

CITY OF WHIGHAM

2021 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

I.D. 1310001

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The City of Whigham is pleased to provide our customers with information regarding the good quality of our drinking water. Our water is tested daily for your protection and gets an excellent report when compared to existing health standards. The City of Whigham is committed to meeting health standards both now and in the future.

The City of Whigham gets its drinking water from a ground water source known as the Floridian Aquifer. The water is pumped from the ground by one of two deep wells. The Ground water is then treated with chlorine and pumped to the distribution system for consumption. Citizens of Whigham are fortunate to have a clean and abundant source of water, which requires minimum treatment prior to using it.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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/CDA 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).

Lead in drinking water, if present in elevated levels can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with the service lines and home plumbing. The City of Whigham is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting from 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. The City of Whigham and the GA EPD have inspected the well sites to identify potential sources of contamination such as electrical transformers, utility poles, and storm water run off. A Georgia Well Head Protection Plan for the City of Whigham was then developed to protect our well sites from potential contamination. A copy of this plan may be requested by calling Whigham City Hall at 229-762-4215.

Substances that may be present in source water include the following:

- Biological: may come from human, agricultural, 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 run-off, or from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges.
- Organic chemicals: May come from industrial or domestic processes, storm run-off, and septic systems.
- Radioactive materials: Can be naturally occurring or the result of mining or other human activities.

DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS & ANALYSIS

The City of Whigham's water is tested frequently for a variety of parameters to ensure our water is safe. The following table lists all the drinking water substances that were detected during 2021. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. In order to insure 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 of public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agencies Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

DEFINITIONS

AL	Action level means the concentration of a substance that triggers a treatment or other requirement that water systems must follow.
MCL	Maximum contaminant level is the highest amount of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water by EPA.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goals is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level is 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 is 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.
ppm	Parts per million means 1 part per 1,000,000.
Ppb	Parts per billion means 1 part per 1,000,000,000.
pCi/l	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Substance	Unit	MCLG/ MRDLG	MCL/ MRDL	Amount Detected (YR)	Violation	Probable Source
Copper	ppm	AL1.3	AL1.3	.076 (2019)	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Lead	ppb	ALO	AL15	.019 (2019)	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	.24 (2021)	No	Water additive Promotes strong teeth
Radium	pCi/l	0	5	1.7 (2021) (0-1.7)	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.2 (2021) (.6-1.8)	No	Water additive Used to control microbes
Barium	ppm	2	2	.22 (2021) (.14-.22)	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Tri-	ppb	NA	80	9.8 (2021) (8.9-9.8)	No	By-product of drinking water Chlorination
Haloacetic Acid	ppb	NA	60	1.1 (2021) (0-1.1)	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

No unregulated contaminants were detected.

No Lead or Copper results exceeded the Action Limit.

NOTE: As authorized by Georgia EPD, our system has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data through representative is more then one year old.

SUMMARY

The City of Whigham is committed to providing quality drinking water to our citizens. City of Whigham employees realize the importance of clean water and the role it plays in all of our lives. We take pride in the job we do and the service we provide. If you would like to learn more about your water or this report, please call City Hall at 229-762-4215. Additionally, the City Council meets at City Hall the second Tuesday of each month. Citizen input is welcome.