

A scenic view of a river with clear, green water, surrounded by lush green trees and a small red-roofed structure on the bank. The water is very clear, showing the bottom. The trees are a mix of green and some pink blossoms. The sky is blue.

2023

City of Calhoun Water Quality Report

About This Report



We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets or exceeds 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 of our water customers.

-James F. Palmer, Mayor

An Overview of our System and Water Sources



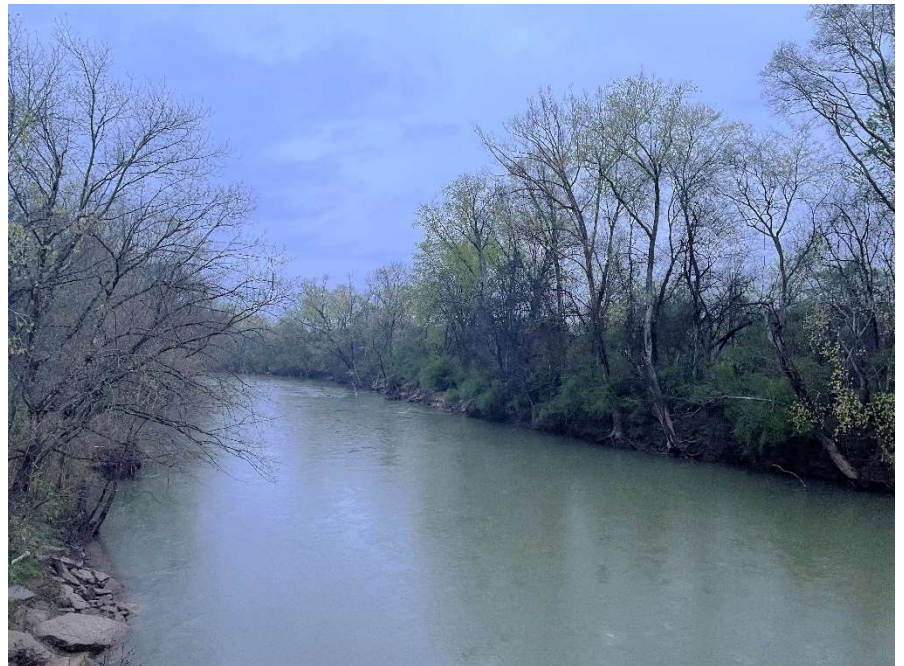
The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant is located in the eastern portion of Gordon County. In 2023 the plant produced an average of 4.42 MGD (million gallons per day) of drinking water from excellent ground water and natural spring sources. The monthly capacity for this plant is 11.80 MGD



The Mauldin Road Treatment Plant provides the majority of the drinking water for Calhoun and Gordon County. The Coosawattee River (surface water) is the primary source water. The Oostanaula River (surface water) may be used as an emergency water supply. In 2023 the Mauldin Road Treatment Plant produced an average of 7.35 MGD of drinking water, in accordance with strict Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) guidelines for the removal of contaminants. The monthly capacity for this plant is 16.00 MGD.

Protecting Our Water Sources

A Source Water Assessment was completed for the Coosawattee River in January 2003. In 2012 the Watershed Assessment for the Coosa River Basin was completed, with a Watershed Protection Plan currently under implementation. The assessments identify possible sources of contaminants and the Watershed Protection Plan is designed to help reduce the potential for contamination of our water sources. For more information regarding these reports, please contact the Coosa Valley Regional Development Center, PO Box 1793, Rome, GA 30162-1793.



REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MCRDLG]	Maximum Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	[4]	[4]	1.61 (Annual Average)	0.48 - 2.60	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4.00	4	0.75 (Annual Average)	0.70 - 1.10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	2023	TT	NA	1.09 (Annual Average)	0.00 - 1.70	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity * (NTU)	2023	TT	NA	0.280	0.020 - 0.280	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limits)	2023	TT	NA	100.000	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	Amount Detected	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	Violation	Typical Source		
Copper (ppb)	2021	1300.00	1300	360.00	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2021	15.00	0	2.2000	One/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Maximum Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2023	60.00	NA	36.25 (Maximum LRAA)	27.93 - 36.25	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2023	80.00	0	44.83 (Maximum LRAA)	27.65 - 44.83	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL {MRDL}	MCLG {MRDLG}	Maximum Amount Detected	Range Low - High	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	2023	10.00	0	1.29 (Annual Average)	0.47 - 2.10	No	Agricultural Operations, urban runoff

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES							
Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL SMCL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Iron (ppm)	2023	300.00	NA	0.01 (Annual Average)	0.00 - 0.100	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Manganese (ppm)	2023	50.00	NA	0.01 (Annual Average)	0.000 - 0.040	No	Leaching from natural deposits
pH (Units)	2023	6.5-8.5	NA	7.32 (Annual Average)	6.50 - 8.60	No	Naturally occurring
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5.00	NA	0.37 (Annual Average)	0.00 - 0.76	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

Definitions

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 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.

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): Non-enforceable contaminant levels that are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations.

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

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).

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

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring 2023

Mauldin Road Treatment Plant UCMR 5 Monitoring			
Analyte	Range of Results	Maximum Result	Units
PFBA	5.7 – 12.0	12.0	ppt
PFPeA	9.0 – 21.0	21.0	ppt
PFBS	120.0 – 290.0	290.0	ppt
PFHpA	<3.0 – 6.6	6.6	ppt
PFHxA	7.2 – 15.0	15.0	ppt
PFOA	11.0 – 24.0	24.0	ppt
PFOS	7.9 – 8.6	8.6	ppt

Brittany Drive Treatment Plant UCMR 5 Monitoring			
Analyte	Range of Results	Maximum Result	Units
PFPeA	8.7 – 53.0	53.0	ppt
PFBS	33.0 – 58.0	58.0	ppt
PFHxS	3.9 – 7.0	7.0	ppt
PFHpA	3.1 – 6.0	6.0	ppt
PFHxA	3.9 – 7.4	7.4	ppt
PFOA	13.0 – 29.0	29.0	ppt
PFOS	17.0 – 29.0	29.0	ppt

Making Your Water Safe to Drink

City of Calhoun Mauldin Road and Brittany Drive Water Treatment Plants are operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year, by highly trained state certified plant operators. The latest technological equipment is used to provide our valued customer's assurance that their water has been treated to the highest standards in the industry. Maintaining the City of Calhoun's drinking water distribution system involves routine sampling, flushing of water lines, and ongoing maintenance of water storage tanks. Numerous water quality tests are performed daily at both treatment facilities to ensure we are providing the highest quality water possible. Our team is required to collect and analyze a minimum of 60 samples per month from throughout the distribution system, which then is tested in our state-certified bacteriological laboratory. The table of test results lists regulated and unregulated substances that may be found in drinking water and includes data from both of our water treatment plants. All substances listed are well within regulated limits.

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 at US EPA's web site at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



Potential Contaminants in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes limits on the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. However, FDA regulations establish the limits for contaminants in bottled 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426- 4791. Additional online sources are available at: www.epa.gov/safewater; amwa.net; epd.georgia.gov/; and www.awwa.org.



Opportunities for Involvement

City Council Information

The City of Calhoun City Council convenes on the second and fourth Monday of each month. You are invited to come and listen or if you like you may register to speak regarding any concerns you may have about our drinking water. Please register by noon on Friday in order to be placed on the agenda as a speaker. You may call Paul Worley, City Administrator, at (706) 602-5510.



Contact Information

For more information about this report, or for any concerns related to your drinking water, please contact:

Erik Henson: Water & Wastewater Director
Phone: (706) 602-6025

Jeremy King: Water Treatment Superintendent
Phone: (706)602-6063

Brett Stephens: Assistant Water Treatment Superintendent
Phone: (706)602-5921

For more information regarding PFAS, follow the link below.

<https://www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com/pfas-information/>

