

2014 Water Quality Report

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. The City of Hahira services more than 2800 consumers throughout the city. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 1 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.)

The City of Hahira performs hundreds of water quality tests each year in addition to those required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD). This proactive approach ensures that our citizens receive the highest quality drinking water.

The City of Hahira water department during the year 2014 conducted tests on drinking water for more than 85 water parameters to insure the water you drink is safe. Water samples are collected in the distribution system to monitor the quality of water once it has left the treatment plant. These monitors are located throughout our treatment plant and in the distribution system to continuously monitor our water quality.

In addition, we have a contract service with a utility service company to come in every year to inspect each water tank inside and out. They paint the outside of the tank and pressure wash, clean and disinfect the inside. This is an additional service to ensure clean, safe water to our customers.

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) continues to increase the number of required water sampling to further insure our safe water. The City water department is committed to providing each citizen with clean, safe and reliable drinking water. If you have any questions or would like more information on the water program in Hahira please contact the Public Works

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 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/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 (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Drinking water sources, tap and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of 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 and/or from human activity.

*Microbial contaminants, such as viruses, and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, livestock operations, septic systems, and wildlife.

*Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals that occur naturally from urban runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

*Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture urban storm runoff, and residential uses.

*Organic chemicals contaminants, such as synthetic or volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

*Radioactive contaminants, which occur naturally, or the results of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Source water assessment and its availability

Reports for the year January 1, through December 31, 2014, are available for public review at the Public Works Office on Hall Street. These reports include the following;

Organic synthetic and volatile

Inorganic

Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved?

The City of Hahira Council meets at 7:30 pm the 1st Thursday in each month at the Court House located on West Main Street. All citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in these meetings.

Additional Information for Lead

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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 for 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.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	61	ND	61	2014	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination. To remedy this problem, the City of Hahira installed a new well on the northwest side of town, thereby lowering the chemical requirements which were needed at that time to reach all points within the city.

Violations and Exceedances

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The violation occurred during the period April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 at entry point 501. During this period, additional chemicals were pushed through the system in order to reach all points within the city, thereby causing the .01 violation. A new well was completed in 2014 on the northeast side of the city which has the power to "push" the treated water without the necessity of additional chemicals throughout the city.

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

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.
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.
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 a 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

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