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, 2019. 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.

Lead in Home Plumbing

Present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Maximum levels of lead are 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.

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 percent in children and adults.

Over the past several decades, there have been major improvements in oral health. Still, 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: cdc.gov/fluoridation)

Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through the mains.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stable water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen, disinfectant levels, and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use, and avoid using hot water to prevent sediments accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

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.

If you are interested in learning more about the water department or have any questions about the quality of water in Jacksonville, please call Danne Lively at (912) 764-0693, or Matt Aycock at (912) 681-1161. 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. The water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, 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 detections below the respective maximum allowed levels.

The State requires 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</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Amount Detected</th>
<th>Range Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>ND-2.20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>0.05-2.16</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halogenated Acids (HAA5)</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>2.5-7.1</td>
<td>No</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</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Amount Detected (With %ile)</th>
<th>Sites Above Advisory Sites</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.085</td>
<td>0/50</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0/50</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unregulated Substances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount Detected</th>
<th>Range Low- High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molybdenum</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.40-1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strontium</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>170-290</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where Does Statesboro's Water Come From?

The raw water supply of Statesboro's drinking water is the Florida Aquifer, which is a limestone formation running under the entire county and extending south. Raw water from this aquifer is of a very high quality. Water is withdrawn from the Florida Aquifer utilizing six active deep wells. Water treatment consists of chlorination (disinfection), filtration (to help prevent tooth decay in children's teeth), and phosphate (for iron and corrosion control). This treatment takes place at each wellsite and is sampled and monitored daily by certified operators to ensure that quality drinking water is delivered to our customers.

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.

Safeguard Your Drinking Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. You can help protect your community’s drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides—they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community, and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use U.S. EPA’s Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with others in your neighborhood. Stencil a message next to the storm drain reminding people “Dump No Waste—Drains to River,” or “Protect Your Water; Produce and Distribute a Free for households to remind residents that storm drains drain directly into your local water body.

Source Water Assessment

Source Water Assessment was completed for the City of Statesboro 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 Statesboro, PO Box 348, Statesboro, GA, 30459.

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 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-products 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.

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