### Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

### Do I need to take special precautions?

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/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 Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Where Does My Water Come From?

The Cretaceous Sand Aquifer supplies Groundwater to all Houston County Systems. The largest system, serving areas near and around Warner Robins, GA, is the 1530021 Feagin Mill System. It has fourteen deep wells and 10 Water Treatment Plants. (WTP). Three smaller systems serve areas in the lower part of the County: The 1530004 Haynesville System with two wells and WTP's. The 1530005 Henderson System also has two Wells and WTP's. The smaller Elko System 1530003 has one submersible well and one WTP.

#### **Source Water Assessment Availability**

Water sources are inspected on a schedule determined by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). To obtain information concerning the latest report available, contact John Bell, M-F 9:00 5:00, at the Houston County Lakeview Water Treatment Facility, located at 1601 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088, (478) 953-1110.

# Why Are There Contaminants in My 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 (EPA) 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 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, 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; and 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, 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.

#### **How Can I Get Involved?**

The Houston County Commissioners have regularly scheduled meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Additional information regarding these meetings can be obtained by calling (478) 542-2115. Your participation is welcome.

Variance and Exemptions: None.

#### **Additional Information for Lead**

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. Houston County 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 30 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 or on-line at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

2019	9 CC	<b>R</b> -	The F	EAGIN	<b>-N</b>	IILI	Wate	er Syste	em 1:	530021
	MCI	C	MCL	Average or Highest Detect In Your Water		Ra	ange		Violation	
Contaminants	or MRD		TT or MRDL			Low	High	Sample Date		Typical Source
<sup>1</sup> Disinfectants & <sup>2</sup> Disinfection By-Products <sup>1</sup> There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.										
Chlorine as Cl2 (ppm)	4		4	1.01 Avg.		.4	1.48	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<sup>2</sup> DBP's: Neither Total Trihalomethanes nor Haloacetic Acids were detected in 2019 quarterly samples.										
				Inorgani	ic C	ontam	inants			
Fluoride (ppm)	4		4	.79 Avg.		.38	1.16	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10		10	.74 Avg.		NA	3.1	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
			M	licrobiolog	gica	l Cont	aminant	ts.		
Total Coliform (RTCR)	NA T		TT	NA		NA	NA	2019	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli (RTCR in the Distribution system	0		<sup>3</sup> See Note Below	0		NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<sup>3</sup> Routine and repeat samples that are total coliform positive and either is E. coli - positive <b>or</b> system fails to take repeat samples following E. coli positive routine sample <b>or</b> system fails to analyze total coliform positive repeat sample for E. coli.										
following E. coli positiv	e routin	e sam	-	olatile Org					peat sar	mple for E. coli.
				Diame Org	zaiii	C COII	lamman			
Xylenes (ppm)	10		10	.00055		0	.00055	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
Contaminants	MC LG	AL	Your Water 90 <sup>th</sup> %			# Samples Exceeding AL		Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
			Lead and	d Copper	(Inc	organi	c Contan	ninants)		
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.19	2018		0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2018		0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

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Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Rar Low	nge High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
	MADLO	WINDL	Inorg	ganic Co	ntami	nants		
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4.0	.86 Avg.	.25	1.14	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND NA		NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
[There is convincin	g evidence th					n By-Prod		ol of microbial contaminants]
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm) (Disinfectant)	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.07 Avg.	.72	1.81	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	No Goal for the total	60	ND	NA	NA	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No goal for the total	80	ND	NA	NA	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
			Microbi	ological	Conta	minants		
Total Coliform (RTCR) in the Distribution System	NA	ТТ	NA	NA	NA	2019	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	0	*See Note Below	0	NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
*Routine and repeat sa following E. coli posit								fails to take repeat samples sample for E. coli.
Contaminants	MCLG	AL or MCL	Your Water 90 <sup>th</sup> %	Samp Date	ie   F	Samples Exceeding AL	Violation	Typical Source
			L	ead and	Copp	er	l	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3 (AL)	.23	2019		0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15 (AL)	1.9	2019		0	No	Same as above
			Radio	logical C	ontam	inants		
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5 pCi/L (MCL)	< 1pCi/L	2019		0	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon	0	15 pCi/L (MCL)	3.1-3.1	2019		0	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

	2019	CO	CR - T	he El	LKO	Water	r System	1530	0003
	1.501.6	MO		verage	Ra	inge		'n	
Contaminants	MCLO or MRDL	0	r Dete	or Highest Detect In Your Water		High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products  (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)									
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4		1	.07 .vg.	.57	.78	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	6	0 1	1.1	NA	NA	2018	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	8	80 4.1		NA	NA	2018	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
	Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	2	1	75 vg.	.57	1.07	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	1	0 0	0.92		.92	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
	-		M	icrobio	logical	Contam	inants	·	
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	NA	N	A N	NA		NA	2019	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	0	×	k	0		NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
*Routine and repeat s following E. coli posi									fails to take repeat samples sample for E. coli.
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water 90 <sup>th</sup> %	Your Water Sample		amples ceeding AL	Violation	Typical Source	
		]	Lead and	l Coppe	er (Ino	rganic C	ontaminants	)	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.1205	2019	0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0 201		0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

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Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL TT or MRDL	Your Water	Rar		Sample		Typical Source
(There is convincing	g evidence th		ctants & Di					icrobial contaminants)
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.05 Avg.	.75	1.32	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	No Goal for the total	60	ND	NA	NA	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No goal for the total	80	ND	NA	NA	2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
	1		Inorganic	Contai	ninan	ts	l	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4.0	.80 Avg.	.60	1.09	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
		M	licrobiologi	cal Cor	tamir	nants		
Total Coliform (RTCR)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2019	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	0	*	0	NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
*Routine and repeat sa following an E. coli po								
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water 90 <sup>th</sup> %	Samp Date	ie   E	Samples xceeding AL	Violation	Typical Source
			Lead a	and Cop	per			
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	.28 ppm	2019	)	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15ppb	2.2 ppb	2.2 ppb 2019		0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Important Drinking Water Definitions						
Term	Definition					
MCLG	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.					
MCL	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.					
ТТ	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.					
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.					
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.					
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.					
MRDL	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.					
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated					
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level					

Unit Descriptions							
Term	Definition						
ppm ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)							
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (μg/L)						
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)						
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive						
NA	NA: not applicable						
ND	ND: Not detected						
NR	NR: Monitoring not required but recommended.						

For more information please contact: John Bell 1601 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088, 478-953-1110