

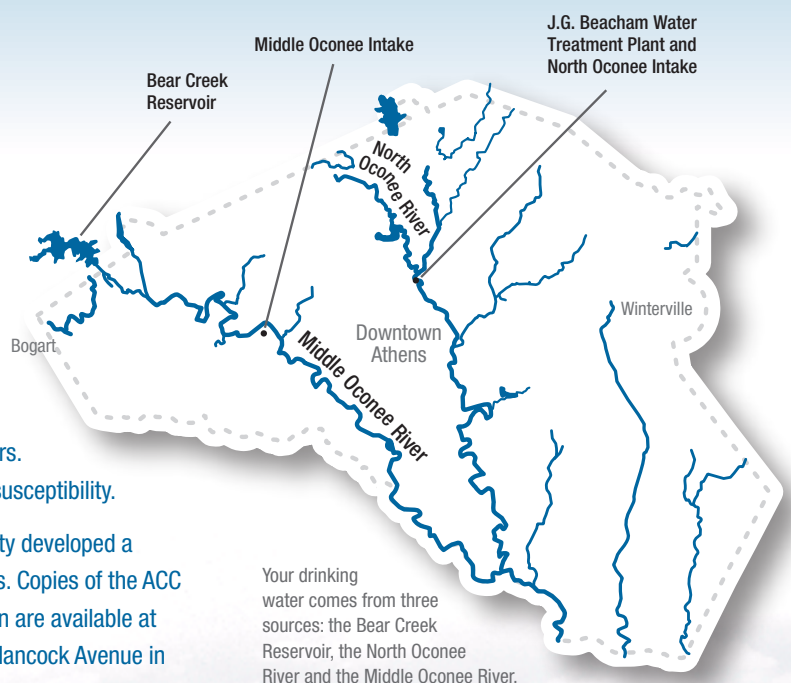
ABOUT YOUR water quality

Before arriving at your faucet, your drinking water travels through a complex treatment and delivery system. Your water, treated and delivered by the Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department, meets or surpasses all state and federal standards for safe drinking water. SEE TEST RESULTS INSIDE.

Protecting our water sources

In order to protect public drinking water supplies at the source – our rivers, lakes and streams – the State of Georgia established a Source Water Assessment Program. As part of this program, Athens-Clarke County and the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission completed a Source Water Assessment of the Middle Oconee and North Oconee rivers. Both rivers have been ranked with a medium level of pollution susceptibility.

Based on the results of the Source Water Assessment, the county developed a Watershed Protection Plan for safeguarding our water resources. Copies of the ACC Source Water Assessment Report and Watershed Protection Plan are available at the Public Utilities Department Administration Office, 124 East Hancock Avenue in downtown Athens.





Important health information from the EPA

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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 private service lines and home plumbing. ACC PUD 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Why are there contaminants in water?

Pure water is made up of hydrogen and oxygen. However, all drinking water comes from rivers, lakes reservoirs, or wells. These sources are never purely hydrogen and oxygen. As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves natural minerals, and is subject to potential "contamination" by a variety of naturally occurring and man-made substances.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general public. Immuno-compromised individuals, such as persons with cancer 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 from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

To ensure that our tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The charts on the following page detail the EPA's ideal goal and highest level allowed.



EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available by contacting the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

TERMS TO KNOW

AL (ACTION LEVEL) The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

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.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (MRDL) The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL (MRDLG) 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.

TT (TREATMENT TECHNIQUE) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

TURBIDITY A measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system and the removal of some pathogens which can be trapped in turbidity.

NTU (NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNIT) is a measurement of the clarity of the water.

HELP PROTECT OUR WATER

Use water wisely!

- Check for leaks and have them fixed.
- Shut water off while brushing teeth.
- Run full loads of dishes and laundry.

- Choose non-toxic household products whenever possible.
- Avoid using pesticides and chemical fertilizers.

- Take used motor oil and paints to a recycling center such as CHARM – accgov.com/charm.
- Pick up after your pets.

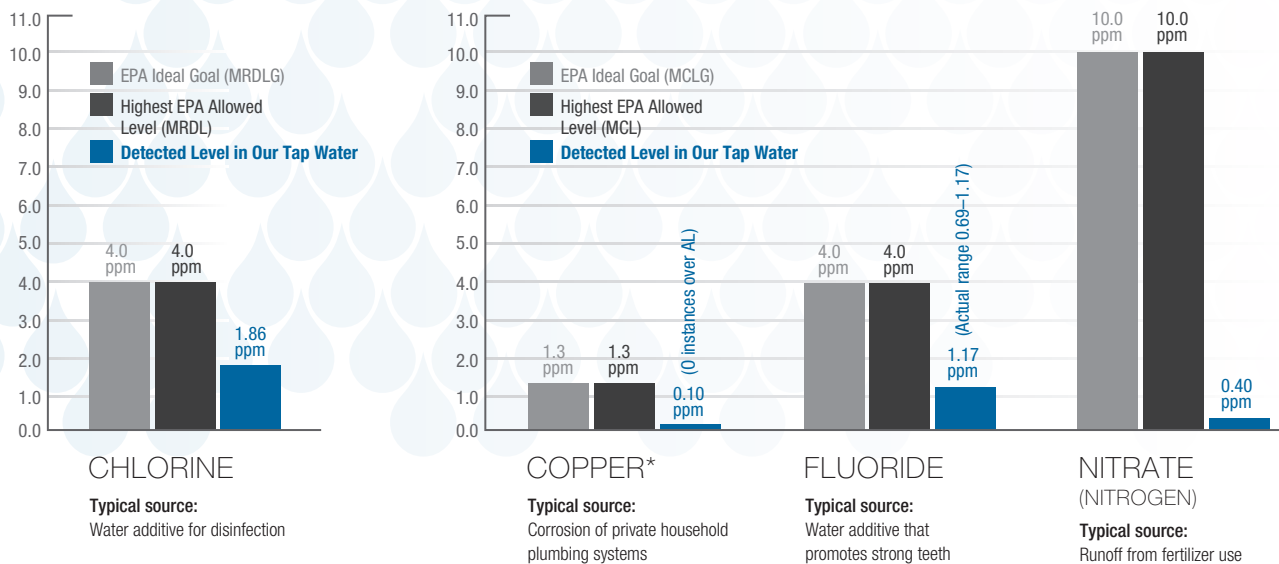


Our JG Beacham Water Treatment Plant has consistently earned GAWP Gold and Platinum awards, having no Safe Drinking Water Act violations in the past 10 years.

ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY 2017 WATER TEST RESULTS

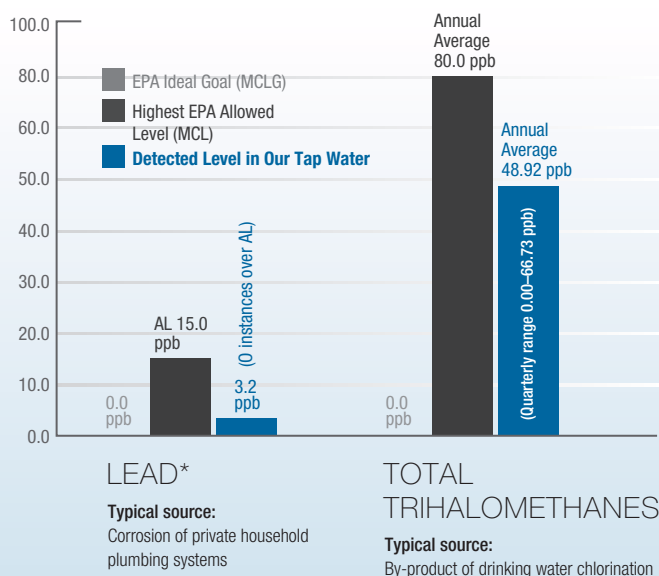
The Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department (PUD) tests water at the source, throughout the treatment process, and before it travels through pipelines and storage to you. Ongoing tests and adjustments help to ensure that your water is always safe to drink and pleasing in taste, odor, and color. THE CHARTS BELOW SHOW THE FINDINGS OF PUD WATER TESTING AFTER TREATMENT AND HOW IT COMPARES TO NATIONAL STANDARDS. **ALL RESULTS MEET OR EXCEED EPA STANDARDS.**

contaminants measured in parts per million (ppm)
The equivalent of one drop of water in 42 gallons.

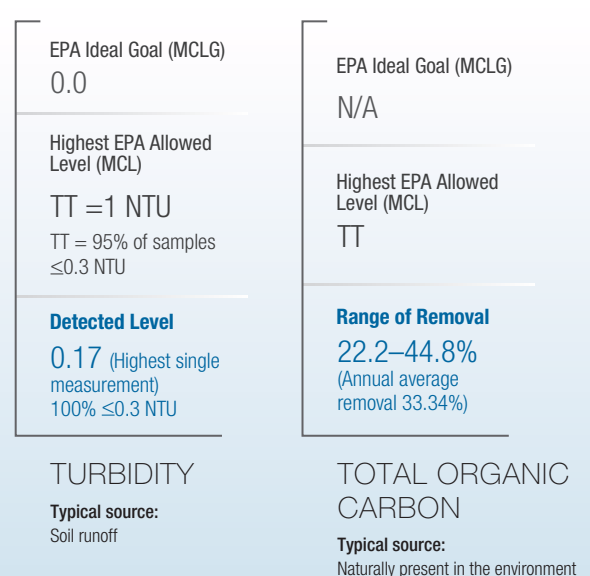


*Most recent testing was done in 2015, in accordance with EPA regulations.

contaminants measured in parts per billion (ppb)
The equivalent of one drop of water in 14,000 gallons.



additional measurements of contaminants





For questions about this report or assistance with regulatory or environmental issues, contact Laurel Loftin at 706-613-3729 or email savewater@accgov.com

To view a pdf of this report and past water quality reports, visit: accgov.com/1245/Rates-Fees-Publications

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Water Conservation
706-613-3729

To Report a Water Leak
706-613-3495

Emergencies
706-613-3481

accgov.com/publicutilities
thinkatthesink.com

¿HABLA ESPANOL?

Este Informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Printed locally on recycled paper.

ways to get involved

LEARNING ABOUT YOUR WATER CAN BE FUN!



WATER PLANT TOURS

The journey of your water is an interesting trip!

Tour the Middle Oconee Water Reclamation Facility and learn more about water treatment and testing.

when: Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018
9:00 am

where: 400 Will Hunter Road
Athens, GA 30606

register: thinkatthesink.com



ATHENS ANNUAL WATER FESTIVAL

Come and explore the world of water through music, magic, games, and activities – and this year it's a superheroes theme for even more fun!

when: Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018
10:30 am–2:00 pm

where: Sandy Creek Park
400 Bob Holman Road

more info: athenswaterfestival.com

All PUD records are available to the public. The Mayor and Commission review and approve all major water and wastewater projects at regularly scheduled meetings. These commission meetings, held at City Hall, are open to the public and televised locally on ACTV Cable Channel 180. For more details, visit: accgov.com.

Want even more information on water quality?

Visit www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water



Visit accgov.com/publicutilities or contact the Water Conservation Office at 706-613-3729 for more information.