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2021 WATER QUALITY REPORT

CITY OF WINDER

April 2022

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Headlines

WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS

The City of Winder contracts with ESG Operations, Inc. for the operation, maintenance, and management of its Water Treatment Facilities. The Highway 53 Water Treatment Plant is operated 24 hours per day for 365 days per year. ESG Operations, Inc. employs a staff of four Class I Operators (the highest certification that can be achieved), and two Class III Operators and an additional state certified Lab Analyst. Should you have any questions regarding the information in this brochure, please contact any of the following individuals for assistance:

Name	Title	Phone Number
Roger Wilhelm	Assistant City Administrator	770-867-7978
Todd Adams	ESG Project Manager	770-868-0863

Special points of interest:

- The Winder Water System serves 45,000 people
- The Winder Water System has 2 pump stations, 6 elevated storage tanks and 2 ground level storage tanks which store 8.25 million gallons of water
- There are approximately 418 miles of water lines in the Winder Water System

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Your Drinking Water

The City of Winder (WSID# GA130002) is pleased to report that our community's drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and Environmental Protection Agency during 2021. This Water Quality Report provides our customers with detailed accounts of all the monitoring and testing results gathered from water quality testing during 2021. We are committed to providing you with safe, dependable tap water on a year round basis and are proud to provide the enclosed information.

What Is Your Drinking Water Source?

Water sources for the City of Winder include the Mulberry River and Fort Yargo Lake. The City has developed a Water Protection Plan to protect these water sources. The City stores water from the Mulberry River at the Laurel Lane Reservoir and at the Water Plant Reservoir. Under normal conditions, these water sources are generally adequate to meet the City's water demand.

During drought periods, the City supplements its water production by purchasing water from Barrow County. The water source for Barrow County is the Bear Creek Water Plant, which treats water from the Bear Creek Reservoir and the Middle Oconee River.

Information About Contaminants

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

- **Biological** - may come from human, agricultural or wildlife sources.
- **Inorganic** - can be naturally occurring, from urban storm water runoff, from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, or from farming.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides** - may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic Chemical** - can be by-products of industrial or domestic processes, storm water runoff, and septic systems
- **Radioactive Materials** - can be naturally occurring or be the result of mining or other processes.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.

DRINKING WATER TEST RESULTS

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

April 2022

Regulated Substance tested and detected	Unit	Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Winder Amount Detected	Barrow County Amount Detected ⁽¹⁾	Is the Water Safe?	Probable Source
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	180 (2019)	26 (2019)	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	ppb	0	15	.74 (2019)	0.31 (2019)	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Fluoride	ppm	2	4	0.72 (Avg) 0.59-0.95 Range	.78 (Avg) 0.76– 0.81 Range	YES	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Turbidity ⁽²⁾	NTU	N/A	TT=0.3	.08 (Avg) ⁽²⁾ 0.06-0.30 Range	.02 (Avg)	YES	Soil Runoff
Chlorine	ppm	4.0	4.0	1.79 (Avg) Range 1.49 - 2.03	1.83(Avg) Range 1.8 - 1.9	YES	Water disinfectant
Trihalomethanes, Total (THMs)	ppb	N/A	80	37.17 (RAA)	34.4 (RAA)	YES	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	N/A	60	24.53 (RAA)	36 (RAA)	YES	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	N/A	TT=N/A	1.36 (Avg) Range 1.15 - 1.66	1.5 (Avg) Range 1.3-1.6	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform ⁽³⁾	%	0	<5% positive	0	0	YES	Bacteria naturally present in the environment; used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

Footnotes

- ¹⁾ The City of Winder supplements its water production by purchasing water from Barrow County during the year.
- ⁽²⁾ The value (0.30 NTU) shown in the table above indicates the highest reading taken. Average readings are typically substantially less. For example, in 2021 the City of Winder took 35,048 turbidity readings, all of which (100%) were less than 0.3 NTU. The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources requires that 95% of all samples taken be less than 0.3 NTU. EPD requires that the average for all samples be less than 0.3 NTU. The 2021 average turbidity was 0.08 NTU.
- ⁽³⁾ Of all samples taken and tested for total coliform (bacteria), all tests came back negative, indicating that no bacteria were detected in your water.
- ⁽⁴⁾ If you are interested in reviewing a copy of Winder's Source Water Assessment Plan, please call 770-867-7978.

Notice to Immune-Compromised People

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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/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 (1-800-426-4791).

READING THE RESULTS

ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

April 2022

AL	Action Level - means the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level or Maximum Allowed - is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water by EPA. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - is 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. Highest levels are reported to determine compliance.
ml	Milliliter - or one thousandth of a liter. One Liter = slightly more than a quart.
N/A	Not applicable.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppm	Parts per Million - means 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years, or 1 penny in \$10 thousand.
ppb	Parts per Billion - means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as microgram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or 1 penny in \$10 million.
RAA	Running Annual Average
TT	Treatment Technique means a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Turbidity	Turbidity is the measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of filtration.
(a)	Water from a treatment plant does not contain lead or copper. However, based upon EPD testing requirements, water is tested at the tap. These tests show that where a customer may have lead pipes or lead soldered copper pipes, the water is not corrosive. This means the amount of lead or copper absorbed by the water is limited to safe levels.
(b)	Fluoride is added in treatment to bring the natural level to the EPA optimum of 1 part per million. This optimum concentration promotes strong teeth.
(c)	The Georgia Environmental Protection Division requires that no single reading for turbidity exceed 2 NTU.
(d)	The Georgia Environmental Protection Division requires that no more than 5% of all readings taken exceed 0.3 NTU.
<	Less Than
>	Greater Than

A Note About Lead

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. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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 2 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The presence of these contaminants (substances) 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 (800-426-4791).