WAYCROSS WATER SYSTEM
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT
Public Water System ID# 2990002
January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services delivered to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Our water is a ground water source and is pumped from the Upper Floridan Aquifer by three wells averaging approximately 700 feet in depth. Due to the large volumes of good quality water contained in most of this aquifer, it is the most heavily developed and productive aquifer in the State of Georgia.

The City of Waycross owns the water system. The City Commission has the ultimate responsibility and authority to maintain and develop the system as needed. The Commission meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month on the first floor of City Hall at 417 Pendleton Street at 7:00 p.m. Your opinions and participation are appreciated. If you have questions, or would like more information regarding this report, please contact: **Louis Mintz or Brian Rowland at: Phone (912) 287-2940.**

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include surface water sources such as rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, and springs, and ground water sources such as 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 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.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

All 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 about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Waycross Water System routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The concentration of some of these constituents does not vary significantly from year to year; therefore not all constituents are tested for every year. Some test results included in the table may have been from samples dating back to 2019 due to testing schedules.

In the Test Results Table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one ppm or mg/l is equivalent to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) – one ppb or ug/l is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Treatment Technique (TT) – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

TEST RESULTS TABLE

Contaminant/ Unit measure	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Date Collected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS						
Total Coliform Bacteria (# of Samples tested positive/month	N	0	Monthly (2020)	0	1	Naturally present in the environment
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Barium (mg/l)	N	.073	2-17-2020	2.0	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ug/l) 90 Percentile	N	14.5	2019	0	AL=1300	Corrosion of house-hold plumbing systems
Fluoride (mg/l)	N	.47	2-17-2020	.70	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Lead (ug/l) 90th Percentile	N	1	2019	0	AL=15	Corrosion of house-hold plumbing systems
Sulfate (mg/l)	N	43.6	2-17-2020	0	250	Erosion of natural deposits
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ug/l)	N	16.2	11/18/20	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ug/l)	N	4.14	11/18/20	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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 City Of Waycross 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 setting 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 the 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 on line @ ***http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead***.
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/GDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

We at the Waycross Water System work around the clock to provide excellent quality water to every tap. We appreciate all of our customers helping us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. For more information, you can visit these websites.

This report was prepared by ESG Operations INC. as a service to the City of Waycross