

Annual Water Quality Report

Fayette County Water System

P.O. Box 190, 245 McDonough Road, Fayetteville, Georgia 30214 / 770-461-1146
This report includes data collected between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008

Source of Water: Fayette County Water System gets its water from several sources. The surface water sources are: Lake Kedron, Lake Peachtree, Lake Horton, Line Creek, Starr=s Millpond and the Flint River. The well water sources are all in the crystalline aquifer. The purchase water sources can be the City of Atlanta, City of Fayetteville and Clayton County Water Authority.

Treatment Process: Alum and lime are added to the water taken from the surface water sources to cause the finely divided mud particles to clump together so that the mud and other particles will settle to the bottom of the settling tanks by gravity. The clear water is 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 non-corrosive, and fluoride is added to prevent dental cavities. The groundwater from wells is treated with chlorine, soda ash, and phosphate. Fluoride is also added.

Important Information About the Safety of Your Drinking Water: All water sources, including lakes such as ours, are fed by water that passes over the surface of the land or through the ground. The water dissolves naturally occurring minerals and materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.

The Atlanta Regional Commission prepared a Source Water Assessment, an assessment for potential pollution of surface drinking water supply sources, for the Water System. This assessment showed the Horton Creek watershed, our major source for drinking water, to be low for pollution susceptibility, and Line Creek, Flat Creek and Whitewater Creek to be medium for pollution susceptibility. A copy of a summary of this report is available upon request and the entire report is available for review at our office during regular business hours.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances (contaminants). The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the 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).

The table inside shows that the drinking water in Fayette County gets a good report when compared to health standards. As health scientists learn more about our environment and the effect of substances in the environment on human health, new standards will continue to be set for drinking water. The Fayette County Water System will continue to add new technology in order to be able to meet present and future standards.

BLENDING OF THE WATER SUPPLY

Supplier	Gallons	Percent
City of Atlanta	12,375,585	0.4%
Fayetteville	2,050,554	0.1%
Clayton County	0	0%
Wells (4)	34,374,400	1.2%
Water Plants (2)	2,900,526,446	98.3%
Total	2,949,326,985	100%

Copies of the City of Atlanta, City of Fayetteville and Clayton County Water Authority water quality reports are available upon request.

Additional Information Sources (web sites about water quality):

- EPA Office of Water - www.epa.gov/ow
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources - www.gadnr.org
- American Water Works Association - www.awwa.org

Drinking Water Analysis

Substance	Sample Frequency	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Level Found	Range	Likely Sources	Violation
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Fluoride (mg/L) (a)	Daily 2008	4	4	0.82	0.7 - 1.1	Water additive that promotes strong teeth	No
Lead (ppb) (b)	2007	AL = 15	0	2.5	0 sample sites above AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Copper (mg/L) (b)	2007	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.21	0 sample sites above AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Nitrate (mg/L)	Annually 2008	10	10	0.64	n/d - 0.64	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits	No
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS, BY-PRODUCT PRECURSORS AND DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb) (c)	Quarterly 2008	80	0	67	33 - 144	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA=s) (ppb) (c)	Quarterly 2008	60	0	42	12 - 59	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Total Organic Carbons (TOC) (d)	Monthly 2008	TT ≥ 1	n/a	0.93	0.71 - 1.53	Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from water sources such as lakes and streams	Yes
Chlorite (mg/L)	Monthly 2008	1.0	0.8	0.14	0.01 - 0.15	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Chlorine, free (mg/L)	Daily 2008	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	1.37	0.05 - 2.2	Drinking water disinfectant	No
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	Daily 2008	MRDL=800	MRDLG = 800	10	0 - 220	Drinking water disinfectant	No
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliforms (e)	Daily 2008	5% positive samples during a monthly sampling period	0 positive samples during a monthly sampling	0	n/a	Bacteria naturally present in the environment; used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present	No
TURBIDITY							
Turbidity (NTU) (f)	Daily 2008	TT = 1 NTU	n/a	0.24	n/a	Soil runoff	No
		TT = 95% of samples ≤ 0.3 NTU each month	n/a	100	n/a		

- Notes:
- (a) Fluoride is added in treatment to bring the natural level to the EPA optimum of 0.8 mg/L.
 - (b) Water from the treatment plant does not contain lead and copper. However under EPA test protocol, water is tested at the tap. Tap tests show that where a customer may have lead pipes or lead-soldered copper pipes, the water is not corrosive. This means the amount of lead and copper absorbed by the water is limited to safe levels.
 - (c) The average detected is based on a system-wide, 4 quarter running average of several samples, as required by EPA testing protocol. The range is the quarterly average of several samples.
 - (d) TOC is a calculated removal ratio and is reported for compliance as a running annual average, computed quarterly.
 - (e) From 76 to 120 samples are tested each month. No more than 5% can be positive for Total Coliforms.
 - (f) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Information about Lead in Drinking 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 Fayette County Water System 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. 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>.

Notice to Immuno-Compromised People

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people (such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some older adults and infants) may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

How to Read the Report

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level or Maximum Allowed is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water by EPA. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Highest levels are reported to determine compliance. Some are individual readings. Others that are running averages are noted.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or Goal is 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.
TT	Treatment Technique means a required treatment or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level means the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level is the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water by EPA. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial 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 contamination.

DATA TABLE KEY: UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

mg/L	Milligram per liter is the number of milligrams of a substance in one liter of water. One liter is slightly more than a quart.
ppm	Parts per million means 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligrams per liter)
ppb	Parts per billion means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as micrograms per liter)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
n/a	Not applicable
n/d	Not detected
≤	Less than or equal to
≥	Greater than or equal to

ABOUT FAYETTE COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

The Fayette County Water System (ID# 1130001) is operated as an enterprise fund by the Fayette County Board of Commissioners. The revenue generated by the Water System from water payments and meter charges is used to operate the Water System to ensure safe and adequate drinking water for Fayette County customers. The Board has appointed a Water Committee to review and make recommendations concerning the Water System. The Water Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at 245 McDonough Road, Fayetteville. Approval of the budget, projects and operations of the Water System is by the Board of Commissioners at their regularly scheduled meetings, which are on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and the first Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

The Water System currently has 63 employees managed by the Director and a staff of assistants. State certified operators perform a variety of laboratory tests to ensure the safety of our drinking water. The Distribution team maintains and repairs a variety of different size water lines in the County. They also install new services and run water line extensions as necessary. The administrative office handles all customer related issues such as payment collection, processing and mailing bills to our more than 27,000 customers, answering customer questions and complaints and tracking construction projects. Meter reading and billing are done monthly.

The Water System operates three reservoirs that are open to the public. Lake Kedron is in Peachtree City, Starr=s Millpond is on Highway 85 South of Fayetteville and Lake Horton is in South Fayette County. Sailboats, row boats and canoes are allowed in Lake Kedron and Lake Horton. Only electric motors are allowed. Fishing license is required and all Georgia Fish and Game rules apply. Docks and boat ramps are available at Lake Kedron and Lake Horton. There are 2.8 miles of scenic walking trails at Lake Horton.

The Water System complies with the State watering restriction program. Under Level IVc Drought Conditions there is limited outside watering. The Water System is preparing to meet future demand. The plan is to increase production at the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant to 9 million gallons per day. Sites are being investigated to erect a one million gallon water tank in northwest Fayette County. The Water System has acquired two additional water tank sites. The 404 permit for Lake McIntosh has been issued. Lake McIntosh will be a 650 acre reservoir on Line Creek. The lake will yield 10.4 million gallons of water per day for treatment at the Crosstown Water Plant.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION MONITORING/REPORTING REQUIREMENT NOT MET

The Fayette County Water System failed to meet the treatment technique requirement for disinfection byproduct (DBP) precursor removal for compliance periods ending 9/30/2008 and 12/31/2008.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

We conduct monthly monitoring for Total Organic Carbon (TOC). The compliance determination made based on the annual average indicated that TOC removal ratios of 0.94 and 0.93 were achieved during the compliance periods ending 9/30/2008 and 12/31/2008. This is less than the acceptable TOC removal ratio of ≥ 1.00 .

What does this mean? *Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer. (The Drinking Water Analysis table on page two shows Fayette County Water System to be in compliance of the MCLs for THMs and HAAs.)*

In order to reduce the formation of all disinfection byproducts, EPA has established a treatment technique requirement for removal of TOC. The treatment technique specifies the percentage of TOC that a plant must remove (based on raw water TOC and alkalinity), as well as several alternative compliance criteria. Compliance is based on a running annual average of TOC removal ratios, which are computed quarterly. We did not meet the treatment technique or any of the alternative compliance criteria for the compliance periods ending 9/30/2008 and 12/31/2008.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. Residents should not be alarmed and do not need to seek alternative water supplies.

What is being done? The Water System is aggressively pursuing different options for ensuring compliance with the TOC removal requirements. These options include alternative testing methods, obtaining assistance from the State in researching and analyzing the root cause of the non-compliance as well as identifying alternative treatment methods. Since the water plant was out of compliance for the first quarter of 2009, we anticipate being back in compliance no sooner than December 30, 2009.

The Water System has additional system information available on the Web at www.fayettecountyga.gov. If you have questions about this Consumer Confidence Report, you can call Tony Parrott at 770-461-1146 ext. 6016 or Customer Service at 770-461-1146, option 5.