



Cobb County Water System  
 Water Quality Report  
 660 South Cobb Drive  
 Marietta, GA 30060-3113  
[www.cobbwater.org](http://www.cobbwater.org)

## YOUR WATER QUALITY REPORT

This Consumer Confidence Report contains important information about the quality of your drinking water, including detailed results of state and federally mandated tests. In 2018 there were **no EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report.**

The Cobb County Water System (CCWS), an agency of Cobb County Board of Commissioners, is committed to delivering to you, our customer, water that exceeds federal and state quality requirements. The CCWS purchases water from the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA), a utility providing treated drinking water on a wholesale basis to cities and counties in the region. The CCMWA treats drinking water using state-of-the-art equipment and ensures water quality through continued monitoring and testing.

The CCMWA has two surface water sources supplying two treatment facilities. The Wyckoff Treatment Division is supplied from Lake Allatoona, a Corps of Engineers impoundment in north Cobb, south Cherokee, and south Bartow counties. The Quarles Treatment Division receives water from the Chattahoochee River. After treatment at these plants, water is transported to various areas within the County where it is fed into CCWS distribution lines and finally to your home or business.



The CCMWA and the Atlanta Regional Commission completed a source water assessment itemizing potential sources of water pollution to our surface drinking water supplies. This information can help you understand the potential for contamination of your drinking water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

A Source Water Assessment is a study and report which provides the following:

1. Delineation of the water supply watershed for each drinking water intake,
2. Development of an inventory of potential sources of contamination,
3. Determination of the susceptibility of drinking water sources to identified potential sources of contamination, and
4. Increasing the public involvement in and awareness of drinking water watershed concerns.

## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

(January - December 2018)  
 PWSID: 0670003

This is an official publication of the Cobb County Water System  
 an agency of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners.

Distribution: June 2019

### NEW CUSTOMER ACCOUNT ACCESS AND PAYMENT SYSTEM COMING SOON

The CCWS is in the process of switching to a new electronic payment vendor for credit card payments, web payments, and electronic bills. Our new vendor, Paymentus, will provide improved online account access and services for our customers. We hope to roll out the new payment website to our customers later this year. Customers will have to establish a new online account once CCWS transitions to Paymentus. We will inform customers through the website, water bills, and social media when the new payment site is available. Through the Paymentus website, called the Customer Portal, customers will have access to the following features:

- Receive electronic copies of bills via text or email. (We currently only offer eStatements via email.)
- Receive payment reminders via text or email.
- Pay bill via text or email.
- Setup and manage autopay through a bank draft or with a credit card. (We currently only offer autopay through bank draft.)
- Pay multiple accounts online at one time.



The Paymentus system provides benefits to CCWS in addition to our customers. Currently, the only option for automatic payments is through a bank draft. Customers are required to provide us their bank account information for us to set up the bank draft. Paymentus will allow customers who want auto pay drafted from their bank account to set up an electronic check themselves. Campaign Management is another great tool that allows us to send broadcast messages via email, text, and/or phone to our customers. This new tool will help us disseminate information, like a major water outage. We also plan to use this to publicize watering restrictions when they are in effect.



For more information on this project visit <http://www.atlantaregional.org> or request information by mail from the ARC:  
 Attn: Source Water Assessment  
 Environmental Planning Division  
 Atlanta Regional Commission  
 229 Peachtree Street, NE  
 International Tower Suite 100  
 Atlanta, GA 30303

### WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS

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 and 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: a) **Microbial contaminants** such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. b) **Inorganic contaminants** such as salts and metals which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. c) **Pesticides and herbicides** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses. d) **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic (man-made) and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gasoline stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. e) **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established treatment methods to reduce contaminants to levels that protect human health. CCMWA's laboratory continuously monitors water quality to be sure it is properly treated to EPA standards. In addition, a minimum of 220 water samples throughout the CCWS distribution system are taken each month and tested. Over 2,640 samples were tested during this reporting period. To ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AMNESTY DAY

Saturday, July 27, 2019 • 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
 Jim R. Miller Park • 2245 Callaway Road

- Early arrival is RECOMMENDED!
- No commercial vehicles
- FREE for Cobb County residents
- 10 gallons of paint per vehicle
- For more information, please visit

Keep Cobb Beautiful at [www.keepcobbbeautiful.org](http://www.keepcobbbeautiful.org)

Event Sponsored by Keep Cobb Beautiful, Cobb County Solid Waste Division, and Cobb County Water System.

#### ITEMS ACCEPTED

- Mercury
  - Aerosols
  - Batteries
  - Adhesives
  - Flammables
  - Photo chemicals
  - Lawn care products
  - Fluorescent light bulbs
  - Hobby and artists' supplies
  - Paint and paint related products
  - Cleaners & swimming pool chemicals
- Not accepted: Ammunition, Rx, Biohazards**



**HEALTH RELATED CONCERNS**


Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals, such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and infants can be particularly at risk.

**LEAD IN WATER**

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 CCWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. The water has been treated to minimize leaching of such materials. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 or more seconds before using cold tap water for drinking, preparation, 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**WHAT IS CRYPTOSPORIDIUM?**

**Cryptosporidium** is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks; however, immuno-compromised individuals, infants, small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. The monitoring of our source water performed in 2013 had **no detection** of cryptosporidium. Testing was only required for a period of nine months in 2013.

 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 EPA's **Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791**.

**QUESTIONS?**

**Send Written Correspondence:**

Cobb County Water System  
Water Quality Report  
660 South Cobb Drive  
Marietta, GA 30060  
Fax: 770.419.6224

**Contact Customer Service**

770.419.6200

**En Espanol**

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Visite nuestra página de internet: <https://cobbcounty.org/calidaddelagua>

**OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS:**

- Main Customer Service Line Call Center..... 770.419.6200
- 24/7 Water Restriction Information & Reporting Line - Leave Message..... 770.419.6278
- 24/7 Emergency Service and Dispatch..... 770.419.6201
- Public Participation Opportunities..... 770.419.6295



**WIPES ARE CLOGGING OUR PIPES**

While the package may say the wipes are flushable, they **do not** break down like toilet paper. Wipes clog pipes, causing raw sewage overflows. Put all wipes (for babies, cleaning, makeup removal, etc.) in the trash. Only toilet paper should be flushed.

**COBB COUNTY WATER TEST RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018  
ALL RESULTS MEET OR EXCEED EPA STANDARDS**

The data presented in the tables below are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. Every contaminant *regulated by EPA* that was detected in the water, even in the minutest traces, is listed here. These findings provide the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the usual sources of such contamination and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL, MCLG, AL, and TT are important. Data is also available in graphic format at [www.cobbcounty.org/graph-data](http://www.cobbcounty.org/graph-data).

**Drinking Water Analysis Table**  
(The data presented in this report are furnished by the CCMWA and are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.)

EPA Regulated Inorganic Substances or Contaminants							
Substance (Unit)	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
Fluoride <sup>1</sup> (ppm)	2018	4	4	0.89	0.60 – 0.89	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth	NO
Lead <sup>2</sup> (ppb)	2017	AL=15	0	2.1	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Copper <sup>3</sup> (ppm)	2017	AL=1.3	0	0.053	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Nitrate/Nitrite <sup>4</sup> (ppm)	2018	10	10	1.0	0.30 – 1.0	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits	NO

**Notes:** <sup>1</sup> Fluoride is added to water to help in the prevention of dental cavities (caries) in children. <sup>2</sup> Of the 50 sites tested, 1 exceeded the action level. The next round of testing is due in 2020. <sup>3</sup> Of the 50 sites tested none exceeded the action level. The next round of testing is due in 2020. <sup>4</sup> Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as N.

**Disinfection By-Products, By-Product Precursors and Disinfectant Residuals**

Substance (Unit)	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2018	80	n/a	58.0 <sup>1</sup>	15.9 – 71.5	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb) - Stage 2	2018	80	0	46.0 <sup>1</sup>	29.0 – 46.0	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	2018	60	n/a	32.0 <sup>1</sup>	13.0 – 39.8	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb) - Stage 2	2018	60	0	32.0 <sup>1</sup>	19.0 – 32.0	By-products of drinking water disinfection	NO
TOC (Total Organic Carbon) (ppm)	2018	TT	n/a	1.8	1.00 – 1.80	Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from sources such as lakes and streams	NO
Chlorite (ppm)	2018	1.0	0.8	0.51	0.09 – 0.51	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
Chlorine <sub>Free</sub> (ppm)	2018	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	2.02	0.00 – 2.02	Drinking water disinfectant	NO

**Notes:** <sup>1</sup> The highest detected LRAA at site 501

**Turbidity**

Substance	Date Tested	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Typical Source	Violation
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	2018	TT = 1 NTU	0	0.20	n/a	Soil runoff	NO
		TT = percentage of samples <0.3 NTU		100%	n/a		

**Note:** <sup>1</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

**Microbiological Contaminants**  
(Data presented in this table were from Systems that collected *more* than 40 Total coliform samples per month)

Substance	Date Tested Positive	MCL	MCLG	TT Level 1 Assessment Trigger	Level Detected	Likely Sources	Violation
Total coliform	04/2018 08/2018	TT	n/a	Exceeds 5.0% TC+ samples in a month	0.45% <sup>2</sup> 0.88% <sup>3</sup>	Naturally present in the environment	NO
E. coli	None	One Positive Sample <sup>1</sup>	0	n/a	0.00%	Human or animal fecal waste	NO

<sup>1</sup> A PWS will receive an E. coli MCL violation when there is any combination of an EC+ sample result with a routine/repeat TC+ or EC+ sample result. <sup>2</sup> One positive sample out of 223 samples tested during the month. <sup>3</sup> Two positive samples out of 226 samples tested during the month.

**DEFINITIONS**

**AL – Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must implement.

**EC+ – E. coli-positive.**

**LRAA – Locational Running Annual Average.**

**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 microbiological 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.

**n/a – not applicable.**

**NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit:** Measures the cloudiness of water.

**ppb – parts per billion** or micrograms per liter (µg/L), i.e., one penny in \$10,000,000.

**ppm – parts per million** or milligrams per liter (mg/L), i.e., one penny in \$10,000.

**PWS – Public water system.**

**TC+ – Total coliform-positive.**

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