WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER?

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and picks up pollutants from the presence of human or animal activity. This polluted water continues to travel into rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells (all of which can be a source of drinking 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 the water poses a health risk.

More information on contaminants may be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

SHOULD I BE WORRIED ABOUT LEAD IN MY 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. WSA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in private plumbing components. 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO WITH POLLUTING WATER?

Even if you live miles away from a river, stream, or lake you may be contributing to water pollution without even knowing it. Pollutants coming from our homes and many other sources contribute to urban nonpoint pollution, a growing problem not just in Douglas County, but all across the state. A few examples of urban nonpoint pollution include pet waste, sediment, used motor oil, garden chemicals, paint, and chemicals we might use in our home for cleaning. These substances flow through the storm drain system into local streams and empty directly into the river, where they harm wildlife and aquatic life, ruin recreational areas, and threaten the quality of our water sources. Make sure you are disposing of urban nonpoint pollution correctly to keep our waterways safe and healthy.

The public is always invited to attend the WSA Board Meetings

(2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.) and the Board Work Sessions (last Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.) Visit www.ddcwsa.com for more information.

If you would like more information about this report or the quality of your drinking water, please contact Water Operations Manager Steve Green at (770) 949-7617 or sgreen@ddcwsa.com. General questions, comments, and concerns can be directed to AskWSA@ddcwsa.com.

TABLE OF CONTAMINANTS

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Average Level Detected/ Range Detected	Pass?	Major Sources
Fluoride (mg/L)	4	4	0.86 mg/L (0.79 - 0.93 mg/L)	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (mg/L)	10	0	0.29 mg/L (0.29 mg/L)	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	90th Percentile Value/ Number of Samples Exceeding AL	Pass?	Major Sources
Lead (ug/L)	15**	0	2.5 ug/L (1 sample exceeded the AL)***	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ug/L)	1300**	1300	140 ug/L (0 samples exceeded the AL)***	Yes	

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (UNREGULATED)

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Average and Level Detected	Pass?	Major Sources
Bromodichloromethane (ug/L)	NA	NA	4.1 ug/L	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ug/L)	NA	NA	0.56 ug/L	Yes	
Chloroform (ug/L)	NA	NA	21.0 ug/L	Yes	

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (REGULATED)

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Highest Rolling Average/ Range Detected	Pass?	Major Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L)	80*	NA	47.8 ug/L (16.0 - 63.1 ug/L)	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (ug/L)	60*	NA	44.3 ug/L (18.4 - 34.0 ug/L)	Yes	

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Average Removal Ratio/ Range Detected	Pass?	Major Sources
Total Organic Carbon	TT =>1.0	NA	1.20 (1.12 - 1.24)	Yes	Naturally present in environment; soil runoff

TURBIDITY

Parameter	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected/ Lowest % of Samples <= 0.30 NTU	Pass?	Major Sources
Turbidity (NTU)	TT	NA	0.14/100%	Yes	Soil runoff

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Parameter	MCL	MCLG	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	Pass?	Major Sources
Total Coliform Bacteria	=>5%+ positive samples during a monthly testing period	0 positive samples during a monthly testing period	0.92%	Yes	Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment
E. coli	1	0	0	Yes	Human or animal fecal waste

FREE CHLORINE RESIDUAL

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Average Value	Pass?	Major Sources
Free Chlorine (mg/L)	4	NA	1.23 mg/L	Yes	Chemical added for disinfection

Helpful Hints for Understanding the Consumer Confidence Report

* MCL based on rolling 4QRT average for each sample point

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

*** Samples collected June 1 through September 30, 2022.

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 below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Micrograms per Liter (ug/L) one microgram per liter is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in 10 million dollars.

Milligrams per Liter (mg/L) one milligram per liter is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in 10 thousand dollars.

NA Not Applicable

ND None Detected

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit Turbidity is the measure of the cloudiness of water and an indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Each month, 95% of turbidity samples must be less than or equal to 0.30 NTU. None may exceed 1 NTU.

Treatment Technique (TT) a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water.

While WSA tests for hundreds of contaminants in your water, only a few were detected in 2022 and none pose a significant health risk. WSA also monitors for unregulated parameters to assist the EPA in determining where certain contaminants occur and whether additional regulations may be necessary. All laboratory testing results are available for public inspection. For more information, call (770) 949-7617. The results in these tables are from tests performed in the WSA and Georgia Environmental Protection Division's laboratories.

DOUGLASVILLE-DOUGLAS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality in Douglas County

2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority (WSA) is pleased to report, once again,

YOUR COMMUNITY'S DRINKING WATER

has met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and the USEPA.

THE AUTHORITY IS PROUD TO INFORM OUR CUSTOMERS THAT WE HAVE HAD ZERO WATER QUALITY VIOLATIONS IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

Douglas County's drinking water supply is surface water drawn from the Dog River Reservoir located in the western section of the county. It is then treated at the Bear Creek Water Treatment Plant. This annual report, called the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), gives us the opportunity to provide you with a detailed accounting of all the monitoring data gathered from water quality testing during 2022 which went into producing your award-winning drinking water.

Este informe contiene información muy importante.
Tradúscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

Georgia Public Water System I.D. Number 0970000

What may be present in Source Water before it is treated...

- **Microbial Contaminants:** include viruses and bacteria which may come from agricultural livestock operations, septic systems, wastewater treatment plants, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic Contaminants:** include salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive Contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining.
- **Organic Chemical Contaminants:** include synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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Testing the Quality of Drinking Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public utility systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. WSA tests your drinking water continuously 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Tests are conducted for chemicals and disease-causing microorganisms (bacteria and protozoa) in compliance with requirements set by the EPA and EPD and under the supervision of State-certified operators and laboratory analysts. In this testing period, cryptosporidium was not found in the source water supplies.

For more information on these contaminants and the diseases associated with them, visit www.cdc.gov/parasites/crypto.

NOTICE: Although WSA's water meets all guidelines for quality, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer who are 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 from their health care providers about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Acknowledging H2O

Water is the backbone of both the Douglas County community and all communities. As we continue to navigate our daily life toward the end phase of the pandemic, reliable access to safe, clean drinking water and sanitary sewer systems remains one of the most vital public health initiatives in our community, the state, and beyond. The Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority continues to deliver these award-winning services to our customers uninterrupted.

Future planning for our growing community remains a top priority on WSA's list of responsibilities to Douglas County. For example, significant progress has been made in the Dog River Reservoir expansion, which will raise the current reservoir level by 35 feet and expand the impounding capacity to 6.5 billion gallons of water. This is a crucial project, as it will provide water resources for residents and businesses for more than 50 years into the future. WSA is working with contractors to continue the expansion development and anticipates the project's completion within the next seven years.

Source Water Assessments

In 2020, WSA and the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) updated a source water assessment to identify potential sources of surface water pollution to the Dog Rive Reservoir and the Bear Creek Reservoir, a supplemental water supply source. Land use in these watersheds is primarily open/forest or agricultural cropland. Dog River watershed is a 3.5% impervious surface (change from 5.6%) and has 82 potential pollution sources (change from 57). Bear Creek watershed is a 6.1% impervious surface (change from 9.7%) and has 26 potential pollution sources (change from 8).

To view the Source Water Assessment in its entirety, please visit our website at www.ddcwsa.com. You may also request a physical copy of the report by calling (770) 920-3817.

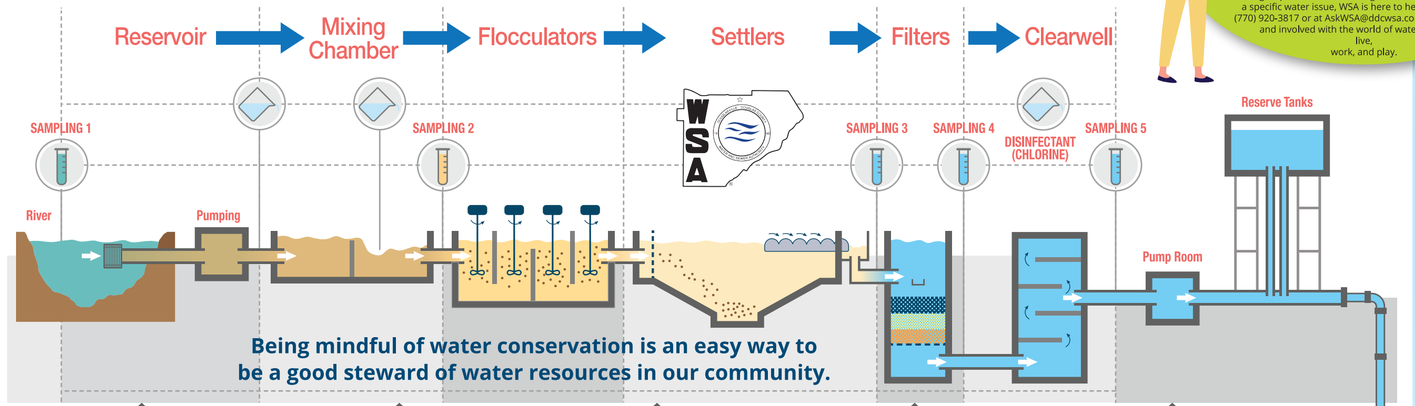
The Dog River Recreational Complex

The 256-acre Dog River Reservoir holds 1.9 billion gallons of water—the County's principal drinking water source supply. The Recreational Complex was opened in 1994 to provide Douglas County residents with an opportunity to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the area. Because the Complex was built with water quality as the main priority, the forested areas, which naturally filter water, were preserved and the roadbeds were built with gravel to absorb motor oil and other urban runoff. Preserving water quality is also why public use of the Reservoir and Recreational Complex is restricted to Douglas County residents, property owners, business owners, and their guests.

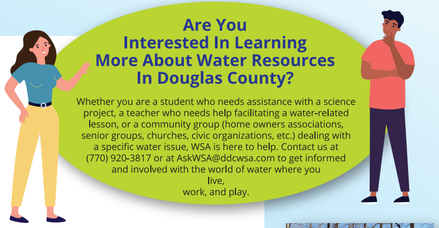
Please visit our website, www.ddcwsa.com for complex hours, activities, and more!

WATER PURIFICATION PROCESS

The best way to ensure safe water at the tap is to keep our source water clean and pollution free.



Being mindful of water conservation is an easy way to be a good steward of water resources in our community.



Public Education and Community Involvement

WSA is home to many employees volunteering at various public events to engage and educate the community. We call those employees "Community Heroes." In 2022, more than 60 Authority employees gave approximately 1,000 hours of volunteer service at 54 unique events! From festivals such as Taste of Douglasville to clean-up events like Sweep the Hooch, WSA has a hand in various programs and events that benefit and enrich our community. For example, our H2O-To-Go program, which brings free, ice-cold water to public events, has saved thousands of single-use plastic water bottles from entering local landfills and continues to be a popular sight around town. So next time you're out and about in the community, stop by and meet some of our employees while learning more about water resources where you live, work, and play!

Well informed customers are OUR BEST ALLIES!