









### **Director's Message**

David E. Clark, P.E., Director, Department of Public Works

I am proud to share with you this year's drinking water quality report also known as our Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The results contained in this report

will show that Fulton County's drinking water is safe and of excellent quality, having once again met or exceeded all state and federal standards. This document serves as a reminder that in the midst of an everchanging world, two things remains constant: the quality of your drinking water and the reliability of our system.

At Fulton County, we use some of the best technology available for water treatment and delivery to ensure the quality and safety of our drinking water. Working together with our customers allows us to set priorities for building, maintaining, and protecting our infrastructure while preparing for future needs and concerns. With our customers in mind, we work hard to provide quality services at a fair price, and our water professionals go above and beyond to make sure those services are readily accessible and available.

Please take a few minutes to review this report, which contains information on Fulton County's water source, treatment and monitoring processes, laboratory results, ongoing projects, and volunteer opportunities. We realize that understanding water quality data can be complicated and that this report may not answer all your questions.

For additional information or inquiries about this report, please call me at 404-612-7400 or contact me via email at <a href="mailto:David.Clark@fultoncountyga.gov">David.Clark@fultoncountyga.gov</a>.

Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Data obtained before January 1, 2024 and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations.



#### Get Involved with Public Works

The Public Education and Outreach Team provides free water quality and conservation programs to Fulton County residents, businesses, and the community. Not only do our program offerings include school programs, guided tours, community workshops and special events, we host a variety of stewardship opportunities that thrive on the support of the communities we serve! Contact our PEO team at **404-612-7400** or visit our website at <a href="https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/publicworks">www.fultoncountyga.gov/publicworks</a> to find out how to get involved.







### Your Opinion Matters At Fulton County, we

At Fulton County, we believe informed customers are our best allies. We encourage you to participate in our public hearings associated with the planning, permitting, and reviewing of new facilities and projects.

Notices of upcoming public meetings are posted at the Fulton County Government Center, as well as under "Calendar" on Fulton County's website at www.fultoncountyga.gov.

For more information about our facilities, operations, and public initiatives, please contact Corlette Banks at 404-612-7400 or Corlette.Banks@fultoncountyga.gov.



#### **Protecting Our Water Sources**

*Did you know* that the source for Fulton County's drinking water system is the mighty Chattahoochee River?

Your water source is closely monitored by the State of Georgia, Fulton County, and several environmental groups. This surface water supply is processed at the Tom Lowe Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant (Tom Lowe AFCWTP), which is located in Johns Creek. The plant produces drinking water of the highest quality and has consistently won numerous awards in the water industry.

In conjunction with the Atlanta Regional Commission, Fulton County completed a source water assessment that itemized potential sources of surface water pollution within the watershed area of our water supply. The Chattahoochee River was found to have a medium risk of potential pollutant loads. The full source water assessment report can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.fultoncountyga.gov">www.fultoncountyga.gov</a>.

#### Water System Overview

Our system is supplied by two drinking water reservoirs with a total capacity of 895 million gallons (mg), which equates to 30 days of supply. Additionally, our system contains:

- 9 elevated storage tanks
- 3 ground storage tanks
- 2 high pressure zones
- 5 pump stations
- 16.7 mg reserve capacity
- 1,200 miles of water mains
- 85,274 water meters
- 12,897 fire hydrants
- 24,892 drinking water tests
- 315,000 population served
- Cities served: Alpharetta, Johns Creek, Milton, Roswell

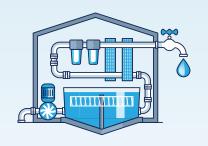


# From River to Tap: Providing You Clean Drinking Water



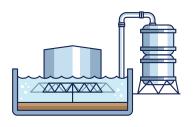
# **The Source**

Fulton County's tap water comes from the Chattahoochee River.



# **Treatment Facility**

Your drinking water is treated at the Tom Lowe Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant.



# Treated Water Storage

After your drinking water has been treated, it is stored in elevated and ground storage tanks until you need it.



# **Water Distribution**

After treatment, clean water travels through miles of pipe infrastructure, which is maintained by the Fulton County Department of Public Works.



# Water Testing

Throughout the process and before final distribution to your homes and businesses, your water is tested for quality assurance.



# Residences and Businesses

We serve more than 315,000 individuals within our drinking water service area.

Cities served are

Alpharetta, Johns Creek,

Milton and Roswell.

## **Understanding Your Water**

#### Additional definitions are reported below:

**90th Percentile:** Calculation that determines compliance with the regulation for copper and lead. If this number is less than the action level, then the system is compliant.

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

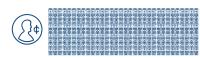
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbiological contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** The unit used to express a measurement of turbidity, or cloudiness of a liquid.

**Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet maximum contaminant level or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Parts per billion (ppb): One part per billion is the same as one penny in 10 million dollars.



Parts per million (ppm): One part per million is the same as one penny in 10 thousand dollars.



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

Turbidity:
Measurement
of the cloudiness of the
water. A good
indicator of
water quality
and effectiveness of
disinfectants.

**This data table** shows the results of contaminant monitoring in your water. The data shows that substances detected in our monitoring pose no known health risk at these levels.

#### EPA Regulated Substances or Contaminants Monitored in the Water Plant

Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	Highest Amount Detected	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Fluoride (ppm)	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth	4	4	0.72	0.69 – 0.72
YES	Nitrate (measured as Nitrate – Nitrate)	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	10	10	0.71	N/A
Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	EPA Highest level Allowed (MCL)	Treatment Technique (TT)	Amount Detected	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Total Organic Carbon [TOC](ratio)	Naturally present in the environment	TT	TT => 1	1.01	1.00 – 1.01
YES	- Turbidity	Soil runoff	TT	TT = 1	0.20	N/A
YES		Soil runoff	N/A	TT + % samples less than 0.3 NTU	100% (lowest monthly percentage)	N/A

#### EPA Regulated Substances or Contaminants Monitored in the Distribution System

Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	Highest Amount Detected	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Chlorine (ppm)	Water additive used to control microbes	4	4	2.19	0.01 – 2.19
Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	90th percentile (90% of samples taken were below this amount)	90th percentile (90% of samples taken were below this amount)	# of samples above AL (No more than 5 samples above AL allowed)
YES	Copper (ppb) Collected in 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	1300	1300	150.0	0 out of 50 samples taken
YES	Lead (ppb) Collected in 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	15	0	1.6	0 out of 50 samples taken
Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Contaminant Level	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Highest Number of Positive Samples Reported	% of positive samples in the total # collected
YES	Total Coliform (percentage of positive samples in total # of samples collected per month)	Naturally present in the environment	5% of monthly samples are positive	0	3	1.6
YES	Fecal Coliform or E. coli bacteria (number of positive samples)	Human or animal fecal waste	0	0	0	N/A
Meets EPA Standards	Substance	Typical Source	Maximum Contaminant Level	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Highest Level Detected Average	Range Detected (lowest to highest)
YES	Haloacetic Acid HAA5** (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	60	N/A	36.3	21.0 – 42.0
YES	Trihalomaethane** TTHM (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	80	N/A	67.4	23.7 – 83.1

<sup>\*\*</sup>Stage 2 monitoring for TTHM/HAA5 is based on locational running averages.

Waiver Period: January 1, 2024 through midnight December 31, 2024 for the following Synthetic Organic and Inorganic Chemical Contaminants:: Alachlor, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Atrazine, Benzo (A) Pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlorodane, Dalapon, Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Adipate, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), Dinoseb, Diquat, Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate, Endothall, Endrin, Ethlyene Dibromide (EDB), Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexaclorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxymyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Simazine, 2,4-D, Toxapene, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin).

# **Summary** of 2024 Water Test Results

#### Fluoride

This water additive promotes strong and healthy teeth. The amount added meets standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.

#### Lead

Out of 50 samples, none had lead levels above standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.

## **Copper**

Out of 50 samples collected, none had copper levels above standards created by the Environmental Protection Agency.







# Checking for Lead and Copper in Your Water

Fulton County is required to submit samples collected at customer taps to the state once every three years; our last sampling cycle was September 2024. The US EPA has established an "action level" of 15ug/l for lead and 1300 ug/l copper. Our system is in compliance of these limits.

(See the Lead-Copper results in this report).

# Information from the EPA About Drinking Water 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 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

#### **Microbial Contaminants**

Such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

# Organic Chemical Contaminants

Including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;

#### **Inorganic Contaminants**

Such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and herbicides, from agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

#### **Radioactive Contaminants**

Which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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** regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

#### Special Notice for Immuno-Compromised Persons

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 people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

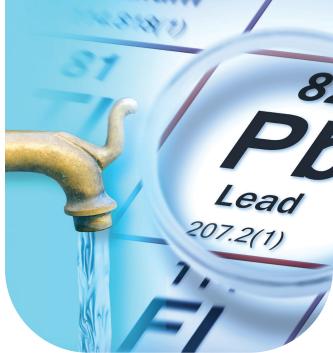
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available on the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.



### Lead in Drinking Water

**At Fulton County**, the safety of the water we supply to you is our concern. Our results show that we have been very successful in our treatment process to minimize the likelihood of lead entering the water.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Fulton County is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results



do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Cynthia Dang at Cynthia.

Dang@fultoncountyga.gov. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Revisions to the Lead-Copper Rule

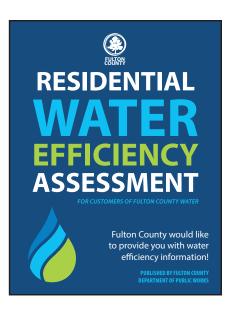
The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to access the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water.

To access the SLI for Fulton County, visit: <a href="https://fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper.">https://fultoncountyga.gov/lead-copper.</a>

#### Water Conservation

#### Residential Water Efficiency Assessments

Quality is always the top concern when it comes to drinking water but for many, cost is a close second. Did you know that Fulton County offers a do-it-yourself Residential Water Efficiency Assessment to help customers reduce their water use? Using water more efficiently helps conserve our most precious natural resource and may also help you lower your bill. Most households can benefit with just a few small changes. All you have to do is answer some simple questions about your home, appliances, and your water use habits, then submit your Residential Water Efficiency Assessment form along with a copy of your most recent water bill. Our staff will review your responses, along with your water use history, and will provide you with customized recommendations to help you conserve as well as some free materials to get you started.



You can download the Residential Water Efficiency Assessment on the Fulton County website at <a href="https://fultoncountyga.gov/waterassessment">https://fultoncountyga.gov/waterassessment</a> or request to have a copy mailed or emailed to you by calling 404.612.8006 or emailing <a href="mailto:pw.customerservice@fultoncountyga.gov">pw.customerservice@fultoncountyga.gov</a>.

#### Rebate Programs

Our customers also have opportunities available for rebates when making changes to improve water efficiency. Single-family and multi-family property owners who meet eligibility requirements can apply for a rebate when replacing older toilets with certain WaterSense labeled ultra high-efficiency toilets (UHETs). Single-family residential customers can also apply for a rebate when installing eligible smart leak detector devices. These rebate programs will be available through December 2025.

See eligibility requirements and apply online at <a href="https://fultoncountyga.gov/services/water-services/water-efficiency-rebates.">https://fultoncountyga.gov/services/water-services/water-efficiency-rebates.</a>







141 Pryor Street SW, Suite 6001 Atlanta, GA 30303 404-612-7400

www.fultoncountyga.gov/publicworks

Water testing performed from: January 1 to December 31, 2024 WSID 1210005

This document includes important information about your drinking water.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Fulton County
Board of Commissioners
Robb Pitts, Chairman, (At-Large)
Bridget Thorne, District 1
Bob Ellis, Vice-Chairman, District 2
Dana Barrett, District 3
Mo Ivory, District 4
Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., District 5
Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, District 6

Dick Anderson, County Manager

Additional copies of this report are available at your public library or on our website at **www.fultoncountyga.gov** 

