

2024 Houston County, Georgia - Annual Water Quality Report

Feagin Mill 1530021 - Haynesville 1530004 - Henderson 1530005

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have had 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The Cretaceous Sand Aquifer supplies Groundwater to Houston County Water Systems. The largest system is *The Feagin Mill System (1530021)* with sixteen deep wells and 11 Water Treatment Plants. (WTP's): Woodard, Sandy Run, Sandefur, Quail Run, Dunbar, Elberta, Houston Lake, Hwy 96, Piney Grove, Lakeview, and Bear Branch. *The Henderson System (1530005)* is served by the *Henderson* and *Hodge Road WTP's* and their respective wells. *The Haynesville System (1530004)* also has two WTP's: *Haynesville* and *Pyles Road*, each with their own well. The Haynesville system now also serves the Elko Community.

Source Water Assessment and its availability.

Water sources are inspected on a schedule determined by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). To obtain information concerning

the latest report available, contact John Bell, or Matthew Scott M-F 9:00 - 5:00, at the Houston County Lakeview Water Treatment Facility, located at 1601 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088, (478) 953-1110.

Why are there contaminants in my water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). 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 and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: 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 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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 (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

The Houston County Commissioners meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Additional information regarding these meetings can be obtained by calling (478) 542-2115. Your participation is welcome.

Additional Information for Lead

County Water Systems show no lead service Lines to date. Evaluation of materials was done by Houston County Public Works employees in collaboration with *Carter and Sloope* and *120Water*. See the chart of service lines below:

LSL Inventory	1530021	1530004	1530005	All
Connections	19,063	687	464	20,214
Lead	0	0	0	0
Non-Lead	14,428	388	250	15,066
Galvanized	11	0	3	14
Unknown	4,624	299	211	5,134

The link listed below displays more information concerning the lead service line inventory. The blue link at the top of the initial page shows an enlargeable map of service of the areas with the connections that have been submitted to the EPA/EPD in the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI).

https://www.houstoncountyga.gov/business/service_lineinventory.cms .

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 Houston County Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Houston County Water Department, (Public Water ID's GA: 1530021, 1530004 and 1530005) by calling 478-953-1110 or emailing jbelle@houstoncountyga.gov or mescott@houstoncountyga.gov. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead> .

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of

drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

2024 CCR – THE FEAGIN MILL WATER SYSTEM 1530021

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.00	.75	1.19	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids and Total Trihalomethanes were not detected in 2024.								
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.85	.11	1.3	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) 11 Tests	10	10	.78 (Avg.)	ND	3.2	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Due to the Revised Total Coliform Rule and no Level 1 or Level 2 Assessments, microbiological reporting is not necessary. 2024								
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	4.63 (AVG)	0	8.83	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	2.94 (AVG)	0	4.81	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
1,2, -Dichloroethane (ppb)	0	5	0.57	0	0.57	2024	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories.
LEAD AND COPPER CONTAMINANTS								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	90th % 0.13 ppm	0.0071 ppm	0.74 ppm	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0 ppb	15 ppb	90th % 0 ppb	0 ppb	12.0 ppb	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
PFAS Initial Monitoring								
We first monitored Three Entry Points for PFAS for 2023 and 2024 for UCMR5 and there were no detections. In the first quarter of 2025 PFAS sampling to complete PFAS initial monitoring for ALL 11 entry points showed only one detection for one of the six regulated analytes. This PFOA of 1.6 PPT was below the EPA established trigger level of 2.0, and below the established EPA MCL of 4.0. Results for the remaining quarters will be available after analysis.								
Additional Contaminants	Year	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment				
Lithium (Lithium is not currently regulated so there is no MCL)	2023	10.43 ug/L	No	The Reported value from the initial 2023 UCMR5 is an average of three results: 7.5, 7.9 and 15.9.				
	2024	10.6 ug/L	No	The Reported value from the 2024 UCMR5 is an average of three results: 7.5, 7.5 and 16.8.				

2024 CCR THE HAYNESVILLE WATER SYSTEM - 1530004

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.01	0.77	1.27	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.78	.60	0.99	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper-Action level at consumer taps (ppb or ug/L)	1300 ppb	1300 ppb	90% 320 ppb	8.9 ppb	360 ppb	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb or ug/L)	0 ppb	15 ppb	90% 6.0 ppb	0 ppb	14 ppb	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants								
There were no detections in all Microbiological Samples for the Haynesville System in 2024.								

2024 CCR THE HENDERSON WATER SYSTEM 1530005

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.01	0.50	1.25	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.82	0.52	1.16	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper-Action level at consumer taps (ppb or ug/L)	1300 ppb	1300 ppb	90% 200 ppb	31 ppb	300 ppb	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead - action level at tap (ppb or ug/l)	0 ppb	15 ppb	90% 1.8 ppb	0 ppb	4.1 ppb	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Compounds								
Bromodichloromethane ug/l (or ppb)	NA	80 ug/l	0.30 ug/l Avg.	0 ug/l	0.89 ug/l	2024	No	A byproduct of adding chlorine to drinking water to kill bacteria.
Dibromochloromethane ug/l (of ppb)	NA		0.21 ug/l Avg.	0 ug/l	0.64 ug/l	2024	No	
Xylenes, Total mg/l	10	10	0.87 ug/l Avg	0 ug/l	2.6 ug/l	2024	No	Discharge from petroleum or chemical factories; The reported value of .87 is based on three tests: 2.6, ND, ND.
Microbiological Contaminants								
There were no detections in all Microbiological Samples for the Henderson System in 2024.								

CCR UNIT DESCRIPTIONS AND TERMS

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppm (= mg/L)	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb (= ug/L)	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt (=ng/L)	ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required but recommended.
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
MCLG	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.
LSLI	Lead Service Line Inventory
MDL	Method Detection Limit – The lowest value that can be detected
MCL	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.
MRL	Method Reporting Limit
RTCR	RTCR: Revised Total Coliform Rule
TC	TC: Total Coliform (Bacteria group)
EC	EC; Escherichia coli (A Fecal bacteria)
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
U	Analyzed for, but not detected at or above the MDL
J	Estimated concentration above the MDL and below the adjusted Reporting Limit

**For More Information, contact John D Bell or Matthew Scott
1601 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088, Phone: 478-953-1110**