

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Pooler, Georgia

2020

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 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 912-330-8650**. 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 posted through a direct link at pooler-ga.gov, and copies will be available at City Hall, located at 100 S.W. Hwy 80, and Public Works, located at 1095 S. Rogers St.

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, 2020. 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
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.44	0.03 – 1.90	2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL= 4	MRDL L G = 4	0.17	0.01 – .87	2020	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.
Lead	Ppb = 15	15	1.5 (90 th percentile)	0 – 2.4	2020	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppb = 1300	1300	140 (90 th percentile)	3.9 - 180	2020	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring

Test Results – City of Pooler							
	Manganese	HAA9	Chromium	Vanadium	Perfluorohepta noic Acid	Perfluorooctan oic Acid	1, 4 - Dioxane
Amount Detected	3.19 ppb	20.19 ppb	< 0.2 ppb	.26 ppb	< 0.01 ppb	< 0.02 ppb	< 0.07 ppb
Range of Detection	< .16 – 7.5 ppb	.67 – 39.7 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. (2020 data).

City of Savannah Water Supply and Treatment Department
P.O. Box 4038
Pt. Wentworth, GA 31407

The City of Savannah Water Laboratory performed more than 131,000 tests and procedures during 2020 to ensure water quality. Tests have been made on more than 160 water quality parameters. The City has met all sampling and reporting requirements. The following table lists all detected substances that require monitoring.

DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS

I & D System

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. I&D Water Supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When you 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Regulated Substances

Substance Tested and Detected	Unit	Goal MCLG	MCL	Amount Detected	Range of Detection	Does It meet Standards?	Probable Source
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	2.06	0.12 – 2.06	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chloramine	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	2.27	0 - 2.27	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Turbidity	NTU	0	TT=1 NTU TT = 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	99.72% of samples were below 0.3 NTU	NA	Yes	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	NA	Treatment technique	35 - 50% Removal	33.33 – 63.51% Removal	Yes ³	Naturally present in the environment
Copper ^{1,2}	ppb	1300	AL=1300	230	No sample greater than action level	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead ^{1,2}	ppb	0	AL=15	9.6	No sample greater than action level	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
TTHM's (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	0	80	75	22.7 - 75	Yes	Byproduct of water chlorination
THAA's (Total Haloacetic Acids)	ppb	0	60	60	24 - 60	Yes	Byproduct of water chlorination

¹Copper and lead are the only two substances monitored at the customer's tap.

² Last sampled 2020.

³ Total Organic Carbon removal compliance is based on an annual average

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring

Substance Tested and Detected	Unit	Amount Detected	Range of Detection
Manganese	ppb	11	8 - 11
HAA5	ppb	47.4	24.73 – 47.4
HAA6Br	ppb	8.56	4.6 – 8.56
HAA9	ppb	55.96	30.01 – 55.96
Bromide	ppb	34.3	20.6 – 34.3
TOC	ppb	6400	3170 - 6400

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

