A high-speed photograph of water splashing, creating a dynamic and refreshing background. The water is captured in mid-air, with numerous droplets and a large splash at the bottom. The color is a vibrant, clear blue.

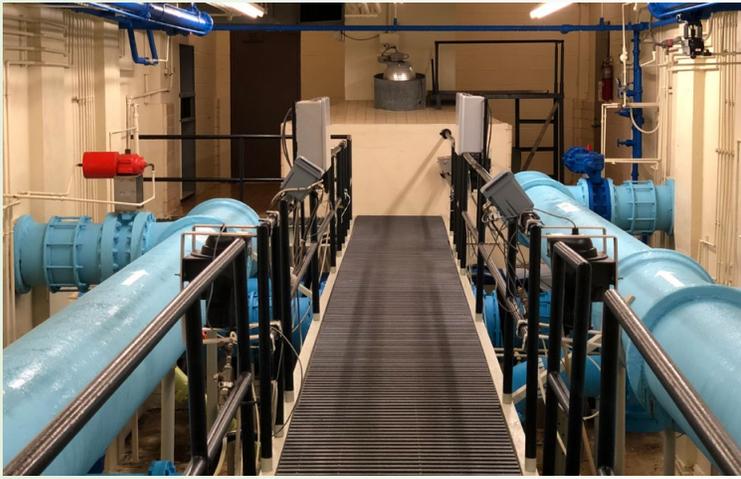
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2019

Presented By



LAGRANGE
GEORGIA



Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards.

We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.



Community Participation

LaGrange City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located at 208 Ridley Avenue, LaGrange.

The Water Treatment Process

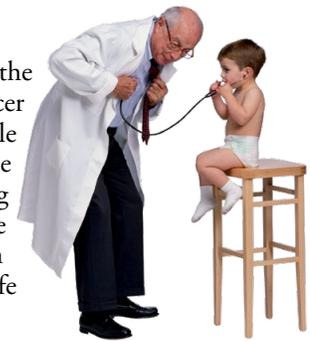
Creating clean drinking water consists of a series of precise steps overseen by certified water plant operators. First, source water is pumped from West Point Lake into a holding pond. Water then flows by gravity to a mixing basin, where aluminum sulfate and complex polymers are added. These chemicals cause particles in the water to join together into larger particles called floc that settle to the bottom of large basins for later removal.

Chlorine and chlorine dioxide are added for disinfection, metal removal, and taste and odor control. At this point, water is filtered through layers of fine coal and silicate sand to remove remaining particles. Turbidity and particle counts, measures of water clarity, are regularly monitored as water emerges from the filters. Chlorine is added a second time before the water is stored in underground holding tanks to allow time for further disinfection to occur. We carefully measure and limit the amount of chlorine used in order to prevent the formation of disinfection by-products.

Before leaving the plant, sodium hydroxide is added to control pH and alkalinity, fluoride is added as required by law to prevent tooth decay, and a corrosion inhibitor is added to coat and protect our piping. Finally, finished water is pumped into the distribution system for use by your home or business.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or if you have any questions about your drinking water, please contact Jason Clifton, Water Division Superintendent, at (706) 883-2136 or Terry Pike, Water Division Assistant Superintendent, at (706) 883-2133. You may also email us at utilities@lagrange.net or visit our website at www.lagrange-ga.org.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Our Water Supply Source

The City of LaGrange withdraws water from the West Point Lake Reservoir, which is fed by the Chattahoochee River. There are sufficient quantities of water in this basin to supply our community's needs well into the future. Our advanced treatment process ensures that source water is thoroughly disinfected, purified, and filtered prior to delivery to customers. However, we do experience occasional taste and odor problems during late summer and early fall associated with algae growth in the lake.

Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through the mains.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment has been conducted on the City of LaGrange watershed as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The purpose of the assessment is to identify potential sources of contamination and the possible risk that is imposed on our water supply. Our overall susceptibility to source water contamination was determined through this analysis to be LOW. A copy of the report can be obtained from the City upon request.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



BY THE NUMBERS

The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

34
BILLION

1
MILLION The number of miles of drinking water distribution mains in the U.S.

The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

135
BILLION

300
MILLION The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

The age in years of the world's oldest water found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

2
BILLION

151
THOUSAND The number of active public water systems in the U.S.

The number of highly trained and licensed water professionals serving in the U.S.

199
THOUSAND

93 The number of federally regulated contaminants tested for in drinking water.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fourth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water in order to determine if U.S. EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data are available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	[4]	[4]	1.41	1.08–1.67	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2019	[800]	[800]	240	90–430	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	2019	1	0.8	0.38	0.19–0.58	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	4	4	0.50	0.09–0.88	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2019	60	NA	14.67	9.97–17.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2019	10	10	0.929	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] ¹ (ppm)	2019	TT	NA	1.4	1.08–2.12	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2019	80	NA	30.79	15.3–55.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity ² (NTU)	2019	TT	NA	0.08	0.02–0.08	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2019	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2018	1.3	1.3	0.24	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2018	15	0	1.2	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Iron (ppm)	2019	0.3	NA	0.01	0.01 – 0.02	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Manganese (ppm)	2019	0.05	NA	0.01	0.01 – 0.02	No	Leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2019	8.99	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2019	20.66	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2019	2.93	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Sodium (ppm)	2019	11	NA	Naturally occurring

¹The value reported under Amount Detected for TOC is the lowest ratio of percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than 1 indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than 1 indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

²Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90 percent of our lead and copper detections.

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

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as the highest LRAAs.

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.

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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

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