

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.

The CCMWA has two surface water sources supplying two treatment facilities. The Wyckoff Treatment Division is supplied from Lake Allatoona, a Corps of Engineers impoundment in north Cobb, south Cherokee, and south Bartow counties. The Quarles Treatment Division receives water from the Chattahoochee River. 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.

The CCMWA and the Atlanta Regional Commission completed a source water assessment itemizing potential sources of water pollution to our surface drinking water supplies. This information can help you understand the potential for contamination of your drinking water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

- A Source Water Assessment is a study and report which provides the following:
1. Delineating the water supply watershed for each drinking water intake,
  2. Developing an inventory of potential sources of contamination,
  3. Determining the susceptibility of drinking water sources to identified potential sources of contamination, and
  4. Increasing public involvement in and awareness of drinking water watershed concerns.

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS

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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established treatment methods to reduce contaminants to levels that protect human health. CCMWA's laboratory continuously monitors water quality to be sure it is properly treated to EPA standards. In addition, a minimum of 235 water samples throughout the CCWS distribution system are taken each month and tested. Over 2,873 samples were tested during this reporting period. To ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on 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. 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.



Lake Allatoona

Chattahoochee River



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.

For more information on this project visit <http://www.atlantaregional.org> or request information by mail from the ARC:  
Attn: Source Water Assessment Environmental Planning Division  
Atlanta Regional Commission ♦ 229 Peachtree Street, NE ♦ International Tower Suite 100 ♦ Atlanta, GA 30303

Drinking Water Analysis Table							
The tables show the results of our water quality analyses. Every contaminant <i>regulated</i> by EPA that was detected in the water, even at trace levels, is listed here. <b>All Results Meet Or Exceed EPA standards.</b> (The data presented in this report are furnished by the CCMWA and are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.)							
EPA Regulated Inorganic Substances or Contaminants							
Substance (Unit)	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
Fluoride <sup>1</sup> (ppm)	2019	4	4	0.88	0.68 - 0.88	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth	NO
Lead <sup>2</sup> (ppb)	2017	AL =15	0	2.1	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Copper <sup>3</sup> (ppm)	2017	AL =1.3	0	0.053	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Nitrate/Nitrite <sup>4</sup> (ppm)	2019	10	10	0.77	0.33 - 0.77	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits	NO
<b>Notes:</b> <sup>1</sup> Fluoride is added to water to help in the prevention of dental cavities (caries) in children. <sup>3</sup> Of the 50 sites tested, none exceeded the action level. The next round of testing is due in 2020. <sup>2</sup> Of the 50 sites tested, 1 exceeded the action level. The next round of testing is due in 2020. <sup>4</sup> Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as N.							
Disinfection By-Products, By-Product Precursors and Disinfectant Residuals							
Substance (Unit)	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2019	80	n/a	49 Highest LRAA at site 505	14.1 - 71.8	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	2019	60	n/a	34 Highest LRAA at site 505 & 509	14.8 - 42	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
TOC (Total Organic Carbon) (ppm)	2019	TT	n/a	1.7	1.40 - 1.70	Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from sources such as lakes and streams	NO
Chlorite (ppm)	2019	1.0	0.8	0.48	0.33 - 0.48	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
Chlorine <sub>Free</sub> (ppm)	2019	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	2.06	0.00 - 2.06	Drinking water disinfection	NO
Turbidity							
Substance (Unit)	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Typical Sources	Violation
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	2019	TT=1 NTU	0	0.14	n/a	Soil runoff	NO
		TT=percentage of samples <0.3 NTU		100%	n/a		
<b>Notes:</b> <sup>1</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.							
Microbiological Contaminants							
(Data presented in this table were from Systems that collected more than 40 Total coliform samples per month.)							
Substance (Unit)	Date Tested Positive	MCL	MCLG	TT Level 1 Assessment Trigger	Level Detected	Likely Sources	Violation
Total Coliform	03/2019 04/2019 07/2019 08/2019 12/2019	TT	n/a	Exceeds 5.0% TC+ samples in a month	1.23% <sup>1</sup> 0.42% <sup>2</sup> 0.41% <sup>3</sup> 0.41% <sup>3</sup> 0.41% <sup>3</sup>	Naturally present in the environment	NO
E. coli	None	One Positive Sample*	0	n/a	0.0%	Human or animal fecal waste	NO
<b>Notes:</b> * A PWS 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. <sup>1</sup> Three positive samples out of 244 samples tested during the month. <sup>2</sup> One positive sample out of 238 samples tested during the month. <sup>3</sup> One positive sample out of 243 samples tested during the month.							

DEFINITIONS

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

**EC+ – *E. coli*-positive.**

**LRAA –** Locational Running Annual Average.

**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 microbiological contaminants.

**MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** 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.

**n/a –** not applicable.

**NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit:** Measures the cloudiness of water.

**ppb –** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L), i.e., one penny in \$10,000,000.

**ppm –** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L), i.e., one penny in \$10,000.

**PWS –** Public water system.

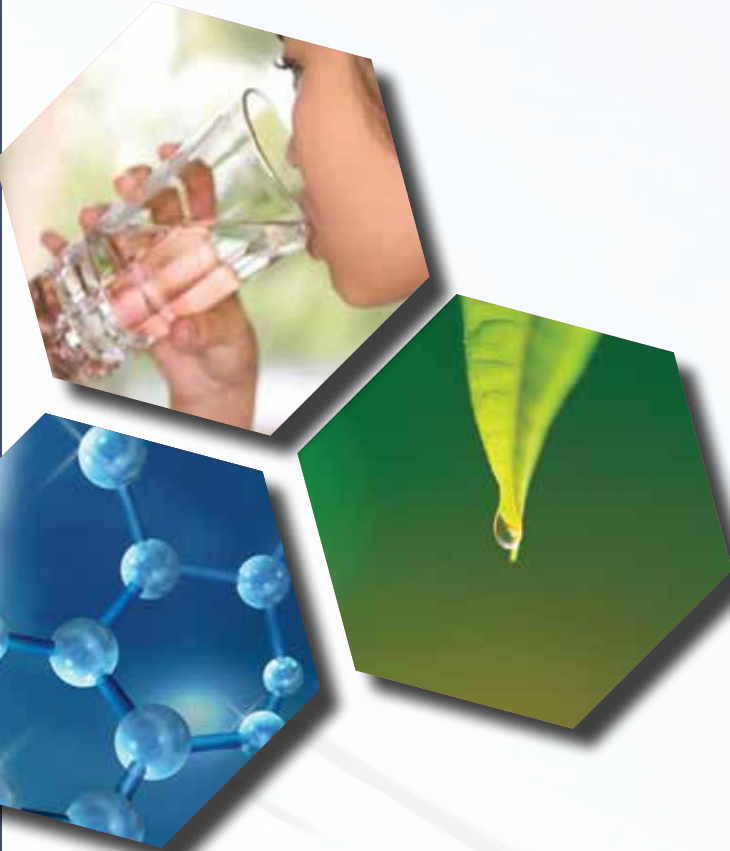
**TC+ –** Total coliform-positive.

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

WHAT IS CRYPTOSPORIDIUM?

**Cryptosporidium** is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks; however, immuno-compromised individuals, infants, small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. The monitoring of our source water performed in 2013 had no detection of cryptosporidium. Testing was only required for a period of nine months in 2013.

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 EPA's ***Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.***



LEAD IN WATER

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. The CCWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. The water has been treated to minimize leaching of such materials. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 or more seconds before using cold tap water for drinking, preparation, 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

HEALTH RELATED CONCERNS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals, such as persons 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.



## PICK UP AFTER OUR PETS

Based on statistics calculated using the US Census 2013-2017 and the APPA National Pet Owners Survey 2017-2018...



68% of U.S. households own at least 1 pet.



There are at least 300,000 pet dogs in Cobb County.



The average dog poops around ¾ of a pound per day.



That's over 112 tons of dog poop a day in Cobb County alone!



Pet waste that is not bagged and trashed can get carried away by rainwater to our rivers and lakes. This can upset the natural balance of our local waterways and cause excessive algae growth. Do your doody and pick it up!



Picking up after our pets!



## KEEP F.O.G. OUT OF THE DRAIN!

What is **F.O.G.**? F.O.G. stands for **Fats, Oils and Grease**. **F.O.G.** sticks to the walls of your plumbing and sewer pipes. Overtime, the build-up will cause blockage to your plumbing system and will result with a sewage backup into your home. To prevent F.O.G., you can do the following practices:



### SCRAPE IT

Use a scraper or spatula to scrape any solid food and F.O.G. into the trash.



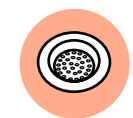
### CAN IT

Allow F.O.G. to cool then pour the liquids into a sealable container and put it in the trash.



### TRASH IT

Dispose of F.O.G. in the trash.



### STRAIN IT

Use a sink strainer to catch food particles and place them in the trash.



F.O.G. Blockage In Pipe



Sewage Backup Toilet

## BE WATER SMART EVERY DAY



### Full Loads Only

Wait to start your washing machine and dishwasher until you have a full load ready to be cleaned.



### Be a Leak Detective

Routinely check and repair your faucets and toilets for leaks and drips. Even a small leak or drip can waste hundreds of gallons of water each month.



### Replace Older Fixtures

Replace older toilets, showerheads, and other water-using devices with newer high efficiency models.



Cobb County Water System  
Water Quality Report  
660 South Cobb Drive  
Marietta, GA 30060-3113



### Take Shorter Showers

Each minute you are in the shower uses an average of 2.1 gallons of water. Try shortening your shower to around 5 minutes.



### Plant Native Plants

Choose plants for your yard that are native and drought resistant. They are better adapted to your local climate and require less watering.



### Inspect, Direct, Connect Your Irrigation System

Inspect your irrigation system for missing, blocked, or misdirected heads. Direct sprinkler heads to plant materials and away from hard surfaces. Connect hoses or pipes in your irrigation system tightly. Loose connections can waste thousands of gallons of water.

This Consumer Confidence Report contains important information about the quality of your drinking water as required by the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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



Cobb County Water System

# 2020 Annual Water Quality Report

This Consumer Confidence Report contains important information about the quality of your drinking water, including detailed results of state and federally mandated tests. In 2019 there were *no EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report.*

### Annual Water Quality Report

(January - December 2019)

PWSID: 0670003

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