



# Clayton County Water Authority Water Quality Report 2016

(DATA FROM JANUARY 1, 2015 - DECEMBER 31, 2015)

Dear CCWA Customers,

The Clayton County Water Authority's (CCWA) mission is to provide quality water and quality services to our community. Our water professionals take this mission to heart and work around the clock to ensure that you have reliable, safe drinking water. Our number one priority is to protect public health and the customers we serve.

This 2016 Water Quality Report highlights the fact that our drinking water meets or exceeds all standards set by the Federal and State Governments. Our Water Quality Lab staff performs more than 200,000 water tests throughout our distribution system each year to test for potential contaminants. A summary of those tests is found inside this report. Thank you for entrusting us with the safety of your drinking water.



**P. Michael Thomas**  
General Manager

## IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

This report contains very important information about your drinking water. If you do not understand it, please have someone explain it to you.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante de su agua potable. Sin no lo entiende, hable con alguien que se lo explique.

## Clayton County's Award Winning Water System

Clayton County's water supply comes primarily from surface water, which includes a small amount coming from the Flint River. The majority of our water supply comes from rainfall in Clayton and our surrounding counties that is collected in our five reservoirs. CCWA serves 265,000 people. With three water production facilities, three water reclamation facilities and five raw water reservoirs, we can produce up to 42 million gallons of potable water and treat 38.4 million gallons of wastewater per day. We have potable water storage capacity of 32.1 million gallons stored in seven ground and four elevated storage tanks. Our staff maintains approximately 1,500 miles of water distribution pipes, 1,400 miles of sewer conveyance pipes and 500 miles of stormwater infrastructure. We have earned a reputation throughout the U.S. and the world as innovative stewards of our most precious natural resource and have been named one of the 'Top Water Wise Communities' in the U.S.



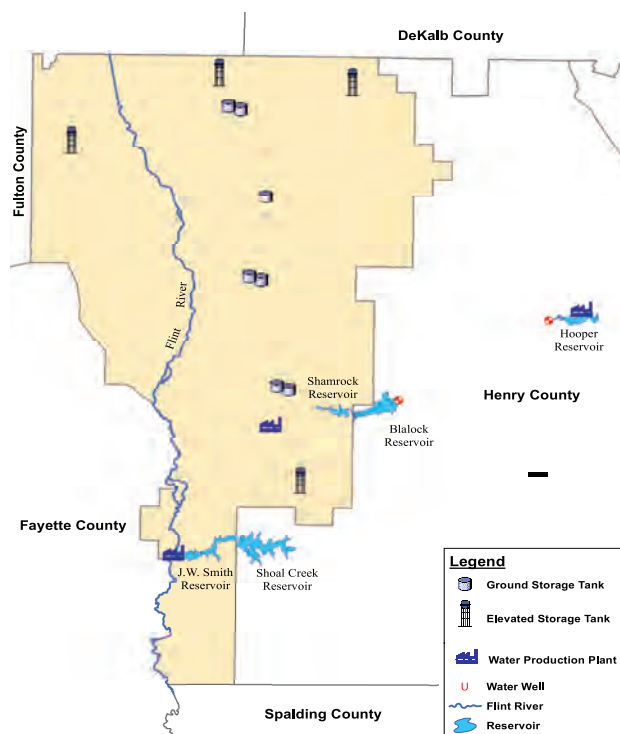
## Special Population Advisory

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune 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 infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water all throughout the U.S. Ingestion of this pathogen may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Although filtration removes this pathogen, it does not guarantee 100 % removal. CCWA uses ultraviolet treatment after filtration that completely inactivates any Cryptosporidium not removed during the filtration process. Since Cryptosporidium has not been detected in our source water, it is highly unlikely that it will be found in the drinking water supplied to your home. EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at: <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/index.cfm>

## Source Water Assessment Plan

CCWA has 3 primary watersheds (Little Cotton Indian Creek, Shoal Creek & Pates Creek) that we produce water from directly, and one secondary watershed (Flint River) that we use as a supplement to the 3 primary watersheds. CCWA and the Atlanta Regional Commission have completed a SWAP itemizing potential sources of surface water pollution to your drinking water supply. The complete results are available for public view at our Main Office at 1600 Battle Creek Rd. in Morrow, GA 30260.

The primary sources received a susceptibility ranking of low to medium and the secondary source received a medium to high susceptibility ranking.



## CONTAMINANTS

### THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER BEFORE WE TREAT IT INCLUDE:

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of 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 found by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.** The sources of drinking water (both tap water & bottled water) include surface water (rivers, lakes, ponds, & reservoirs) and ground water (springs & 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. Substances that may be present in source water include:

- **MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS, SUCH AS VIRUSES & BACTERIA** MAY COME FROM SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS, SEPTIC SYSTEMS, AGRICULTURAL LIVESTOCK, AND WILDLIFE.
- **ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS, INCLUDING SYNTHETIC & VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICALS, WHICH ARE BY-PRODUCTS OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES, & PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, AND ALSO COME FROM GAS STATIONS, URBAN STORM WATER RUNOFF, AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS.**
- **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS, SUCH AS SALTS & METALS, WHICH CAN BE NATURALLY OCCURRING, OR RESULT FROM URBAN STORM WATER RUNOFF, INDUSTRIAL OR DOMESTIC WASTEWATER DISCHARGES, OIL & GAS PRODUCTION, MINING OR FARMING.**
- **PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES, WHICH MAY COME FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES, SUCH AS AGRICULTURAL & RESIDENTIAL USE.**
- **RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS, WHICH ARE NATURALLY OCCURRING OR CAN BE THE RESULT OF OIL & GAS PRODUCTION & MINING ACTIVITIES.**

## Lead Notice

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. CCWA 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. If you would like to know more about CCWA's lead and copper sampling procedures and testing results, please contact Lesley Rathburn, CCWA Water Quality Supervisor at 770-302-3445.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



# Regulated Substances

## NON-DISINFECTION SUBSTANCES

Substances Tested And Detected	Units	Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Amount Detected	Range Detected	Is it Safe? Does it meet Standards	Probable Source
(A) Copper	ppm	1.3	AL=1.300	0.087	* 0 samples above AL	Yes	corrosion of household plumbing systems
(A) Lead	ppb	0	AL=15	0	* 0 samples above AL	Yes	corrosion of household plumbing systems which
(B) Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.78	0.00 - 1.39	Yes	Water Additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.48	0.00 - 0.48	Yes	erosion of natural deposits
(C) Turbidity	NTU	TT	TT	* Highest value of the year 0.230	* % of samples <0.3 NTU 100%**	Yes	soil runoff
(D) Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	TT	1.3	1.1 - 1.5	Yes	naturally present in the environment
(E) Total Coliform	%	0	5%	2.2%	0% - 2.2%	Yes	naturally present in the environment

## DISINFECTION SUBSTANCES

Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.90	0.01 - 2.16	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0.8	0.8	0.016	0.00 - 0.190	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite	ppm	0.8	1	0.39	0.06 - 0.93	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination
(F) Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	ppb	0	60	34.8	12.3 - 54.2	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination
(F) Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	0	80	49.7	24.4 - 91.4	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination

## How to read the report

- 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** 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.
- AL** Action Level: means the concentration of a substance that triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow \* May have up to 5 samples above action level and remain in compliance.
- TT** Treatment Technique: A required method or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. \* we must report highest monthly value plus the lowest percentage. #'s below 95% would be a violation.
- ml** Milliliter or one-thousandth of a liter. 1 liter is slightly more than a quart.
- ppm** Parts Per Million: means 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years, or 1 penny in \$10 thousand dollars. EQUIVALENT TO mg/L (milligrams per Liter)
- ppb** Parts Per Billion: means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as micrograms per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2000 years, or 1 penny in \$10 million dollars.
- 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.
- NTU** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of water clarity.

## Special Footnotes

- (A) Water from the treatment plant does not contain Lead & Copper, however, under EPA test protocol, water is tested at the consumer's tap. Tap tests show that where a consumer may have lead pipes, or lead-soldered pipes, the water is not corrosive. This means the amount of lead or copper absorbed by the water is limited to safe levels.
- (B) Fluoride is added in treatment to bring the natural level to the EPA's recommended range of 0.7 to 1.2 ppm (parts per million).
- (C) Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of the water. We monitor it because it indicates the effectiveness of our filtration system.
- (D) Total Organic Carbon is a measure of the possible formation of harmful chlorine by-products. We monitor this substance (3) different ways to receive a complete picture of this substance in our water. Compliance with Federal Law is determined by a ratio of all methods and the ratio must be 1 or above.
- (E) 180 samples are tested each month. No more than 5% may be positive for total coliform bacteria.
- (F) Clayton County Water Authority system wide sites are collected quarterly at locations approved by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. Compliance to the MCL is based on the LRAA, or Local Running Annual Average.

## Need more Information?

For questions about this report, please contact Lesley Rathburn, CCWA Water Quality Supervisor, at 770.320.3445. For billing, service issues or to report an after-hours emergency, please call 770.960.5200.



## Facility Tours / Field Trips

Have you ever wondered how drinking water is produced or what happens to wastewater after it leaves your home? A facility tour is a great way for students or other groups to learn more about the processes used and what goes on behind the scenes.



Field Trips are a great way for students to see up-close what takes place at a water production plant, water reclamation facility, constructed treatment wetlands

and our Wetlands Center. For more information on these opportunities, visit [www.ccwa.us/resources-for-teachers](http://www.ccwa.us/resources-for-teachers).

## Public Participation

CCWA's Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at 1600 Battle Creek Road in Morrow. These meetings are open to the public. CCWA staff provides public outreach and education to our community through the Melvin L. Newman Wetlands Center, facility tours, school presentations, civic and homeowner meetings and several annual events. For more information, call 770.960.6972, or visit us at [www.ccwa.us](http://www.ccwa.us).



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND LEADERSHIP

### Clayton County Water Authority

1600 Battle Creek Road • Morrow, GA 30260

**Customer Service: 770.960.5200**

Business Office: 770.961.2130

[www.ccwa.us](http://www.ccwa.us)

John Chafin, Chairman • Rodney Givens, Vice Chairman

John Westervelt, Secretary/Treasurer • Marie Barber, Board Member

Robin Malone, Board Member • Elizabeth G. Armstrong, Board Member

Dr. Cephus Jackson, Board Member • P. Michael Thomas, General Manager

Jim Poff, Assistant General Manager • Bernard Franks, Assistant General Manager

## Got An Old, Water-Wasting Toilet?

### Replace It and Get a \$100 Credit on Your Account

The Clayton County Water Authority's Residential Toilet Rebate Program encourages customers to save money and water by replacing older, inefficient toilets. Eligible customers receive a \$100 rebate for installing an eligible WaterSense certified 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf) toilet.

Customers may receive up to two (2) toilet rebates per household. All rebates will be applied as a credit to your Clayton County Water Authority account. To learn more, visit [www.ccwa.us](http://www.ccwa.us).



## Leaks Cost You Money & Waste Water

### Repair leaking faucets

A faucet dripping at just one small drop per second can waste seven (7) gallons a day, or more than 2,000 gallons a year. Leaking faucets are easily repaired by replacing worn washers.

### Simple Test Detects Toilet Leaks

The trouble with leaking toilets is you don't always hear them. Slow, silent toilet leaks are quite common. Check quarterly for toilet leaks using the simple test below:

- Add a few drops of food coloring or dark soda to your toilet tank.
- Do not flush for 30 minutes. If the toilet is leaking, the color will appear in the toilet bowl.

### The most common causes of a leaking toilet are:

- A warped or cracked flapper
- The lift chain is keeping the flapper from seating properly
- Water running into the overflow tube

All three common causes can be repaired with kits from your local hardware store or home supply store.

To learn more tips, visit our website: [ccwa.us](http://ccwa.us).

