

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX0340001

CITY OF ATLANTA

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2016

For more information regarding this report contact

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

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Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (903)796-7153

CITY OF ATLANTA is Purchased Surface Water

Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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 (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; persons who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Information about Source Water Assessments

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtsrc=>

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
TREATED SW FROM INT'L PAPER CC FROM TX0340005 CO	SW	Completed	Lake Wright Patman

2016 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2016	1.3	1.3	0.026	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

MFL million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

na: not applicable.

mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

Water Quality Test Results

NTU nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/L picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

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

ppt parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2016	14	0 - 17.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2016	56	9.97 - 54	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2016	0.0175	0.0175 - 0.0175	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	11/17/2014	4.9	4.9 - 4.9	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Violations Table

No Violations for 2016

International Paper Analytical Data

Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Location	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2016	Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	I.P.	0.054	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2016	Beryllium	I.P.	0.22	4	4	ppb	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace and defense industries
2016	Thallium	I.P.	0.32	2	0.5	ppb	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
2016	Barium	I.P.	0.037	2	2	ppm	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfectants

Year	Contaminant	Location	Annual Average	Range of Detected Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2016	Chlorine	City of Atlanta	Completed by PWS	Completed by PWS	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Disinfection By-products

Year	Contaminant	Location	Highest Locational Running Annual Average	Range of Detected Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2016	Total Trihalomethane (TTHM)	City of Atlanta	Completed by PWS	Completed by PWS	80	N/A	ppb	By-products of drinking water disinfection
2016	Haloacetic Acid (HAA)	City of Atlanta	Completed by PWS	Completed by PWS	60	N/A	ppb	By-products of drinking water disinfection

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water. It is used to indicate water quality & filtration effectiveness (e.g., whether disease-causing organisms are present). Higher turbidity levels are often associated with higher levels of disease-causing microorganisms such as viruses, parasites and some bacteria. These organisms can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year	Contaminant	Location	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limit	Turbidity Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2016	Turbidity	I.P.	0.25	100%	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff

Microbiological Contaminants

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Year	Contaminant	Location	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2016	Total Coliform Bacteria	City of Atlanta	Completed by PWS	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% or more of monthly samples	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.

Lead & Copper Tap Monitoring

Year	Contaminant	Location	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Enter last year tested here	Lead	City of Atlanta	Completed by PWS	Completed by PWS	0.015	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
	Copper		Completed by PWS	Completed by PWS	1.3	ppm	

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Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether further regulation is warranted.

Year	Contaminant	Location	Level Detected	MCLG (public health goal)	Unit of Measure	Regulation	Source of Contaminant
2016	Acetone	I.P.	6.08	N/A	ppb	Not Regulated	Used in manufacture of plastic, fibers, cosmetics, photographic film and many other kinds of consumer goods.