



## WATER QUALITY **REPORT**

**DATA FROM 1.1.2023 – 12.31.2023**



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 to ensure that you have reliable, high quality drinking water. We are pleased to share our 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, 2023 confirming that Clayton County's drinking water met or exceeded all standards set by our federal and state governments.

### **Important Information About Your Drinking Water**

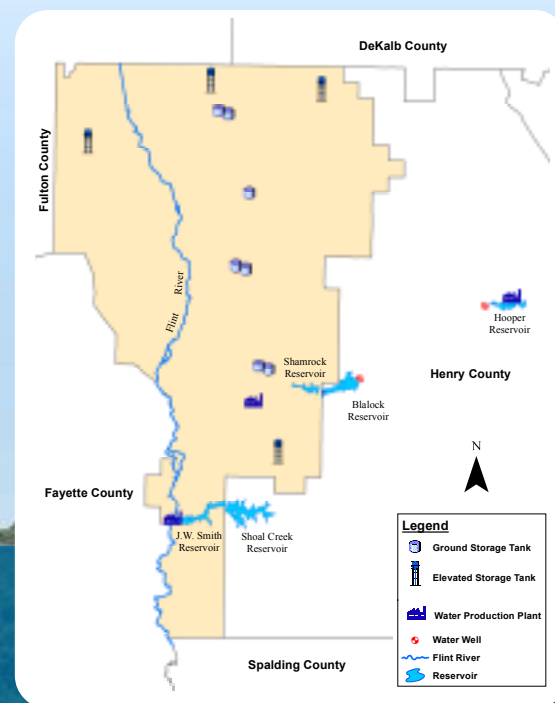
This report contains very important information about your drinking water. If you do not understand it, please have someone explain it to you. **If you have any questions about this report, contact CCWA's Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager, Michael Arnette at 770.302.3445.** Thank you for entrusting us with the safety of your drinking water.



# The Source of **Your Water**

CCWA has three 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 three primary watersheds. CCWA and the Atlanta Regional Commission have completed a Source Water Assessment Plan 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.



## Your Water Comes from **An Award Winning System**



### **WATER RESERVOIRS**

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.



### **WATER TREATMENT**

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 waste-water per day.



### **WATER DISTRIBUTION**

Our staff maintains approximately 1,500 miles of water distribution pipes. We have potable water storage capacity of 30.2 million gallons stored in eight ground and one elevated storage tank.

# Water & Your Health

Tap water is cost effective and it is a great way to stay refreshed and hydrated! CCWA monitors and tests water throughout the entire treatment process – from water sources, to advanced treatment facilities, and to the network of distribution pipes that deliver drinking water directly to you. Our Water Quality staff performs more than 200,000 water tests each year to test for potential contaminants. As new requirements are released by state and federal agencies, we will continue to share how we are working to meet them with our customers and the community.



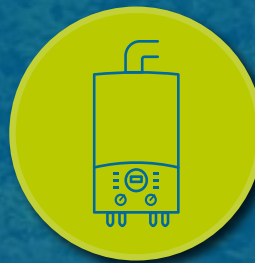
If you would like to know more about CCWA's testing, contact CCWA Environmental Compliance & Lab Manager Michael Arnette at 770.302.3445. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791 or online at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).



## 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).



## Water Heaters & 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.



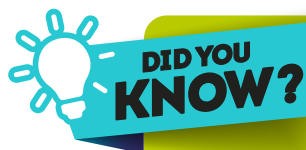
### DID YOU KNOW?

**FIND & FIX LEAKS** – Household leaks contribute to the loss of more than 1 trillion gallons of water nationwide each year. They can also cause a spike in your water bill. For tips on finding leaks in your home, visit our website at [www.ccwa.us/tips-on-leaks](http://www.ccwa.us/tips-on-leaks)

# 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**.



**USE YOUR DISHWASHER** – An ENERGY-star rated dishwasher averages approximately three gallons of water per load. Hand washing dishes uses almost 10x that with up to 30 gallons of water per load.

## Lead Awareness FAQ's

In recent years, there has been a greater focus in communities across the country on “lead in drinking water.” It's important to note that lead does not naturally occur in treated drinking water. As **YOUR community's water provider**, CCWA is at the forefront of public health and committed to providing drinking water that meets all state and federal requirements.



### Why is lead in drinking water a concern?

High lead ingestion can cause damage to many of our vital organs, nervous system, and red blood cells. Young children and pregnant women are at a higher risk for these health issues.

### How does lead get in drinking water?

Lead can find itself in drinking water if the home contains lead pipes, faucets or plumbing fixtures.

### How do I know if my home has lead plumbing?

Homes built from 1930-1986 can have lead plumbing OR copper plumbing with lead soldering. Congress banned the use of lead pipes in 1986. CCWA cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

### How is CCWA working to protect customers from lead?

CCWA has an effective corrosion control treatment process that protects pipes and plumbing materials from corroding or wearing away. This keeps metal (lead) from those fixtures or pipes from entering a customer's drinking water when they use their taps. Currently, CCWA completes lead and copper sampling at impacted homes triennially. We continue to stay on top of any compliance and regulations changes regarding lead.

### How can I reduce lead exposure in the home?

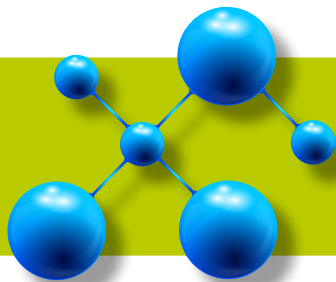
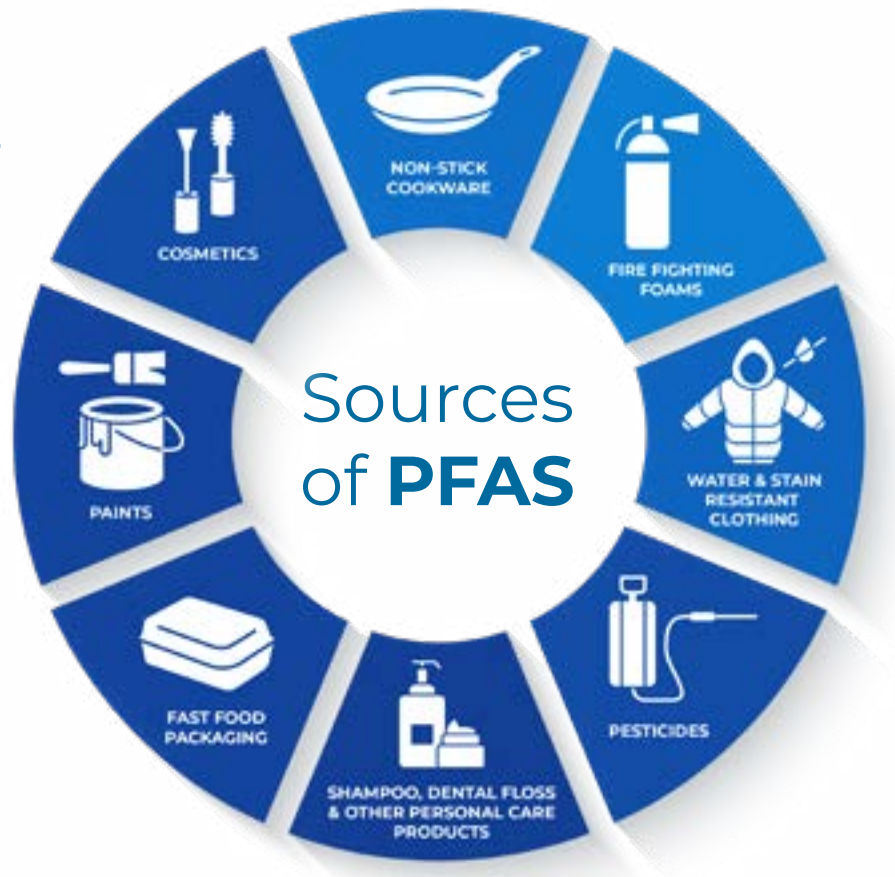
Clean your aerator to reduce lead water collection. If you haven't used water in your home for an extended period of time, flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

## PFAS FAQ's

Clayton County Water Authority (CCWA) is at the forefront of public health and takes seriously our responsibility to deliver clean and safe drinking water to the community. You may have seen news stories on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) being found in water, air and soil. It is important to remember that CCWA does not produce PFAS in our treatment process, as its presence is a result of industrial release and discharges from other sources. However, we are tasked with the responsibility of treating and removing them. Here is some information to help explain PFAS.

## What are PFAS

PFAS are man-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since as far back as the 1940s. PFAS were created with the intent to make our lives easier. The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Most PFAS (including PFOA and PFOS) do not breakdown, so they remain in the environment.



**20% of our exposure to PFAS/PFOA compounds comes from water, while 80% is from other household items.**

## How do PFAS get into drinking water?

They can enter the environment from fire training and response sites, industrial sites, and landfills where the products are used or stored and then wash into local waterways and even groundwater sources. We did not produce PFAS or put these compounds in our drinking water, but we are committed to treatment processes that remove them. Our drinking water continues to meet all state and federal regulatory requirements.

# How to Read this Report:

## TABLE DEFINITIONS

**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 percent 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.



**SHORTEN YOUR SHOWERS** – The average shower head uses two gallons of water per minute. Limiting your showers to five minutes can save hundreds of gallons of water per year! Switching to a low flow showerhead can help you save even more.

# Regulated **Substances** (2023 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	0.160	*0 samples above AL	Yes	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
Lead (a)	ppb	0	AL=15	2.00	*0 samples above AL	Yes	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
Fluoride (b)	ppm	4	4	0.74	0.00-1.17	Yes	Water Additive Which Promotes Strong Teeth
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.00-0.60	0.6	Yes	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Turbidity (c)	NTU	TT	TT	*Highest value of the year 0.291	*% of samples <0.3 NTU 100.00%	Yes	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon (d)	NA	TT	TT	1.11	1.00 - 1.34	Yes	Naturally Present in the Environment
Total Coliform (e)	%	0	5%	0.5%	0% - 0.5%	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	0.99	0.01 - 1.92	Yes	Water Additive used to Control Microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0.8	0.8	0.13	0.00-0.79	Yes	Water Additive used to Control Microbes
Chlorite	ppm	0.8	1	0.38	0.20-0.75	Yes	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (f)	ppb	0	60	46.7	20.7 - 61.5	Yes	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (f)	ppb	0	80	65.6	28.2 - 89.4	Yes	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination

# Unregulated **Substances** (2023 data)

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 2023, we participated in the UCMR 5 (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule – 5th Round) of testing. The following substances (Average/Range) 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.

## UCMR5 Testing (2023 data)

Substance Tested	Units	Average amount detected	Range Detected
perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	ug/L or ppb	0.0020	0.0 to 0.0068
perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	ug/L or ppb	0.0088	0.0 to 0.0180
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ug/L or ppb	0.0039	0.0 to 0.0065
perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	ug/L or ppb	0.0081	0.0 to 0.0160
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	ug/L or ppb	0.0029	0.0 to 0.0055
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	ug/L or ppb	0.0025	0.0 to 0.0066
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (6:2FTS)	ug/L or ppb	0.0004	0.0 to 0.0053
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ug/L or ppb	0.0042	0.0 to 0.0084
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ug/L or ppb	0.0046	0.0 to 0.0085

# Visit our Newman Wetlands Center

CCWA's Newman Wetlands Center (NWC) is a nature area dedicated to environmental education. The NWC offers a safe, welcoming environment for community members to come explore and connect to the natural world. Visitors can find a peaceful place to enjoy nature, and develop a deeper understanding of conservation and a passion for protecting our local watersheds.

This 32-acre site includes a half mile wetlands trail, an exhibit/learning area, conference facility and picnic area. 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 also hosts our annual Wetlands & Watershed Festival every Fall.

For more information, please visit [www.newmanwetlandscenter.com](http://www.newmanwetlandscenter.com)

# Enjoy our Fishing Reservoirs & Recreation Areas

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 even just enjoying a picnic. Visit our website at [www.ccwa.us/fishing-information](http://www.ccwa.us/fishing-information) for more details.

# Providing Quality Water & Quality Services to Our Community

Our CCWA Ambassadors are committed to engaging with our community through outreach and public education. We provide facility tours, offer school presentations, and host several Signature Events throughout the year. Our Tap on the Go team participates in many community events to provide ice cold tap water and dispel popular misconceptions about

tap water. For more information on our Community Outreach Initiatives, scan the QR code or email our Communications & Community Relations Team at [CCWA\\_CommunityRelations@ccwa.us](mailto:CCWA_CommunityRelations@ccwa.us).



## WATER QUALITY REPORT

### Board Meeting

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

### CCWA Board of Directors and Leadership

- Dr. Cephus Jackson ..... Chair
- Marie Barber ..... Vice Chair
- P. Michael Thomas ..... Secretary/Treasurer
- Dr. John Chafin ..... Board Member
- Rodney Givens ..... Board Member
- Robin Malone ..... Board Member
- Emma Godbee ..... Board Member
- H. Bernard Franks ..... Chief Executive Officer
- Keisha Thorpe ..... Chief Operations Officer
- Teresa Worley ..... Chief Administrative Officer



Billing/Service Questions  
**770.960.5200**

Water Quality Questions  
**770.302.3445**

### Clayton County Water Authority

1600 Battle Creek Road | Morrow, GA 30260

To learn more, visit us at [www.ccwa.us](http://www.ccwa.us)



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