2023

The Cobb County Water System is pleased to report that your

DRINKING WATER has met or exceeds federal and state quality requirements.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER

Important details concerning your drinking water are included in this Consumer Confidence Report, along with comprehensive test results performed during 2022 that were required by both state and federal regulations. There were **no** EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report.

Your Water Comes From the Chattahoochee River and Lake Allatoona

The Cobb County Water System (CCWS), an agency of Cobb County Board of Commissioners, is committed to delivering to you, our customer, water that exceeds federal and state quality requirements. The CCWS purchases water from the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA), a utility providing treated drinking water on a wholesale basis to cities and counties in the region. The CCMWA treats drinking water using state-of-the-art equipment and ensures water quality through continued monitoring and testing.

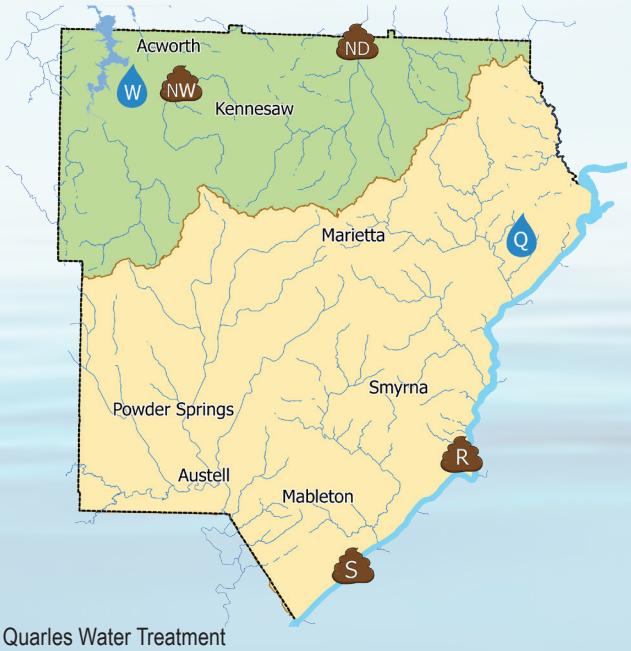
Lake Allatoona

The CCMWA has two surface water sources supplying two treatment facilities. The Wyckoff Water Treatment Plant is supplied from Lake Allatoona, a Corps of Engineers impoundment in north Cobb, south Cherokee, and south Bartow counties. The Quarles Water Treatment Plant receives water from the Chattahoochee River south of the Morgan Falls Reservoir in east Cobb County. After treatment at these plants, water is transported to various areas within the County where it is fed into CCWS distribution lines and finally to your home or business.

Chattahoochee River

A source water assessment plan was prepared for CCMWA by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD). Its purpose is assessing the sources and determining the risk for potential pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The most recent plan, completed in 2020, is a very comprehensive 95-page document. For more information about the assessment, visit: https://www.ccmwa.org/reports on the CCMWA website. The MNGWPD Integrated Plan for Atlanta's Water Resources is available online here: https://northgeorgiawater.org/plans-manuals/.

Cobb County Treatment Facilities



A Message From Our Director

Judy Jones, P.E.

I am pleased to share with you this year's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as our drinking water quality report. This annual report provides data that demonstrates Cobb County's drinking water is safe, of excellent quality, and exceeds all state and federal standards.

The dependable delivery of safe drinking water is a top priority. In cooperation with our wholesale water provider, CCMWA, our team of committed water professionals work 24/7 to ensure quality services are provided at a reasonable cost to our customers.

We hope that you will take a few minutes to review this report. It contains information on Cobb County's water sources, treatment and monitoring processes, and laboratory results. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. Data obtained before January 1, 2022 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations. If you have further questions about this report, please reach out at **WaterCustomerService@cobbcounty.org**.

Your Water in Numbers

- **345** Sq. Miles of Service Area
- **197,313** Water Accounts
- **750,000** People Served
- **48%** Industrial/Commercial Water Usage
- **22,400+** Annual Water Tests
- **100+** Substances Analyzed
- **54,975,000** Gallons of Water Distributed per Day

Contact Information

Information about this report can be obtained from Jennifer McCoy of the Cobb County Water System at 770.528.8215.

Water Bill Questions.....770.419.6200
Emergency | Report A Broken Water Line.....770.419.6201
Water Conservation.....770.528.8214
Volunteer Opportunities.....770.528.1482

Important Health Information From the Environmental Protection Agency

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants 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 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, urban 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 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*** at ***1-800-426-4791.***

Your Role in Water Quality

We work hard to provide high quality water when it arrives on your property. Once the water we provide passes through the meter on your property however, it is exposed to a whole new environment in your home that we have no control over. But you do.

Some of the things that can change the water quality on your property include your plumbing and pipe material, how long you go without running the water, and whether or how you connect outdoor hoses to your home's water supply. 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. CCWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Cobb County UGA Extension Office at 770-528-4070. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, CCMWA sometimes also monitors for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits or MCLs for drinking water.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The meaning of a detection should be determined by considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

CCMWA monitored for Unregulated Contaminants including PFAS at the Quarles Water Treatment facility. The 2022 EPD Lab Report can be found on the CCMWA website at https://www.ccmwa.org/reports. NO PFAS were detected in this study.

Look Out for Special Populations

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/CDC (Center for Disease Control) 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***.

Don't Drink or Cook with Hot Water From the Tap

Hot water systems like tanks and boilers contain metallic parts that corrode over time, contaminating the water. Hot water also dissolves contaminants in pipes faster than cold water. The hot water tap should only be used for cleaning, not consumption. When cooking, making baby formula, and preparing food and beverages always start with cold tap water and warm it.

Flume Smart Home Water Monitor Loaner & Rebate Programs

Conserve Water With Flume & Save Money

Scan Me

Borrow and Detect Sneaky Leaks

Think you might have a leak? Borrow a Flume Smart Home Water Monitor for up to 90 days to track your real-time water use. The Flume Water Sensor straps around your existing water meter and sends real-time water usage to the Flume app through a Wi-Fi Bridge, separating indoor use from outdoor use. For more information, scan the QR code above or visit http://tiny.cc/flume.

Scan Me

Get A $100 Bill Credit

CCWS is offering residential customers a $100 bill credit for the purchase and installation of the Flume Smart Home Water Monitor System. Purchase a Flume at a discounted rate and apply for the bill credit after installation. For more information, scan the QR code above or visit flumewater.com/cobbcounty.

Your 2022 Water Analysis & Test Results

The table shows the results of our water quality analyses during 2022 or otherwise noted. Every contaminant *regulated* by EPA that was detected in the water, even at trace levels, is listed here. **All results meet or exceed EPA standards.** (The data presented in this report are furnished by the CCMWA and are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.)

Type	Meet EPA Standard	Substance	Major Source	Highest EPA Allowed Level (MCL, MRDL, TT)	EPA Ideal Goal (MCLG, MRDLG)	Detected Level
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	✓	TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	By-products of drinking water disinfection	80	n/a	58[1] ppb at site 504 (Actual range 20.7 – 82.6 ppb)
	✓	HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids)	By-products of drinking water disinfection	60	n/a	37[1] ppb at site 504 & 512 (Actual range 15.4 – 42.2 ppb)
	✓	TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from sources such as lakes and streams	TT	n/a	2.1 ppm (Actual range 1.0 – 2.10 ppm)
	✓	Chlorite	By-product of drinking water disinfection	1.0	0.8	0.38 ppm (Actual range 0.021 – 0.38 ppm)
	✓	$Chlorine_{Free}$	Drinking water disinfection	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	2.10 ppm (Actual range 0.00 – 2.10 ppm)
Inorganic Contaminants	✓	Fluoride[2]	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.93 ppm (Actual range 0.12 - 0.93 ppm)
	✓	Nitrate/Nitrite [3]	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.59 ppm (Actual range 0.29 - 0.59 ppm)
	✓	Aluminum[4]	Aluminum salts (Alum) are commonly added as coagulants during water treatment to remove impurities, organic matter, and microorganisms	0.05 - 0.2	n/a	0.052 ppm (Actual range 0.0 - 0.052 ppm)
	✓	Copper[5]	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives	AL=1.3	0	0.040 ppm 0 over AL
	✓	Lead [5]	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	AL=15	0	2.0 ppb
Microbiological Contaminants	✓	Total Coliform	Naturally present in the environment	Exceeds 5.0% TC+ samples in a month	n/a	2.66% [6]
	✓	*E. coli*	Human or animal fecal waste	One Positive Sample[7]	0	0
	✓	Turbitity (NTU)	Soil runoff	TT=1 NTU	0	TT = 100% of samples < 0.3 (Highest value reported 0.12)

1 The highest detected LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average).
2 Fluoride is added to water to help in the prevention of dental cavities in children.
3 Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as N.
4 EPA has a recommended non-enforceable Secondary Maximum Contaminant (SMCL) level for Aluminum based on aesthetics.
5 Testing throughout the consecutive system is done every three years, most recently in 2020. Of the 50 sites tested, no site in the CCWS service area exceeded the action level. The next round of testing is due in 2023.
6 Seven positive samples out of 263 samples tested during the month of July.
7 A Public Water System will receive an E. coli MCL violation when there is any combination of an EC+ sample result with a routine/repeat TC+ or EC+ sample result.

Terms That Help You Understand This Report

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

EC+ - *E. coli* - positive.

E. Coli (Escherichia coli) Family of disease causing bacteria found in the environment, food and the intestines of animals. Most strains of E. coli are harmless, though some can cause diarrhea, urinary tract infections, respiratory illness, pneumonia, and other illnesses.

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.

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.

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) This is the lowest amount of cleaning chemical drinking water should have, because it is the lowest amount needed to make sure bacteria and viruses can't live.

n/a (not applicable) Does not apply.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. Measurements are given in nephelometric turbidity units.

Part Per Billion (ppb) = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool. Measured in micrograms/Liter.

Part Per Million (ppm) = 1 drop of water in a hot tub. Measured in milligrams/Liter.

TC+ Total coliform-positive.

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

Turbidity The measure of cloudiness of the water and has no health effects. Monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Community Matters

Working to Protect and Conserve Our Water Source

CCWS facilitates volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Last year, 1,300 volunteers participated in our volunteer programs, providing 4,000 hours of servce to the community.

One way to get involved is to mark storm drains. Rain water runs off the landscape from roads, driveways, lawns, rooftops, and parking lots and carries pollution into our water. Additionally, any litter on roads will wash into streams through the storm drain system. Marking storm drains around Cobb County reminds the community to only let rain water go down the storm drains. Volunteers place storm drain markers, pick up roadside litter, and help CCWS educate the community about pollution prevention and water quality. To volunteer, contact us at water_RSVP@cobbcounty.org.

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Facebook/cobbwater Instagram/cobbwater Twitter/tappyturtle youtube.com/@cobbwater Nextdoor

Sign Up For Our Newsletter

Visit https://tinyurl.com/waterNewsletter, and select Water System

Leading The Industry

CCWS is committed to providing reliable, and high quality afforable water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Here are just a few recent honors bestowed upon CCWS that demonstrate this ethic:

- AAA credit rating from all three of the top bond rating agencies (Fitch IBCA, Standard & Poors, and Moody's Investor Services)
- EPA 2022 WaterSense Sustained Excellence Award
- Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) 2022 Education Program of Excellence Award
- GAWP 2022 Innovative Initiatives Award for Sibley Pond Experience
- GAWP 2022 New Media Award for Water Professional Wednesdays
- GAWP 2022 Water Distribution System Platinum Award
- GAWP 2022 Gold Award Noonday WRF for complete and consistent NPDES Permit Compliance during the 2021 calendar year
- GAWP 2022 Gold Award Northwest WRF for complete and consistent NPDES Permit Compliance during the 2021 calendar year
- GAWP 2022 Gold Award R. L. Sutton WRF for complete and consistent NPDES Permit Compliance during the 2021 calendar year
- GAWP 2022 Gold Award South Cobb WRF for complete and consistent NPDES Permit Compliance during the calendar year 2021
- GAWP 2022 Laboratory QA/QC Gold Award
- Georgia Adopt-A-Stream 2022 Watershed Award from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division

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Marietta, GA 30060

Water Quality Report for 2023
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