Celebrating 45+ Years of Excellence in Water Quality

For over 45+ years, Fulton County has provided you with safe, high quality and great tasting water at very low cost. Our dedicated teams of approximately 250 Water Resources professionals work diligently every day to manage this resource and to ensure customers receive outstanding service for the money they entrust to us through rates and fees.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires an annual water quality report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), from all community water systems nationwide. We are especially happy to report that the quality of our water is excellent and safe, having met or exceeded all state and federal regulations.

Since great water quality is an essential component of a healthy community and economy, this report is really about our commitment to you, the people we serve. It's about how your water choices can impact the supply and the environment. It's about how we're protecting your water supply for quality and security. It's about how we can partner to make sure we have the water we need today and tomorrow. Take a moment to read this report and learn about your water system and some of what goes into delivering water to your tap. And learn why we can celebrate that after 45+ years, Fulton County still delivers some of the best water in the state.

Fast Facts:
- Our water comes from a surface water source, the Chattahoochee River.
- Your water is treated at the Atlanta-Fulton County Water Resources Commission (AFCWRC) facility located in Johns Creek, GA.
- The Chattahoochee River was found to have a medium risk of potential pollutant loads. The full source water assessment report is available on our website.
- Citizens are invited to get more involved through public hearings, notice of which is posted at the Government Center and on our website.
- For problems regarding water services, please call 770-460-3040.
- For billing or reconnection questions, please call 404-612-6830.
- To discuss this report, please contact Corfete Banks at 404-612-7400.

Fulton County Department of Public Works
141 Pryor St SW, Suite 6001
Atlanta, GA 30303
http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/fcwr-home

Kun Suwanarpa, P.E., Interim Director
Water testing performed from January 1 to December 31, 2015.
WSID GA 1210005

Important information about your drinking water.
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners
John H. Eaves, Chairman, District 7 (At-Large)
Liz Hausmann, Vice-Chairman, District 1
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Lee Morris, District 3
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Marvis S. Arrington Jr, District 5
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Dick Anderson, County Manager
Public Works Main Number: 404 612-7400

Multi Family Toilet Rebates

Water conservation is a top priority for Fulton County. On average, older toilets can use 5-7 gallons per flush. That’s a lot of water wasted, and money down the drain! One way Fulton County is helping to conserve is through our Multi-Family Toilet Rebate Program (MFTRP). If you live in a condo, townhome or apartment that was built before 1993 and on a master meter, your property may be eligible. The program provides a $50.00 rebate per toilet that uses more than 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf). It must be replaced with a 1.28 gpf or less EPA Water Sense certified toilet. The maximum rebate (credit to the water bill) amount allowed is $7,500.00 (150 toilets) and is given on a first come first serve basis. This program is subject to available funding.

Get to Know Your H₂O

When you know more about your water system, you’re more likely to appreciate, protect and conserve it. We invite you to tour our drinking water plant or any of our wastewater plants. While the facilities are closed to unsupervised public access, we offer guided tours, programs and events throughout the year. Visit our website for more detailed information.

The contest is open to any student grade K-12 attending a public, private, charter or home school within the Fulton County School System. Artwork will be accepted in the fall of 2016 for the next calendar.

HARD vs SOFT: What’s the Difference?

No doubt you have traveled to different parts of the United States, or even the world, and noticed that the water either tastes unusual or that you just can’t get a good lather up with your soap. The water elsewhere is different—maybe not better or worse—but definitely different. When the naturally soft rainwater makes its way through the soil and into our waterways, it may pick up essential minerals like chalk, calcium and magnesium that make it “hard”.

Hard water, with its high mineral content, leaves clothes dingy, dishes splotchy and soap scum in your bathtub. Soap and shampoo are less effective due to their reactions with highly mineralized water, and the rich and bubbly lather that we all associate with cleanliness is only a reality in that TV commercial. Hard water is hard on appliances, too—calcium build-up in washing machines, dishwashers and water heaters means that they have to work harder and use more energy.

In Fulton County our water is naturally soft and we test for it twice a day! At the end of the drinking water treatment process, we do add a little lime to bring the pH adjustment back to between 7.2 - 7.4, which also helps with corrosion control. Our water usually falls in the target area of 75mg/L, which is considered soft, and we don’t have to do too much to keep it that way. So drink up your soft Fulton County tap water - tasty and easy on the wallet!
Lead in Drinking Water

Recent headlines have caused many Fulton County residents to inquire about the presence of lead in our drinking water system. Questions such as ‘Should I be concerned about lead in my water?’ or ‘Is my water checked for lead, if so how often? What can I do to minimize my exposure?’ are being asked. Rest assured, the safety and quality of the water we supply to you is of great importance to us. Our treatment process minimizes the tendency for lead to enter the water, and our results show that we have been very successful at this.

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. AFMC/WC 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 10 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Determining the type of plumbing you have is one of the first steps in identifying your potential exposure to lead. Where you live and when your plumbing was installed is also important as it relates to quality of your drinking water. Service lines composed primarily of lead have a potential to leach lead contamination into the water, especially if corrosive water flows through it or sits stagnant. The good news is that the North Fulton Distribution System, built primarily in the 1980s, has virtually no lead service lines. Inside your house, copper piping with lead solder can be a cause of lead contamination. Copper pipes with lead solder were banned in Georgia in 1985 and since a high proportion of our customers’ homes were constructed after 1986, lead solder was not used. Older homes may still contain these plumbing systems; however, Fulton County employs corrosion control techniques that reduce the corrosivity of the water and the water’s ability to carry lead from the plumbing system to the faucet.

Fulton County is required to submit samples collected at customer taps to the state once every three years. The US EPA has established an “action level” of 15 µg/l for lead. Our system is safe, as we continue to meet or exceed state and federal regulations. The substances detected by our monitoring and reported to you in this table pose no known health risk at these levels.

90th Percentile: Calculation that determines compliance with the regulation for copper and lead. If lead is in excess of this number then the level action then the system is compliant.

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The Facts About Drinking Water

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

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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, and 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; and
- In order 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons and persons with certain 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 contaminants in drinking water. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/NCDC for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen exposure. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

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