**Your Cobb County Water System... did you know?**

Safe drinking water and wastewater collection and treatment services are provided to nearly 600,000 people. Operations are supported through revenues from the sale of services— not from tax dollars— AAA rated! A

Annually more than 21 billion gallons of safe water are distributed through approximately 2,850 miles of major lines... Georgia's outstanding large distribution system in 2000.

More than 29 billion gallons of wastewater are collected annually through approximately 2,300 miles of major lines and delivered for treatment at one of four plants which have a total daily capacity of 100 million gallons... Georgia's outstanding large collection system in 2000.

Each month nearly 150,000 water meters are read, more than 15,000 fire hydrants maintained, more than 14,000 customer calls handled... The Cobb County Water System is committed to its important role of protecting the environment and supporting our community.

**Water Conservation Use Ban In Effect**

The Atlanta region remains under a state drought alert and at the time of printing there are mandatory restrictions on all outdoor water use. No residential or other landscaping outdoor water use is allowed from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., seven days a week. Otherwise, outdoor water use is only permitted during the non-banned hours on the basis of even address and date, or odd address and date.

These State mandated water ban restrictions are subject to change. You are responsible for being aware of, and abiding by, current restrictions. Violations will not be excused due to non-awareness of current water ban restrictions. Violators are subject to a $500 fine plus a $20 service charge.

The official state web site for information on the drought is [www.georgiadrought.org](http://www.georgiadrought.org). For more information on the water ban and water conservation contact us at (770) 423-1000.

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**Who provides my water?**

You are a customer of the Cobb County Water System, an agency of Cobb County Government. We distribute water to you and treat wastewater in a manner safe to our families and the environment. The Water System purchases water from the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA), a utility providing treated drinking water on a wholesale basis to other cities and counties in the region. CCMWA treats drinking water using state-of-the-art equipment and ensures water quality through continued monitoring and testing. Tap water is delivered to more than 150,000 customer accounts representing over 500,000 people in the Cobb Water System’s service area.

**Where does my water come from?**

Your water comes from one of three sources. Most of the water is drawn from the Chattahoochee River and Lake Allatoona. In recent years, a supplemental groundwater (well) source located off Tritt Springs Trace has been tapped during peak demand times. These sources are located entirely in Georgia. The CCMWA has two plants that treat as much as 136 million gallons a day (MGD) of drinking water fed from the two bodies of surface water:

- Quarles Treatment Plant on Lower Roswell Road in East Cobb treats Chattahoochee River water.
- Wyckoff Treatment Plant on Mars Hill Road in Northwest Cobb treats Lake Allatoona water.

After treatment at the CCMWA plants, the finished water is fed to the Cobb County Water System’s distribution lines and finally to your home or business.

**How is my water treated?**

The process begins by pumping untreated water from the river or lake into sedimentation basins where large particles are removed and the water is disinfected. The water is directed to a process called flocculation which is a gentle mixing of the water with a coagulant. This allows particles, called “floc”, to form and settle, clarifying the water. Next the water is put through a filtration system... after filtration, chemicals are added for final disinfection. Except for chlorine and fluoride, every chemical used in the treatment process is removed before the finished water is distributed to you.

**Why are there contaminants?**

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it breaks up naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It also collects substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity...organic chemicals such as industrial products, or waste from gas stations and septic systems; pesticides and herbicides...organic chemicals such as industrial products, or waste from gas stations and septic systems; pesticides and herbicides and radioactive materials occurring naturally or from gas and oil production.

When there are contaminants, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set treatment methods to reduce them to levels that protect human health. CCMWA’s laboratory monitors water quality daily to be sure it is properly treated to EPA standards. Over 200 water samples throughout the Cobb County distribution system are taken randomly each month and tested.

Tap water is regulated by the EPA, which sets limits for the compounds that can be present in drinking water. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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 EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.
The Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority participated in a major drinking water quality testing program called the Information Collection Rule (ICR). The following tables are the results of tests of contaminants detected. This program terminated in 1998.

### CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Date Tested</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Highest Allowed (MCL)</th>
<th>Ideal Goal (MCLG)</th>
<th>Amount Detected</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Likely Source(s)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Aldehydes</td>
<td>9/7/98</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.7 - 5.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloral hydrate</td>
<td>8/26/98</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>1.9 - 7.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorate</td>
<td>1/12/98</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>124.0</td>
<td>122 - 124.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine dioxide</td>
<td>3/08/98</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.1 - 1.5</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Chlorine</td>
<td>12/16/98</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.6 - 2.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorite</td>
<td>3/25/98</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>136.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>136.0</td>
<td>20 - 136.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Halogenetinides</td>
<td>5/27/98</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>n/d - 1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>n/d - 1.9</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-888-498-9666.

### VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Date Tested</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Highest Allowed (MCL)</th>
<th>Ideal Goal (MCLG)</th>
<th>Amount Detected</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Likely Source(s)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Thiolomethanes</td>
<td>9/7/98</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>745.00</td>
<td>21.3 - 95.4</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Haloacetic Acids(TBAAs)</td>
<td>7/24/00</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56.4</td>
<td>15.3 - 82.0</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Organic Carbon (TOC)</td>
<td>8/24/00</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.9 - 1.9</td>
<td>Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from water sources such as lakes and streams</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

The table shows the results of the Cobb-County Marietta Water Authority’s laboratory analysis of your water during the period of January through December 2000. The table lists the name of each substance tested, the maximum level allowed in drinking water (MCL), the highest level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which it is permissible for people to drink is called the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). The table also lists the range of concentrations of certain water quality monitoring parameters does not change frequently within our system, therefore some of the data presented in this report are greater than one year old.

### DEFINITIONS

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**cysts:** small capsulelike sacs that enclose certain organisms.

**n/a:** not applicable.

**n/d:** not detectable.

**NTU:** nephelometric turbidity units (measures the cloudiness of water).

**oocyst:** thick-walled structure in which parasitic organisms develop.

**ppm:** parts per million (or microgram per liter which corresponds to one penny in $10,000).

**ppb:** parts per billion (or microgram per liter which corresponds to one penny in $10,000,000).

**range:** the highest to the lowest level detected.

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

**Turbidity:** measured as the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder effectiveness of disinfectants.

**Microbiological Contaminants:** Total Coliforms and/or Giardia were found in our treated drinking water.

### MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Date Tested</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Highest Allowed (MCL)</th>
<th>Ideal Goal (MCLG)</th>
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<th>Range</th>
<th>Likely Source(s)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliforms</td>
<td>7/24/00</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56.4</td>
<td>15.3 - 82.0</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The levels detected were not a violation and caused no health threat to the population. CCMWA’s treatment process removes this contamination, so there was no need for precaution with our drinking water.