

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Pooler, Georgia

2014

We're pleased to present to you this year's **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our wells draw groundwater from the Upper Floridan Aquifer and we get additional water from the City of Savannah's surface water treatment plant.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Mark L. Williams at 748-4800**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the **first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M. at the Pooler City Hall**. This report will be mailed to consumers and copies may be obtained from City Hall.

The City of Pooler Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The Test Results table shows the monitoring results for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014. The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 include the following:

- ◆ Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 that 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.

The **Test Results** table lists the contaminants which were detected and the level at which the detection occurred. For brevity, we have only listed the contaminants which were detected within the past years tests or the latest test for the contaminant. In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (g/l) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

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

MNR - Monitoring not required, but recommended.

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 to lessen the risk of infection by

Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**. **Please call our office if you have questions.**

We at the **City of Pooler Water Department** work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

The Georgia Source Water Assessment Program addresses promotion and protection of public drinking water sources. The program is available to the public.

Test Results – City of Pooler Groundwater System

Substance Tested and Detected	AL	MCL G	Amount Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	MCL >1 pos. sample/month	0	1	0 - 1	2014	NO	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria, may be present.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.88	0.12 – 2.08	2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL= 4	MRDL L G = 4	0.57	0.20 – 1.69	2014	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.
Copper	Ppb = 1300	1300	190 (90 th percentile)	0 - 200	2014	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring

Test Results – City of Pooler

	Molybdenum	Strontium	Chromium	Vanadium	Perfluorohepta noic Acid	Perfluorooctan oic Acid	1, 4 - Dioxane
Amount Detected	1.6 ppb	210.9 ppb	< 0.2 ppb	.26 ppb	< 0.01 ppb	< 0.02 ppb	< 0.07 ppb
Range of Detection	< 1 – 2.4 ppb	27.6 – 308 ppb	0 - < 0.2 ppb	< 0.2 - .47	0 - < 0.01 ppb	0 - < 0.2 ppb	0 - < 0.07 ppb

The City of Pooler has been selected by the EPA to participate in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation 3 (UCMR 3) program. Participants in UCMR 3 are required to publish the results of the analysis of these unregulated contaminants. For more information on the contaminants or UCMR 3, please contact US EPA or GA Environmental Protection Division.

DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS
I&D SYSTEM

The City of Savannah Water Laboratory performed more than 135,000 tests and procedures, on over 160 water quality parameters, during 2014 to ensure water quality. The City has met all sampling and reporting requirements.

Substance tested and detected	Chlorine	Chloramine	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	Total Haloacetic Acids (THAAs)	Total Organic Carbon	Turbidity	Lead	Copper
Probable Source	Added to water for disinfection	Added to water for disinfection	Byproduct of water chlorination	Byproduct of water chlorination	Naturally present in the environment	Soil runoff	Corrosion of household plumbing	Corrosion of household plumbing
Amount Detected	2.38 ppm	2.02 ppm	75.6 ppb	36.1 ppb	53.4% removal	0.19 NTU 100% samples	2.5 ppb	210 ppb
Meets Drinking Water Standards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level Goal The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health	4 ppm	4 ppm						
Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level Allowed 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	4 ppm	4 ppm						
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, allowing for a margin of safety.			0 ppb	0 ppb	Not Applicable	0 NTU	0 ppb	1300 ppb
Maximum Contaminant Level Allowed The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. This level is set as close to the goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology.			80 ppb	60 ppb	Treatment technique	Treatment technique= 1NTU or 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU		
Action Level The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow							15 ppb	1300 ppb
Range of Detection	0.01-2.38 ppm	0.01-2.02 ppm	22.6-75.6 ppb	19-51 ppb	40.2-62.7% removal	Not applicable	No sample greater than action level	No sample greater than action level
Units: ppm = parts per million or 1 in 1,000,000. ppb = parts per billion or 1 in 1,000,000,000. NTU= Nephelometric turbidity units Treatment Technique: A required treatment technique or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water Copper and lead are the only two substances monitored at the customer's tap.								

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring								
	Molybdenum	Strontium	Hexavalent Chromium	Chromium	Vanadium	Perfluoro-heptanoic Acid	Perfluoro-octanoic Acid	1,4- Dioxane
Amount Detected	0.25 ppb	43.9 ppb	0.057 ppb	0.18 ppb	0.51 ppb	0.0006 ppb	0.001 ppb	0.03 ppb
Range of Detection	not detected- 0.42 ppb	38-49.8 ppb	0.013-0.11 ppb	not detected- 0.24 ppb	0.29-0.7 ppb	not detected- 0.0035 ppb	not detected- 0.0076 ppb	not detected- 0.18 ppb

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