

2020 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

CITY OF FAIRBURN WATER SYSTEM (WSID# 1210004)

56 Malone Street... Fairburn, Georgia 30213... (770) 964-2244

This Report includes data collected between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020

The City of Fairburn is pleased to report that your drinking water met or exceeded all required U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The 2017 Water Quality Report provided our customers with detailed accounts of all the monitoring and testing results gathered from that year. Our employees are committed to providing you with safe dependable tap water on a year-round basis and are proud to provide this information. For more information about your water or this report, please call John Martin at 770-964-2244.

The source of Fairburn's water is the Chattahoochee River and treatment of this water is provided by the City of Atlanta. Atlanta treats raw water from the Chattahoochee River at two surface water treatment plants, the Chattahoochee Plant and the Hemphill Plant. These two plants provide 75% of Atlanta's drinking water. The rest of Atlanta's water comes from the Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant, which primarily serves the northeast area of Atlanta's Water System. The water is then distributed through the City of Atlanta's distribution system through nineteen master meters located at various points around Fairburn. Water received by Fairburn has met or exceeded all required water safety and quality standards set by state and federal agencies. Once the water is in the City of Fairburn's system additional testing is performed to ensure the water remains safe and of the highest quality. Any monitoring violations that occur will be followed by a public notice.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The City of Atlanta Water Works and the Atlanta Regional Commission have completed an assessment of potential for pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The results of this assessment can be found on the City of Fairburn website.

A source water assessment is a study and report, unique to each water system that provides basic information about the water used to provide drinking water. The Source Water Assessments:

- Identify the area of land that contributes the raw water used for drinking water.
- Identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies, and
- Provide an understanding of the drinking water supply's susceptibility to contamination.

This information can help communities understand the potential for contamination of their water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

Since its creation in 2001, the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District) has implemented one of the most comprehensive regional water management plans in the country. It is staffed by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and includes 15 counties and 92 cities, including the City of Fairburn. It is the only major metropolitan area in the country with more than 100 jurisdictions implementing a long-term comprehensive water management program that is required and enforced. For more information, please visit <http://northgeorgiawater.org/>

INFORMATION ABOUT 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife;

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- **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 and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems;
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be results of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which 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.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite that is found in surface water throughout the United States. When ingested, it can cause symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease with within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illnesses. Immuno-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infections. Cryptosporidium must be ingested for it to cause disease, and it may spread through means other than drinking water. Source water monitoring indicated the presence of these organisms in the Chattahoochee River, which is Atlanta's raw water supply. Since January 2006, our source water at Hemphill WTP and the Chattahoochee WTP has been monitored for Cryptosporidium.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2020 calendar year by the City of Atlanta. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020.

2020 CCR Data for Wholesalers of the Atlanta Water System (WSID# GA1210001)

Information for your CCR from the Chattahoochee WTP, Hemphill WTP, and consecutive system monitoring

2020 Regulated Contaminants monitored at the Treatment Plants

Parameter (units)	MCL	Result	Range of Detections	Represents	Violation	
Flouride (ppm)		4	0.72	0.54 -0.79	Highest Monthly Average	No
Nitrate as Nitrogen (ppm)		10	0.8	0.77 -0.82	Yearly Average	No
Total Organic Carbon (ratio)	Treatment Technique	1.67 *	0.67-1.67	Highest Monthly Ratio	No	
Turbidity (NTU)	TT=1 NTU	0.08	0.01-0.45	Highest Monthly Average	No	
Turbidity (% of samples <0.3 NTU)		95	100	NA	Lowest Monthly Percentage	No
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4	1.42	0.80-1.70	Highest Monthly Average	No	

*TOC is a calculated removal ratio

2018 Regulated Contaminants monitored at Customer Taps (including consecutive systems)

Parameter (units)	MCL	Result	Range of Detections	Represents	Violation
Copper (ppm)*	AL=1.3	0.152	1 of 66	90th Percentile	No
Lead (ppb)*	AL=15	6.1	6 of 66	90th Percentile	No

*Triennial Monitoring

2018 Unregulated Contaminants monitored at Treatment Plants

Parameter (units)	MCL	Result	Range of Detections	Represents	Violation
Quinoline (ug/L)	not regulated	0.046	0.026-0.046	Highest Detected	No
Manganese (ug/L)	not regulated	1.18	0.445-1.18	Highest Detected	No

2018 Unregulated Contaminants monitored at the source

Parameter (units)	MCL	Result	Range of Detections	Represents	Violation
Bromide (ug/L)	Not regulated	32.6	21.2-32.6	Highest Detected	No

2020 Regulated Contaminants monitored in the Distribution System

Parameter (units)	MCL	Result	Range of Detections	Represents	Violation
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	72	27-72	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	56	24-56	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No
Total Coliform (% of Samples)	5	1.4	0.0-1.4	Highest Monthly Percentage	No

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If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Fairburn 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

- MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which 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.
- TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- n/a: not applicable
- nd: not detectable at testing limit.
- ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- ppb: parts per billion
- NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units: A measure of very small particle matter in drinking water.

PARTICIPATION

Your City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and the City of Fairburn Facebook page. Your participation or comments are welcome at these meetings.

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