



Water Quality Report 2020

(Data from January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

Clayton County's Drinking Water Report Card



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 while ensuring that you have safe, reliable, high quality drinking water. We are pleased to share our **2020 Water Quality Report**, which provides information about the quality of our drinking water. This report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report, includes data from January 1 – December 31, 2019 confirming that Clayton County's drinking water met or exceeded all standards set by our federal and state governments.

We hope we have presented the information in a user-friendly format that is easy to understand. If you have any questions about this report, contact CCWA's Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager Michael Arnette at 770.302.3445. Thank you for entrusting us with the safety of your drinking water.

Important Information 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 información muy importante de su agua potable. Si no lo entiende, hable con alguien que se lo explique.



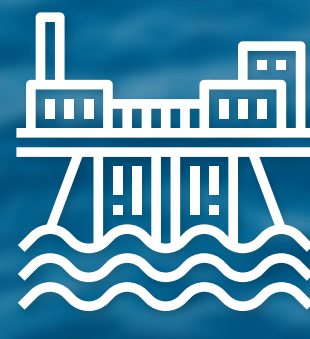
Your Water
Comes from an
**Award-Winning
System**

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. and a Water Resource Utility of the Future - Today.

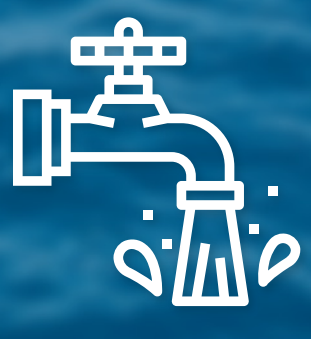
Water Reservoirs

1. 

Water Treatment

2. 

Water Distribution

3. 

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 - J.W. Smith Reservoir, Shamrock Reservoir, Edgar Blacklock Jr. Reservoir, William J. Hooper Reservoir, and the Shoal Creek Reservoir.

Raw Water is then treated at one of three water production facilities - the J.W. Smith, the W.J. Hooper, or the Terry R. Hicks Production Complex. We can produce up to 42 million gallons of potable water per day. Due to our innovative treatment methods, our three water reclamation facilities treat approximately 38.4 million gallons of wastewater per day.

Our staff maintains approximately 1,500 miles of water distribution pipes, 1,300 miles of sewer conveyance pipes and 500 miles of stormwater infrastructure. We have potable water storage capacity of 30.2 million gallons stored in eight ground and nine elevated storage tanks.



Should I Worry About Lead in my Drinking 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. CCWA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. To minimize the potential for lead exposure when water has been sitting in home plumbing, flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you would like to know more about CCWA's testing, contact CCWA Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager Michael Arnette 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Contaminants How & Why Are They in Drinking Water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Drinking water is collected from lakes, rivers, streams, ponds or reservoirs. As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and picks up pollutants from the presence of humans or animal activity. More information on contaminants may be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

What May Be Present in Source Water?

- Microbial substances, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic substances, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical substances, 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.
- Radioactive substances, 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 regulations establish limits for substances in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

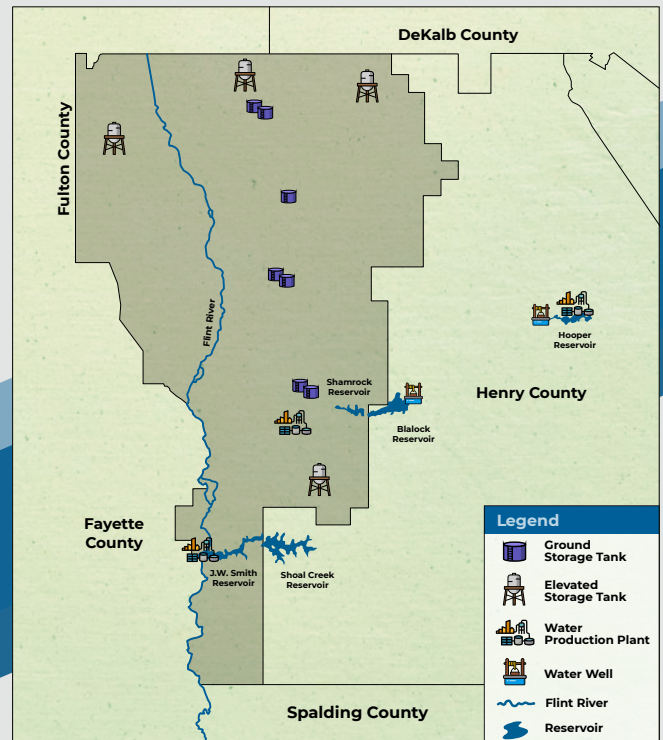


Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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/Center 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 Drinking Water Hotline (1.800.426.4791).



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.



Covid-19 (Coronavirus) and Drinking Water

The EPA recommends that Americans continue to use and drink tap water as usual. The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies. The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that the, "presence of the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking-water supplies and based on current evidence the risk to water supplies is low." Boiling your water is not required as a precaution against COVID-19. Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds helps prevent the spread of COVID-19. For more information visit the EPA's website at www.epa.gov.



Hot Water Heaters and Non-potable Water

Water that runs through your water heater is non-potable. This means it is not suitable for consumption. Sediments, metals, bacteria, and other pathogens can be present in the water heater tank and hot water pipes, making the water unsafe for cooking and drinking. DO NOT use the hot water tap for food and beverage preparation. The hot water line is for bathing, cleaning, and washing only. Use cold water when brushing teeth, drinking, and making food. When preparing food and hot beverages, always begin with cold water, then heat in a kettle, microwave, or pot.



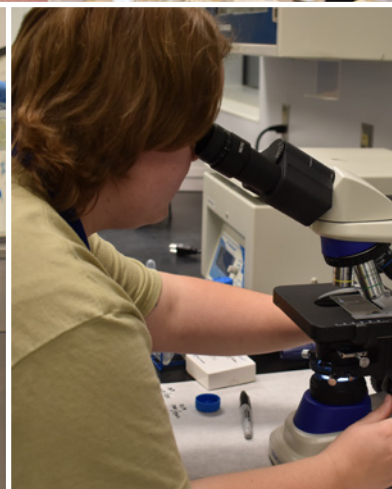
Meet Your Water Quality Lab

Meet the Terry R. Hicks Water Quality Control Lab staff. Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager, Michael Arnette supervises Microbiologist Melissa and Lab Analysts Stephen and Meagan in their daily tasks. They're tasked with ensuring that customers have safe, reliable, high quality drinking water.

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 through the Safe Drinking Water Act. Melissa is responsible for making sure that the water within our distribution system is still safe once it leaves the plant. In order to do this, Melissa collects from a master list of 450 sample sites throughout the county. The number of samples is determined by GA EPD based on the population. Each month, 180 samples are collected and tested for chlorine residual and certain bacteria.

While Melissa tests water that is already being distributed to customers, Stephen and Meagan test water throughout our three primary watersheds. They test each sample for PH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen level and turbidity (measurement of how clear water is). The results of these tests are linked to the quality of the drinking water we produce and can be a good indicator of an increase in taste and odor causing agents. Stephen and Meagan's testing is one of the ways CCWA has worked to tackle taste and odor issues at the source.

We appreciate our lab staff and their contributions to our award-winning water system. Read more about the Water Quality Lab at our Behind the Tap blog: www.ccwa.us/blog



Enjoy Our Recreation Areas and Reservoirs

During the months of March-October, Clayton County Water Authority opens our J.W. Smith, Shamrock and Blalock Reservoirs to our community for their enjoyment. CCWA's Recreation Areas are perfect for fishing, canoeing or just enjoying a picnic.

CCWA also has two Community Use Buildings (CUB) available for individuals or groups to rent for business meetings or special events such as reunions and weddings. Shamrock CUB is located on the shores of the Shamrock/Blalock Reservoir while the Smith CUB sits on the J.W. Smith Reservoir.

For more information on our Recreation Areas and Community Use Buildings, visit our website at www.ccwa.us



Visit Our Newman Wetlands Center

The Newman Wetlands Center is the focal point of the Clayton County Water Authority's community education efforts. NWC was conceptualized by Melvin L. Newman, then the general manager of CCWA, as a place for free community education about the crucial role wetlands play in the cycle of water.

This 32-acre site includes a half mile wetlands trail, an exhibit/learning area, a 50-seat auditorium, offices, conference facility and picnic area. Keep your ears and eyes open for wildlife while exploring the Boardwalk Trail. Visitors are welcome to either wander through our wetlands on their own or they may wish to be part of a larger group guided by our staff. Educational opportunities are also available year-round for all ages. The NWC hosts our annual Wetlands & Watershed Festival the first Saturday in October. For more information visit our website at www.ccwa.us/newman-wetlands-center/





REGULATED SUBSTANCES (2019 data)

Non-Disinfection Substances

Substance Tested And Detected	Units	Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Amount Detected	Range Detected	Is it Safe? Does it meet Standards	Probable Source
Copper (a)	ppm	1.3	AL=1,300	0.100	*0 samples above AL	Yes	corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (a)	ppb	0	AL=15	0.00	*0 samples above AL	Yes	corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluorite (a)	ppm	4	4	0.48	0.00-1.19	Yes	water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.00-0.47	0.47	Yes	erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (c)	NTU	TT	TT	*Highest value of the year 0.280	*% of samples <0.3 NTU 100.00%	Yes	soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon (d)	NA	TT	TT	1.26	1.07 - 1.43	Yes	naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform (e)	%i	0	5%	1.1%	0% - 1.1%	Yes	naturally present in the environment

Disinfection Substances

Substance Tested And Detected	Units	Goal (MRDLG)	Maximum Allowed (MRDL)	Amount Detected	Range Detected	Is it Safe? Does it meet Standards	Probable Source
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.74	0.02-1.94	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0.8	0.8	0.041	0.00-0.590	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite	ppm	0.8	1	0.38	0.00-0.86	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (f)	ppb	0	60	*Highest LRAA of the year 44.4	18.2 - 55.7	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (f)	ppb	0	80	*Highest LRAA of the year 68.0	16.7 - 124	Yes	by-product of drinking water chlorination

How to read this 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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.**

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

TT: Treatment Technique: A required method or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. ***We must report the highest monthly value plus the lowest percentage. Numbers 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) measurement.

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.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of water clarity.

ppb: Parts Per Billion: means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as micrograms per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or 1 penny in \$10 million dollars.

(a): Water from the treatment plant does not contain lead or 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 Georgia EPD optimum of 0.8 ppm (see definition of ppm).

(c): Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

(d): Total Organic Carbon is a measure of the possible formation of harmful chlorine byproducts. 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 (3) 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): CCWA system wide sites are collected quarterly at locations approved by the Georgia EPD. Compliance to the MCL is based on the LRAA, or Local Running Annual Average, for each site.

N/A: Not Applicable

The **Clayton County Water Authority** monitors for unregulated parameters in order to assist the EPA in determining where certain contaminants occur and whether additional regulations may be necessary. In 2019, we participated in the UCMR 4 (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule – 4th Round) of testing. The following table contains the substances (Average/Range) that were detected in parts per billion (ppb). As our customers, you have a right to know this data is available. If you are interested in the results, please contact the Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager, Michael Arnette, at 770-302-3445 for more information.



UCMR4 Testing (2019 data)

Unregulated Substances

Substance Tested	Units	Average amount detected	Range Detected
Bromochloroacetic acid	ppb	5.733	2.2 to 8.4
Bromodichloroacetic acid	ppb	4.792	1.0 to 8.1
Chlorodibromoacetic acid	ppb	0.886	0.0 to 1.9
Monobromoacetic acid	ppb	0.716	0.0 to 1.1
Dibromoacetic acid	ppb	0.821	0.0 to 1.7
Dichloroacetic acid	ppb	22.75	11 to 36.0
Monochloroacetic acid	ppb	2.421	0.0 to 3.8
Trichloroacetic acid	ppb	14.53	1.0 to 22.0



Tap on the Go & Community Outreach

CCWA's Ambassadors provide outreach and education through facility tours, school presentations, community events, civic and homeowner meetings and CCWA's annual events. Our Tap on the Go team participates in many community events to provide ice cold tap water and dispel popular misconceptions about tap water and bottle water. If you see our team, stop by and say hello.



Go Behind the Tap

Field Trips and facility tours are a great way for students and other groups learn what goes on behind the tap at a water production plant, water reclamation facility or constructed treatment wetlands. For more information, visit our website at www.ccwa.us/tours



Board Meetings

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. Meeting agendas and notices are posted on our website: www.ccwa.us

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Water Quality Questions
770.302.3445.

For more information, visit us at www.ccwa.us