

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## City of Pooler, Georgia

### 2024

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 Donald H. Brown on 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](http://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 constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The Test Results table shows the monitoring results for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. 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 naturally occur 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.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number 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 year's 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 contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)*: The level of 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 the 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 some small amounts of 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 people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 for 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	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.46	0.08 – .88	2024	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Chlorine ( ppm )	MRDL= 4	MRDLG = 4	0.30	0.01 – .98	2024	NO	Water additives are used to control microbes,
Lead	Pob = 15	15	1.9 (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	0 – 11	2023	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppb = 1300	1300	150 (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2.6 - 170	2023	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Test Results – City of Pooler									
	Manganese	HAA9	Chromium	Vanadium	Perfluorohexanoic Acid	Perfluorooctanoic Acid	1, 4 - Dioxane	Lithium	PFOA
Amount Detected	3.19 ppb	20.19 ppb	< 0.2 ppb	.26 ppb	.003 ppb	.004 ppb	< 0.07 ppb	103%	92%
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	89.5 – 110.5 %	69.5 – 130.5 %

Microbiological Contaminants							
Contaminant, (units)	MCL	MCLG	Highest Monthly % Of Positive Samples	Highest Yearly % of Positive Samples	Violation	Sample Date	Major Sources
Total Coliform Bacteria (TC)	<5% positive samples during a monthly testing period	Zero positive samples during a Monthly testing period	1/20 5%	1/120 .833%	Yes	2024	Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment
E. coli	<5% positive samples during a monthly testing period	Zero positive samples during a monthly testing period	1/20 5%	1/120 .833%	Yes	2024	E.coli is commonly found in contaminated food and water

## City of Pooler Drinking Water PFAS Data

<u>Sample ID:</u>	<u>Sample Date:</u>	<u>EPA Guidance:</u>	<u>PFOS:</u>	<u>PFAS:</u>	<u>PFOA:</u>	<u>Hazard Index:</u>
S.W. HWY 80 Well Plant	01/08/2024	See Note 1	<4 ppt	4.2 ppt	4.2ppt	0.00

Note 1: US EPA guidance dated April 2024 established a MCL of 4ppt each for PFOA and PFOA. In accordance with 40 CFR 141, PFAS results collected as a part of UCMR-5 starting in January 2023 are subject to specific reporting requirements. The GAEPD provided PFAS laboratory results for this sample on January 08, 2024.

The City of Pooler has been selected by the EPA to participate in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation 4 (UCMR 4) program. Participants in UCMR 4 are required to publish the results of the analysis of these unregulated contaminants. For more information on the contaminants or UCMR 4, please contact US EPA or GA Environmental Protection Division. ( 2020 data ).



# 2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT

## CITY OF SAVANNAH

SAVANNAH I & D SYSTEM

JANUARY 2024 - DECEMBER 2024

### **Important Information About the Safety of Your Drinking Water**

*(A message from Dr. Bryan T. Shaw, Water Supply & Treatment Director)*

EPD on a cycle not to exceed three years. In 2023, a sanitary survey of the I&D system was completed by EPD.

The City of Savannah Water Supply and Treatment Department is pleased to report to you the drinking water supplied by the Savannah I & D Water Treatment Facility is safe. Water department staff pride themselves in their ability to provide you, with clean safe water. The table included in this report shows water supplied by the Savannah I & D System gets an excellent report card when compared to health standards.

All sources of drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances. All water sources, including rivers, lakes, reservoirs and wells, are fed by water that passes over the surface of the land or through the ground. The water dissolves naturally occurring minerals and materials. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

Substances that may be present in source water:

- Biological - may come from human, agriculture, or wildlife sources.
- Inorganic - can be natural, from storm run-off, or from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges.
- Pesticides and herbicides - may come from agriculture, storm runoff or residential use.
- Organic chemicals - may come from industrial or domestic processes, storm run-off or septic systems.
- Radioactive materials - can be naturally occurring or the result of mining or other human activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.

As new standards are established for drinking water, the City of Savannah will add new technology to be able to meet the new requirements. Please adhere to the state mandated water conservation restrictions as our water is a precious resource.

### **Source of Water**

The Savannah I & D Water Treatment Facility receives its water from a surface water source, Abercorn Creek. Abercorn Creek is a tributary of the Savannah River. The Travis Field/Crossroads area is served by the I & D surface water system. Four groundwater wells pumping from the Floridan aquifer are maintained in a ready state as a backup source to the I&D system.

### **Treatment Process**

The I & D Water Treatment Facility is a conventional surface water treatment facility. Alum and polymer are added to the water taken from Abercorn Creek to cause the finely divided mud particles to clump together so that the mud particles and other particles will settle to the bottom of the settling basins by gravity.

The clear water is then filtered and disinfected with chlorine to make the water biologically safe. The pH is adjusted by adding lime. Phosphate is added to make the water less corrosive. Ammonia is added to form chloramines for disinfection for a portion of the distribution system.

### **2023 Sanitary Survey**

Each water system is required to participate in a Sanitary Survey conducted by

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 /Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Additional Information: WEB sites with information about water quality**

<http://www.epa.gov/ow>   <http://www.dnr.state.ga.us>   <http://www.awwa.org>  
<http://www.ci.savannah.ga.us>   <http://www.thempc.org/waterresources>

Savannah's city government works under the direction of a council/ manager form of government and has since 1954. The City Council meets every other Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, located at Two East Bay Street. These meetings are open to the public.

The City of Savannah has established a water conservation program. Information about this program or the state mandated water restrictions is available to anyone interested in conserving water, our most precious resource. The Water Conservation office is located at 6 Lower East Bay Street (Engineering) and can be reached by telephone at 912-651-2221.

Water Conservation has also established a Groundwater Guardian Team. If you are interested in learning more about this volunteer group, please call the Water Conservation office.

The City of Savannah Water Supply and Treatment Department business hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The customer service and 24 hour a day emergency telephone number is 912-964-0698. If you did not receive a copy of this report and you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact us at one of the telephone numbers above.

***For additional information about the quality of your drinking water call - City of Savannah Water Supply and Treatment Department - 912-964-0698. Billing information call 912-651-6460.***

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**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 143,000 tests and procedures during 2024 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**

**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	1.66	0-1.66	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chloramine	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	2.20	0.02-2.20	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Turbidity	NTU	0	TT=1 NTU TT = 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	96.09% of samples were below 0.3 NTU	NA	Yes	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon <sup>2</sup>	ppm	NA	TT	35 – 50% Removal Required	47.22 - 70.00% Removal	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Naturally present in the environment
Copper <sup>1</sup>	ppb	1300	AL=1300	410 (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	No sample > AL	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead <sup>1</sup>	ppb	0	AL=15	6.4 (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	2 samples > AL	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
THM's (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	0	80	63.075	26.8 - 122 <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Byproduct of water chlorination
THAA's (Total Haloacetic Acids)	ppb	0	60	41.025	0 – 76	Yes	Byproduct of water chlorination

<sup>1</sup>Copper and lead are the only two substances monitored at the customer's tap. Samples were collected in 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Total Organic Carbon removal compliance is based on an annual average

<sup>3</sup> Numbers reported for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are for individual samples. Compliance is determined by 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
PFBS	ppb	0.0041	0.0037-0.0041
PFOA	ppb	0.0055	0.0056-0.0055
PFOS	ppb	0.0052	0.0046-0.0052
PFPeA	ppb	0.0032	0-0.0032

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.

*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>.*

Symbol, Acronym, or Note	Definition
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 Disinfectant Residual 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 Disinfectant Residual Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not Detected
NTU	Nephelometric turbidity units.
ppm	Parts Per Million: 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or 1 penny in \$10 thousand.
ppb	Parts Per Billion: 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as microgram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years or 1 penny in \$10 million.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required treatment technique or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Level used to determine compliance
>	Greater than
<	Less than

**Additional Testing, Research and Partnerships**

The City of Savannah Water Supply and Treatment Department performs thousands of water quality tests each year in addition to those required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD). This proactive approach ensures that our customers receive the highest quality drinking water.

Cryptosporidium is a protozoan parasite too small to be seen without a microscope. It is common in surface waters (lakes and rivers), especially when these waters contain a high amount of sewage or animal waste. Cryptosporidium can cause symptoms that include diarrhea, nausea, stomach cramps or all three. Because many other conditions can produce these same symptoms, a special laboratory test is needed to find out whether Cryptosporidium is the cause. Samples of untreated water from our system have been sent to outside laboratories set up for Cryptosporidium testing. There was no evidence of a Cryptosporidium problem in the samples tested.

Total organic carbon (TOC) has no adverse health effects. Total organic carbon may provide a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts when water is disinfected. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs) which are also reported on in this report.

Water Supply and Treatment also benefits from millions of dollars of research and professional operations development through its memberships in national and state professional organizations such as the American Water Works Association, American Water Works Association Research Foundation, Georgia Association of Water Professionals, and Georgia Rural Water Association.