CCWA WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE - 2014

The table below lists drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of 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 in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER 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.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS SUMMARY

CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	MCLG	MCL	CCWA VALUE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.77	0.00-0.91	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.54	ND-1.40	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	0	TT	0.07	0.04-0.23	No	Soil runoff
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS						
Total Coliform (% of monthly positive samples)	0	5	0.00	0.0-0.0	No	Naturally present in the environment
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS						
Dichlorobromomethane (ppb)	MNR	MNR	6.5	4.3-9.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	MNR	MNR	1.7	ND-2.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	MNR	MNR	18.9	ND-38.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM] (ppb)	0	80	31.5	13.7-49.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	0	60	18.4	10.0-32.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

UNITS DESCRIPTION

NA: Not applicable
ND: Not detected
NR: Not reported
Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow
MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
TT: Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
% of monthly positive samples: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive

Who provides my water?

The Carroll County Water Authority (CCWA) takes pride in distributing quality water safely and reliably to you and your family. We produce and deliver water to over 17,000 customer accounts, serving over 45,000 people in the CCWA service area (with only 37 employees). CCWA is a self-funding agency that receives funding from water and sewer sales.

Where does my water come from?

In the year 2014, your drinking water came from one of the following municipal sources: the Snake Creek Reservoir or an underground aquifer.

Water from the Snake Creek Reservoir is treated at the Snake Creek Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and then pumped into the Authority's distribution system. CCWA owns and operates the 4-billion gallon, 660-acre reservoir located on Snake Creek approximately 4.5 miles south of the Snake Creek WTP. The reservoir is capable of supplying 13.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of raw water to be treated for potable use. The Snake Creek WTP has a treatment capacity of 8.0 mgd.

Water from the underground aquifers is pumped into the distribution system through the Abilene, Lake Paradise and Bethesda wells. These wells have a combined permitted capacity of 0.75 mgd.

In 2014, the average daily flow in the CCWA system was 4.39 mgd. The maximum daily flow in the system was 6.30 mgd.

In 2014, the Snake Creek WTP received the Water Plant of the Year Award from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals. This prestigious and competitive award is presented annually to the best operated water treatment plant among like sized facilities throughout the state of Georgia. The Snake Creek WTP is a two time winner of this award having received the award in 2012 as well.

What is the Water Authority doing?

CCWA is committed to providing a safe and reliable water supply to residents and businesses in Carroll County. In 2014, CCWA met all state and federal water quality regulations. The following are a few highlights from the work performed this year by CCWA:

Sanitary Survey – Every three years, CCWA undergoes a sanitary survey conducted by the Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division. The sanitary survey is an on-site review of CCWA's water source, facilities, equipment, operation, and maintenance. The survey points out sanitary deficiencies and assesses our capability to supply safe drinking water. A federally mandated review, sanitary surveys lower the risk of waterborne disease and identify systems that require technical or capacity development. Eight areas are evaluated for compliance: water sources; treatment; distribution systems; finished water storage; pumps, pump facilities and controls; monitoring, reporting and data verification; water system management and operations; and operator compliance with state requirements. During 2014, CCWA received a score of 97.9%, placing the facility in the Outstanding Performance category and barely missing a perfect score of 100%. The near perfect score and the Outstanding Performance classification are strong reflections of CCWA's effort to deliver high quality drinking water to the citizens of Carroll County.

Disinfection Modifications – Disinfection of drinking water is one of the most critical components of our treatment process to ensure that consumers are safe from waterborne diseases. The most common method of disinfecting drinking water is through the addition of chlorine. CCWA previously utilized chlorine gas as the primary disinfectant. In February 2015, CCWA switched to using sodium hypochlorite, which is another common form of chlorine used in drinking water treatment. The change from chlorine gas disinfection to sodium hypochlorite disinfection was implemented to improve staff safety and has had absolutely no impact whatsoever on water quality, taste or safety.

Why this report?

The CCWA is committed to delivering water that meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. Federal regulations require all public water systems to provide annual reports to customers on the quality of their drinking water. Reports will be made available to you by July 1st of each year.

Is my water safe?

YES. In fact, last year, CCWA and its suppliers conducted more than 8,000 tests for over 100 compounds. In these 8,000 tests, only 9 of those constituents were detected, and in water produced by the CCWA none of the tests found levels higher than the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality, and lists only the constituents that were present in the water supplies. Included are details about what your water contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Why are there contaminants?

As this report indicates, technological advances allow CCWA to treat and reliably deliver water of exceedingly high quality to all of our customers. Nevertheless, due to technological limits, small amounts of some chemical contaminants may from time to time be present in drinking water, including bottled water. The EPA sets limits for the compounds that can be present in drinking water. When there are contaminants, the EPA has set treatment methods to reduce them to levels that protect human health. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Do I need to take special precautions?

The average person does not need to take special precautions. However, some people may be more vulnerable to low level 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 / Centers 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.

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 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 by an outside laboratory. 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.

We welcome your questions.

If you are interested in learning more about the Carroll County Water Authority, and how we deliver safe water to your home, please feel free to contact us.

For more information, please contact:

Carroll County Water Authority
556 Old Bremen Road, Carrollton, GA 30117
phone: 770.832.1277 / fax: 770.830.8853
Matt Windom, P.E. - Executive Director

Monthly Board Meetings

Our Board meets the third Thursday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., at our office on Old Bremen Road. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Learn more about Carroll County Water Authority at:

www.ccwageorgia.com