



The City of Hogansville is pleased to present to its Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (CCR) for 2018. The report is a snapshot of the past year's water quality. Included are details about your water source(s), what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. 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 and to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Should I buy bottled water?

You don't need to buy bottled water for health reasons if your drinking water meets all the federal, state, or provincial drinking water standards (ask your local supplier.) If you want a drink with a different taste, you can buy bottled water, but it costs up to 1,000 times more than municipal drinking water. Of course, in emergencies bottled water can be a vital source of drinking water for people without water.

The FDA requires bottled water quality standards to be equal to those of the EPA for tap water, but the quality of the finished product is not government-monitored. Bottlers must test their source water and finished product annually. Currently, any bottled water that contains contaminants in excess of the allowable level is considered mislabeled unless it has a statement of substandard quality. Regulations require bottlers to inform consumers of "bottled water" contents. Although recent tests have not found any lead in dozens of brands of bottled water, studies have shown that microbes may grow in the bottles while on grocers' shelves. 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.

### What is the major source of water pollution?

The major source of water pollution is rain. The same rain that helps fill reservoirs, swells rivers, and makes plants, trees and crops grow washes over cattle feed lots in the Midwest, over dirty city streets, over piles of industrial waste, etc. Eventually the fallen rain, now called "runoff," goes directly into surface drinking water sources or seeps down through the ground into underground water sources called "aquifers," carrying germs or chemicals – or both – with it.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### What EPA Wants You to Know

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 (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/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 (800-426-4791).

### Lead & Copper in the water

If present, elevated levels of lead and copper can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead and copper in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Hogansville 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 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. Hogansville samples for lead and copper every 3 years. And every time, Hogansville falls in the 90th percentile or better. But if you are concerned about lead or copper in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead and copper 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>.

### Where does my drinking water come from?

There are two major sources of drinking water: surface water and groundwater. Surface water comes from lakes, reservoirs, and rivers. Groundwater comes from wells that the water supplier drills into aquifers. An aquifer is an underground geologic formation through which water flows slowly. Most large cities in the United States use surface water, and most small towns use groundwater. Some water suppliers buy treated water from others (wholesalers) and then provide water to their customers, often without further treatment.

The Hogansville's water is purchased from the city of LaGrange Water Authority and Coweta County Water & Sewage Authority. These sources come from our neighboring cities the city of LaGrange (in Troup Co.) & Coweta County Utilities, which is in the city of Newnan (in Coweta County). And protection of drinking water sources is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source(s) in several ways: (examples: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center, volunteer in your community to participate in group efforts to protect your source, etc.).

### What is a Boil Water Order?

A Boil Water Order is issued by public health officials when there is a concern that a disaster or other event has the potential to contaminate the water supply. Boiling your water is an effective way to ensure that your water is safe to drink. When a Boil Water Order is issued, you should make sure that any water used for drinking is boiled at least three minutes (five minutes at higher altitudes) to make sure that the water is safe. If you still have power, refrigerate the water after.

## Proposals: How to conserve water

If you want to learn how to conserve water and protecting the environment, learning to conserve water is a great way to make a positive impact. A four-minute shower may not sound like much, but in reality can cost up to 40 gallons. But don't worry--there are ways to change water-hogging household habits into leaner, greener activities.

### Water Conservation Tips

- Run your dishwasher for only full loads.
- Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth.
- Check your faucets and toilets for leaks.
- Take shorter showers.
- Water your lawn in the morning.
- Use a cover on your pool.
- Wash your car with a nozzle on the hose.



### Can I test my own water at home?

Not in a meaningful way. Simple kits are available to test for hardness and some chemicals like chlorine and lead, but a thorough analysis is not possible. Your local water utility can provide you with information on water quality and may test your water if you have a question or complaint. The local and state health departments can also provide water quality and testing information.

Why does my drinking water taste or smell "funny"? Will this smelly water make me sick?

The four most common reasons for bad tasting water or smelling water care:

- A noticeable taste can come from the chlorine that is added to the water to kill germs. Heavily chlorinated water may contain "reaction products." These products cause no taste and odor and are limited by the US Environmental Protection Agency's rules.
- A rotten-egg odor in some groundwater is caused by a non-toxic (in small amounts), smelly chemical – hydrogen sulfide – dissolved in the water.
- As some algae, bacteria, and tiny fungi grow in surface water sources, they give off nontoxic, smelly chemicals that can cause unpleasant tastes in drinking water. Different algae cause different tastes and odors – grassy, swampy, and pigpen, as examples – and the little fungi can cause an earthy-musty taste.
- Metallic tastes can come from copper that has dissolved from copper pipe and from iron from rusting on iron pipes. Copper can cause short-term health problems like diarrhea and cramping. Iron has no effect on health.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
Substances (Units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Average Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorine (mg/L)	2018	4	4	1.40	.20 - 2.00	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAAs (mg/L) Haloacetic Acids	2018	60	N/A	17.57	1.00 – 14.00	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHMs (mg/L) Total Trihalomethanes	2018	80	N/A	53.76	.50 - 65.00	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
<b>Table Definitions</b>						<b>N/A:</b> Not applicable. <b>ND:</b> Not detected.	
<b>MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):</b> The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.						<b>ppb (parts per billion):</b> One-part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).	
<b>MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):</b> 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.						<b>ppm (parts per million):</b> One-part substance per million parts water (or milligram per liter).	

**Customer Service:**

For billing questions or new service connection / disconnection, call 706-637-8629

**City of Hogansville Water**

**Emergencies:**

Call 706-637-8629, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.to 5:00 p.m. and after 5:00 p.m. weekends or holidays call 706-637-6489

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**Website Visit our Website and**

**E-mails:**

www.cityofhogansville.org or cityhall@cityofhogansville.org for comprehensive utility, water conservation and customer service information, as well as online bill payment. We are also interested in hearing your comments or questions; waterplant@cityofhogansville.org.

**2018**

