2025 Consumer Confidence Report for The City of Tallapoosa Water System

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The City of Tallapoosa is pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality 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. Last year, we conducted tests for over 100 contaminants. We only detected 11 of those contaminants with no violations. This report can be found at http://haralsoncountywaterauthority.com/water-quality-report/.

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from the Haralson County Water Authority, which draws it from the Tallapoosa River, Sims Wells, and Cleburne County Alabama.

How do I get involved?

Your Mayor and City Council hold regular meetings the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall located at 25 E. Alabama Street, Tallapoosa, GA. Your participation and/or comments are welcome at these meetings.

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.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 storm water 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; 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.

Violations and Exceedances

In 2025, the City of Tallapoosa failed to provide the Environmental Protection Division and the citizens of the City of Tallapoosa the annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risk from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water. The annual report deadline to be filed was July 1, 2025. The City of Tallapoosa filed the Consumer Confidence Report on August 15, 2025.

Description of the Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.
Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding Liquid Alum to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, and Anthracite Coal in filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of Lime is used for PH balance, a small amount of chlorine is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms that may be in the water and a small amount of Fluoride is then added for Cavity prevention before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

Source water assessment and its availability

Our community has completed a source water assessment that provides more information about our water source. Out of ninety-five potential sources of contamination sited in the report, seven fell in the low priority range, eighty-eight fell in the medium priority range, and zero fell in the high priority range. Most potential sources of contamination fell in the medium priority range and do not warrant a significant level of concern. The overall susceptibility score for Haralson County Water was medium. A copy of this report can be found at the Haralson County Water Authority office.

Community Source Water Protection

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public Waste water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil, Paint, Stain, etc. to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, and are unsure if there is a cross connection please contact, Philip Eidson, City Manager or Boyd Coggins, Public Works Director at (770) 574-2345 so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary and try collecting rain water or even bath water for your plants.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. **To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak.** Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill! You can visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Additional Information for Lead

2025 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information

For (GA1430002) Water System

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant women, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Tallapoosa is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposure. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Philip Eidson, City Manager (Public Water system Id: GA1430002) by calling 770-574-2345 or emailing PEidson@TallapoosaGA.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.

Lead and Copper Range Data.

Analyte	Sample Date	MCLG or MRDLG	Action Level (AL)	Detect In Your Water	Range High	Range Low	Violation	Units
Copper	2025	1.3	1.3	.16	.0041	.24	No	ppm
Lead	2025	0	15	1.1	0	0	No	ppb

To access all individual Lead Tap Sample results for the City of Tallapoosa Water System,
Contact: Philip Eidson at (770)574-2345 or Email: PEidson@TallapoosaGA.gov

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water.

To access the SLI for the City of Tallapoosa Water System
Visit the Georgia Public Transparency Dashboard at http://ga-epd.120water-ptd.com

Additional Information for Nitrate

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Additional Information for Perfluoroalkyl

Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) AKA "Forever Chemicals" are resistant to heat, water, and oil. Because of these characteristics, PFAS chemicals have a wide variety of industrial and commercial uses. Over time, researchers have studied the health effects of various PFAS chemicals, including PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and GenX, with early research focusing primarily on PFOA and PFOS. Peer-reviewed studies of laboratory animals and epidemiological studies of human populations indicate that exposure to PFAS over certain levels may result in adverse health effects.

Haralson County Water Authority currently tests for these chemicals and have found none at detectable levels.

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 in the table 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 the table, we have provided the definitions of the terms used in the Table on this page.

Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
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 **Unit** 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

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.39	.84	1.94	2025	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Halo acetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	44	9.5	87.5	2025	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	58	22.6	78.2	2025	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (% Removal)	NA	TT	1.4	NA	NA	2025	No	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.008	.000	.017	2025	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	.463	.000	2.15	2025	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.76	.56	.99	2025	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.25	0	7.2	2025	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (RTCR)	NA	TT	0	NA	NA	2025	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) % of Measurements less than .3	NA	.3	100%	NA	NA	2025	No	Soil runoff
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	70	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	ND	NA	NA	2024	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range High	Range Low	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.16	0	.43	2024	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.1	0	3.6	2024	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range High	Range Low	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Testing Results for PFAS AKA "Forever Chemicals"								
PFOA (ppt)	0	4	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and
PFOS (ppt)	0	4	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and
PFHxS (ppt)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and water.
PFNA (ppt)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and
HFPO-DA(commonly known as GenX Chemicals)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and water.
Mixtures containing two or more of PFHxS ,PFNA, HFPO-DA and PFBS	1 (unitless) Hazard Index	1 (unitless) Hazard Index	ND	NA	NA	2025	No	Manufacturing processes and waste storage and treatment sites release PFAS into the air, soil, and water.

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