ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2023

Presented By

LAGRANGE GEORGIA

PWS ID#: 2850001

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Included are details about your source of water, 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 providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

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.

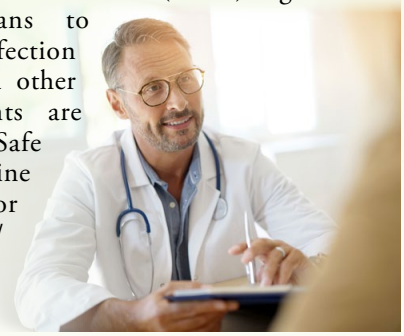
> **"When the well is dry, we know the worth of water."**
>
> *—Benjamin Franklin*

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.

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. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.



Community Participation

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

Updated Lead and Copper Regulations

In 2021 the U.S. EPA announced new Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) focused on replacing lead service lines, compliance tap sampling, action and trigger levels, and prioritizing historically underserved communities. Additional information can be found at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/review-national-primary-drinking-water-regulation-lead-and-copper.

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

What are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manufactured chemicals used worldwide since the 1950s to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Most PFAS do not break down; they remain in the environment, ultimately finding their way into drinking water. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, PFAS are found all over the world at low levels. Some PFAS can build up in people and animals with repeated exposure over time.

The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). PFOA and PFOS have been phased out of production and use in the United States, but other countries may still manufacture and use them.

Some products that may contain PFAS include:

- Some grease-resistant paper, fast food containers/wrappers, microwave popcorn bags, pizza boxes
- Nonstick cookware
- Stain-resistant coatings used on carpets, upholstery, and other fabrics
- Water-resistant clothing
- Personal care products (shampoo, dental floss) and cosmetics (nail polish, eye makeup)
- Cleaning products
- Paints, varnishes, and sealants

Even though recent efforts to remove PFAS have reduced the likelihood of exposure, some products may still contain them. If you have questions or concerns about products you use in your home, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772. For a more detailed discussion on PFAS, please visit http://bit.ly/3Z5AMm8.

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;

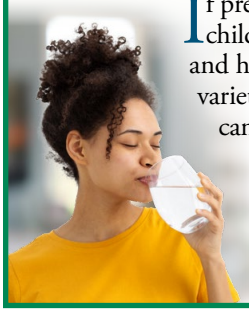
Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

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.

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

5.1
TRILLION
The dollar value needed to keep water, wastewater, and stormwater systems in good repair.

12
THOUSAND
The average amount in gallons of water used to produce one megawatt-hour of electricity.

2
How often in minutes a water main breaks.

47.5
TRILLION
The amount in gallons of water used to meet U.S. electric power needs in 2020.

1.7
TRILLION
The gallons of drinking water lost each year to faulty, aging, or leaky pipes.

33
The percentage of water sector employees who will be eligible to retire in 2033.

Table Talk

Get the most out of the Testing Results data table with this simple suggestion. In less than a minute, you will know all there is to know about your water:

> For each substance listed, compare the value in the Amount Detected column against the value in the MCL (or AL, SMCL) column. If the Amount Detected value is smaller, your water meets the health and safety standards set for the substance.

Other Table Information Worth Noting

Verify that there were no violations of the state and/or federal standards in the Violation column. If there was a violation, you will see a detailed description of the event in this report.

If there is an ND or a less-than symbol (<), that means that the substance was not detected (i.e., below the detectable limits of the testing equipment).

The Range column displays the lowest and highest sample readings. If there is an NA showing, that means only a single sample was taken to test for the substance (assuming there is a reported value in the Amount Detected column).

If there is sufficient evidence to indicate from where the substance originates, it will be listed under Typical Source.

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 fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 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 Contaminant 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)	2023	[4]	[4]	1.55	1.20–1.85	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2023	[800]	[800]	100	20–640	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	2023	1	0.8	0.22	0.01–0.39	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	0.73	0.30–0.94	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2023	60	NA	16.66	13.9–27.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	10	10	1.15	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (removal ratio)	2023	TT[1]	NA	2.68	2.16–4.61	No	Naturally present in the environment
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2023	80	NA	30.89	14.2–74.9	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity[2] (NTU)	2023	TT	NA	0.09	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2023	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)	2023	1.3	1.3	0.17	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0	0.0017	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 (ppb)	2023	300	NA	ND	ND–20	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2023	50	NA	0.0009	ND–10	No	Leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppm)	2023	ND	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppm)	2023	ND	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppm)	2023	ND	NA	Disinfection by-product
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppt)	2023	2,000	3–5.1	PFAS compounds are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" comprised of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s.
Perfluorobutanoic Acid [PFBA] (ppt)	2023	5.23	9.6–11.3	PFAS compounds are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" comprised of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s.
Perfluorohexanoic Acid [PFHxA] (ppt)	2023	5.15	3.1–7	PFAS compounds are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" comprised of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s.
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] (ppt)	2023	2.03	ND–4.1	PFAS compounds are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" comprised of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s.
Perfluoropentanoic Acid [PFPeA] (ppt)	2023	5.38	2.8–9.7	PFAS compounds are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" comprised of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s.
Sodium (ppm)	02/14/2023	12.9	NA	Naturally occurring

[1] The value reported under Amount Detected for TOC is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed abd 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.

[2] Turbidity 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% 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.

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.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

removal ratio: A ratio between the percentage of a substance actually removed to the percentage of the substance required to be removed.

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.