that contains water: 75%