

**WHITE COUNTY WATER & SEWERAGE
AUTHORITY WATER SYSTEM
WSID 3110072
WATER QUALITY REPORT – 2020**

Included in this report is information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Your water department is committed to providing our community with clean, safe, and reliable drinking water. For more information about your water or this report please call Andrew Jarrard at 706-865-9804.

Your water comes from The Turner & Cathy Creek water shed. It is a surface water source. Treated at Turner Creek Water Treatment Plant, a non-conventional water plant, that uses micro-floc filtration. Here your water is treated with chlorine for disinfection, lime and soda ash for pH adjustment, phosphate for corrosion control, and fluoride for healthy teeth.

The White County Water Authority meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 AM at the Water Authority office, located at 179 Claude Sims Road. Your participation or comments are welcome at these meetings.

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 (800) 426-4791.

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means lessen the risk of infection by *Cyptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it 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 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.

***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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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. The White County Water Authority 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, 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>.

Your water system is an active participant in the community. Our employees are involved in many civic organizations and are pleased to offer information and speakers to the community on water protection, water treatment, as well as provide tours of our facilities.

The White County Water Authority is currently researching several options to supplement our current water sources to ensure safe and reliable sources in the future.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done **January 1 – December 31, 2019**. EPD requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, through representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms & Abbreviations used below:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no know or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (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.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable; * **nd:** not detectable at testing limit * **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation) * **NTU:** nephelometric turbidity units, measure of suspended material in water.
- **Parts per Billion (ppb):** One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in 10 million dollars.
- **Parts per Million (ppm):** One part per million is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in 10 thousand dollars.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfect Level (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 microbiological contaminants.

| Microbiological Contaminants Table | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Result | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| TURBIDITY (NTU) | 2.0 NTU. TT= PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLES <0.3 NTU | 0.0 NTU | <0.04 NTU 100.0 % | 0.02-0.29 NTU | 2019 | No | Soil runoff and erosion |

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

| Inorganic Contaminants Table | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|--|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Result | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| FLOURIDE (ppm) | 4.00 ppm | 4.00 ppm | 0.83 ppm | 0.18-1.60 ppm | 2019 | No | Water additive which promotes strong teeth |

| Lead and Copper Contaminant Table | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------|---|---------------------|----------------|-----------|--|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Result 90 th percentile values | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| LEAD (ppb) | AL=15 ppb | 0.00 ppb | 0.00 ppb | n/d-6.60 ppb | Aug./Sep. 2019 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| COPPER | AL = 1300 ppb | 1.30 ppb | 23.00 ppb | n/d-530.00 ppb | Aug./Sep. 2019 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |

| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) / Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|---|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Highest LRAA | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| TTHM (ppb) | <0.080 ppm LRAA | 0.00 ppb | 0.083* ppm | 0.022-0.061 ppm | 2019 | Yes | Reaction between naturally occurring organic matter and disinfectants |
| HAA5 (ppb) | <0.060 ppm LRAA | 0.00 ppb | 0.059* ppm | 0.015-0.071 ppm | 2019 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

* This number represents the highest quarterly running annual average reported during 2019.

| Total Organic Carbon Removal % calculated quarterly as a running annual average. | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Removal Percentage | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON | TT TOC <2.0 Facility in Compliance | n/a | 41.5% | 0.5-1.10 ppm | 2019 | No | Naturally present in the environment |

| Disinfectants | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|--|
| Parameter | MCL | MCLG | Result | Range of Detections | Sample Date | Violation | TYPICAL SOURCE |
| Chlorine (ppm) | 4.0 ppm | ppm | 2.12 ppm | 0.79- 3.19 ppm | 2019 | No | Water additive used to control microbes. |

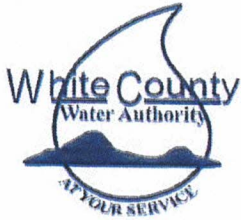
- **Quality Control (QC):** Desirable parameters
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

See attached Notice of TTHM Violation.

The White County Water Authority is committed to always providing safe and dependable water. We ask that all our customers help protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Sincerely,

Edwin Nix
Executive Director



P.O. Box 3020
Cleveland, GA 30528-0052
Phone: 706-865-0788
Fax: 706-865-0329

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
TTHM MCL VIOLATION AT WHITE COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY WATER
SYSTEM

Water System Name: **White County Water and Sewerage Authority (GA3110072)**
County: **White**
Date of Release: **July 16, 2019**
Contact Person: **Edwin Nix**
Phone: **(706) 865-0788**
Mailing Address: **PO Box 3020**
City: **Cleveland** State: **Ga** Zip: **30528**

Our community water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we have done to correct this situation.

| Violation ID | Violation Period | | Concentration | MCL | Site # |
|--------------|------------------|------------|---------------|------------|--------|
| 2019-10617 | 1/1/2019 | 3/31/2019 | 0.083 mg/l | 0.080 mg/l | 501 |
| 2019-10618 | 10/01/2018 | 12/31/2018 | 0.085 mg/l | 0.080 mg/l | 501 |

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take corrective actions. These violations do not pose a threat to the quality of the water supplied. Residents should not be alarmed and do not need to seek alternative water supplies. The supplier has taken corrective action to ensure that adequate monitoring and reporting will be maintained.

What happened? What does this mean?

Water that is not being used or is of significant age can develop higher concentrations of TTHM over time. In addition, higher summer temperatures can cause TTHM levels to rise.

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours. This is the first time an exceedance of this nature has occurred. The exceedance amount above the maximum contaminant level was 0.003 mg/l in the first quarter of 2019 and 0.005 mg/l in the fourth quarter of 2018. To put that in to perspective, 0.003 mg/l is the equivalent of 3 drops of water in a 10,000 gallon swimming pool.

We have since received results for the 2nd Quarter of 2019, and we are already back in compliance for TTHM with concentrations below 0.080 mg/l.

Some people who drink water-containing Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) over many years, may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What is being done?

WE ARE BACK IN COMPLIANCE AS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTIFICATION. We have implemented several action steps. These steps will reduce the chances of a future violation.

1. We are increasing flushing of water lines in the water system.
2. We will continue to operate automatic flushers during the warmer summer months.
3. We are increasing our sampling to track water quality.
4. We will continue all best management practices at the treatment plant and in the distribution system to promote water quality.