



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2022



Presented By
City of Fairburn



Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Sincerely,
John D. Martin, Director of Utilities, City of Fairburn

Source Water Assessment

The City of Atlanta Water Works and the Atlanta Regional Commission have completed an assessment of potential for pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The results of this assessment can be found at fairburn.com under Source Water Assessment.

A source water assessment is a study unique to each water system that provides basic information about the sources used to provide drinking water. Source water assessments identify the area of land that contributes the raw water used for drinking water and potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies and provide an understanding of the drinking water supply's susceptibility to contamination. This information can help communities understand the potential for contamination of their water supply and prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

Since its creation in 2001, the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District has implemented one of the most comprehensive regional water management plans in the country. It is staffed by the Atlanta Regional Commission and includes 15 counties and 92 cities, including the City of Fairburn. It is the only major metropolitan area in the country with more than 100 jurisdictions implementing a long-term comprehensive water management program that is required and enforced. For more information, please visit <http://northgeorgiawater.org/>.

“Thousands have lived without love, not one without water.”

—W.H. Auden

Where Does My Water Come From?

The source of Fairburn's water is the Chattahoochee River, and the treatment of this water is provided by the City of Atlanta at two surface water treatment plants, Chattahoochee and Hemphill. These two plants provide 75 percent of Atlanta's water. The water is then distributed through Atlanta's distribution system, which includes 19 master meters located at various points around Fairburn.

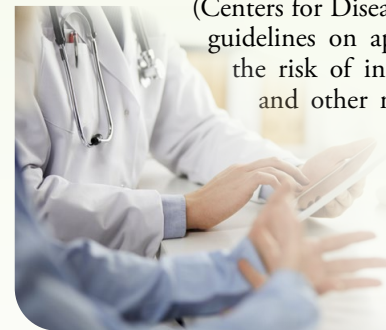
Water received by Fairburn meets or exceeds all required water safety and quality standards set by state and federal agencies.

Once the water is in the City of Fairburn's system, additional testing is performed to ensure it remains safe and of the highest quality. Any monitoring violations that occur will be followed by a public notice.

Important Health Information

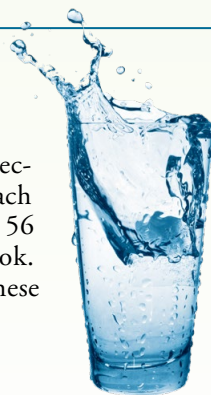
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC

(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



Community Participation

Your city council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 56 Malone Street SW, and on Facebook. Your participation is welcome at these meetings.



QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call John Martin, Director of Utilities, at (770) 964-2244.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. 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.

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, in some cases radioactive material, and 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 and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

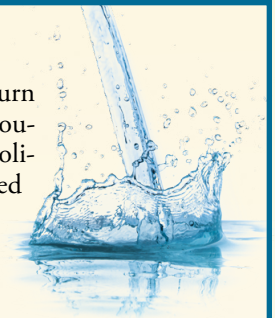
Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two 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. 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 (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

About Our Violation

In August 2022, the City of Fairburn had a total coliform-positive routine sample following an E. coli-positive routine sample. We failed to conduct the Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) required number of follow-up samples. After this oversight, all required EPD samples were taken and were negative. Fairburn management believes the positive samples resulted from a sampling collection procedure and not due to contamination of the drinking water supply. The City of Fairburn incorporated an independent company to collect all water samples to ensure that future samples will not be contaminated by the collector.

We have already taken the steps to ensure that adequate monitoring and reporting will be performed in the future so that this oversight will not be repeated.



What Are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manufactured chemicals used worldwide since the 1950s to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Most PFAS do not break down; they remain in the environment, ultimately finding their way into drinking water. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, PFAS are found all over the world at low levels. Some PFAS can build up in people and animals with repeated exposure over time.

The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). PFOA and PFOS have been phased out of production and use in the United States, but other countries may still manufacture and use them.

Some products that may contain PFAS include:

- Some grease-resistant paper, fast food containers/wrappers, microwave popcorn bags, pizza boxes
- Nonstick cookware
- Stain-resistant coatings used on carpets, upholstery, and other fabrics
- Water-resistant clothing
- Personal care products (shampoo, dental floss) and cosmetics (nail polish, eye makeup)
- Cleaning products
- Paints, varnishes, and sealants

Even though recent efforts to remove PFAS have reduced the likelihood of exposure, some products may still contain them. If you have questions or concerns about products you use in your home, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772. For a more detailed discussion on PFAS, please visit <http://bit.ly/3Z5AMm8>.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels. We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

2022 REGULATED CONTAMINANTS SAMPLED AT THE TREATMENT PLANTS

PARAMETER (UNITS)	MCL	RESULT	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	REPRESENTS	VIOLATION
Fluoride (ppm)	4	0.72	0.51 - 0.96	Highest Monthly Average	No
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm) *	10	0.74	0.46 - 0.90	Yearly Average	No
Total Organic Carbon (ratio) **	TT***=>1.0	1.00	1.00 - 1.62	Lowest Monthly Removal Ratio	No
Turbidity (NTU)	TT=1 NTU	0.09	0.01 - 0.35	Highest Monthly Average	No
Turbidity (% of samples)	TT=95 % samples <0.3 NTU	100.0%	NA	Lowest Monthly Percentage	No

* Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as Nitrogen (N)

** The TOC result shows the ratio of the actual removal percentage divided by the required removal percentage with 1.00 or above being in compliance.

*** TT=Treatment Technology

2022 REGULATED CONTAMINANTS SAMPLED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

PARAMETER (UNITS)	MCL	RESULT	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	REPRESENTS	VIOLATION
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4	1.0	0.0 - 1.9	Highest Monthly Average	No
Total Coliform (% of Samples)	<5 % Positive per Month	2.0%	0.0 - 2.0	Highest Monthly Percentage	No
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	42.3	24.5 - 42.3	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	59.6	24.9 - 59.6	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No

2021 LEAD AND COPPER LEVELS - SAMPLED AT THE RESIDENTIAL TAPS (INCLUDING CONSECUTIVE SYSTEMS)

PARAMETER (UNITS)	MCL	RESULT	NO. OF RESIDENTIAL TAP SAMPLED	REPRESENTS	VIOLATION
Copper (ppm)*	AL= 1.30	0.15	50	90th Percentile	No
Lead (ppb)*	AL= 15	2.4	50	90th Percentile	No

*Triennial Monitoring. No Sites exceeded the Action Level (AL) for Lead and Copper in 2021.

2019 UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS SAMPLED AT THE SOURCE *

PARAMETER (UNITS)	MCL	RESULT	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	REPRESENTS	VIOLATION
Bromide (ppb)	Not regulated	32.6	21.0 - 32.6	Highest Detected	No

2019 UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS SAMPLED AT THE TREATMENT PLANTS *

PARAMETER (UNITS)	MCL	RESULT	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	REPRESENTS	VIOLATION
Quinoline (ppb)	Not regulated	0.046	0.026 - 0.046	Highest Detected	No
Manganese (ppb) **	50	1.96	<0.40 - 1.96	Highest Detected	No

*Unregulated contaminant sampling takes place every five years. It helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

**Manganese-EPA does not enforce the "secondary maximum contaminant level" (SMCL). It is not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

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.

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. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.