

# water quality report

## Who provides my water?

The Carroll County Water Authority (CCWA) takes pride in distributing quality water safely and reliably to you and your family. We produce and deliver water to over 17,900 customers and serve over 50,000 people with only 37 employees. CCWA is self-funded through water and sewer sales.

## Where does my water come from?

In 2017, your drinking water came from either CCWA's 3.7-billion gallon, 650-acre Snake Creek Reservoir, or an underground aquifer. A limited amount of water was also purchased during 2017 from wholesale connections with the City of Carrollton. Water from the reservoir is treated at the 8.0 million gallons per day (mgd) Snake Creek Water Treatment Plant (WTP) then pumped into CCWA's distribution system. The reservoir, located approximately 4.5 miles south of the WTP, was originally designed to supply 13.5 mgd of raw water to be treated for potable use. More severe droughts over the last two decades have reduced the reservoir's dependable safe yield to approximately 8.6 mgd. Up to 0.75 mgd can also be pumped into the distribution system from the Abilene, Lake Paradise and Bethesda wells. In 2017, average and maximum daily systems flows were 4.67 mgd and 6.44 mgd, respectively. Both the Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) and the Wellhead Protection Plan are available to CCWA customers upon request.

The Snake Creek WTP and the Fairfield Plantation Wastewater Treatment Plant received Platinum Awards in 2017. Platinum Awards are presented annually to Georgia treatment facilities that achieve complete and consistent regulatory permit compliance for five consecutive years.

## What is the Water Authority doing?

**Snake Creek Water Treatment Plant Expansion:** CCWA is in the beginning phases of a project that will expand the Snake Creek WTP from 8.0 mgd to 12 mgd. This expansion is needed to meet our customers growing demands evident by our record setting peak flows in 2016 and to provide critical infrastructure redundancy. Last year, CCWA completed a Design Development Report that will serve as the basis for the WTP expansion design. CCWA is currently in the process of selecting a design engineering firm that will prepare the WTP expansion construction drawings. This project is expected to be completed during 2021 and will represent an investment of approximately \$32 million into the treatment plant.

**Waterline Construction:** CCWA is in the later stages of two waterline construction projects that are extending water service to areas not currently served. Waterline segments have been completed along the following roads: Hwy. 5 West, Horton Road, Cartbody Road, Black Dirt Road, Hutcheson Ferry Road, Banning Road, Bear Creek Road, Pope Road, Fortenberry Road, Traylor Road, Simms Road, Woods Road, Gardner Road, Old Roanoke Road, Sand Hill Lane, Agape Road, Jackson Road and West Carroll Road. In addition, construction is underway along Hwy. 27 South and is planned along Astin Creek Road. These remaining waterlines should be completed by September 2018. The majority of the waterlines are 6-inch or larger in diameter and will provide safe and reliable water service as well as improved fire protection to the surrounding areas. These two projects account for over 14 miles of new water main within our distribution system and a total investment of approximately \$2.4 million.

## Why this report?

CCWA is committed to delivering water that meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. Federal regulations require all public water systems to provide annual reports to customers on the quality of their drinking water by July 1st of each year. In 2017, CCWA met all state and federal water quality regulations.

## Is my water safe?

**YES.** In fact, last year, CCWA and its suppliers conducted more than 8,000 tests for over 100 compounds, only 12 of which were detected, and none were greater than the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality and lists only the constituents that were present in the water supplies. Included are details about what your water contains and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

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. CCWA 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 by an independent lab. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Why are there contaminants?

As this report indicates, technological advances allow CCWA to treat and reliably deliver water of exceedingly high quality to all of our customers. Nevertheless, due to technological limits, 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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Do I need to take special precautions?

The average person does not need to take special precautions. However, 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. USEPA / 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 Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## We welcome your questions.

If you are interested in learning more about the Carroll County Water Authority, and how we deliver safe water to your home, please feel free to contact us.

## For more information, please contact:

### Carroll County Water Authority

556 Old Bremen Road, Carrollton, GA 30117

Phone: 770.832.1277

Matt Windom, P.E. - Executive Director

## Monthly Board Meetings

Our Board meets the third Thursday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., at our office on Old Bremen Road. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Learn more about Carroll County Water Authority at:

[www.ccwageorgia.com](http://www.ccwageorgia.com)

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# CCWA WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE - 2017

## DETECTED CONTAMINANTS SUMMARY - YEAR SAMPLED 2017

The table below lists drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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 CCWA to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. GA EPD reduced the monitoring requirements for synthetic organic contaminants (SOC) because CCWA's source waters for potable treatment are not at a risk of contamination. All data presented are from the most recent testing done according to the regulations.

## IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

**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 - 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.

**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.

**MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.

## UNITS DESCRIPTION

**NA:** Not applicable      **ND:** Not detected      **NR:** Not reported

**ppm:** parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**ppb:** parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

**MNR:** Monitoring not required, but recommended

**AL - Regulatory Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow

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

**% of monthly positive samples:** Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive

CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	MCLG	MCL	CCWA VALUE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	HEALTH EFFECTS
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.72	0.44-2.13	No	Disinfectant to control microbial contaminants	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose and experience stomach discomfort.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.69	0.25-0.87	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.23	0.0-1.70	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Turbidity (NTU)	0	TT	0.07	0.02-0.25	No	Soil runoff	Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (ppm)	0	TT	1.48	1.3-1.7	No	Naturally present in the environment	TOC has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-product which includes THMs, HAAs. Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.
<b>MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Total Coliform Detections	NA	TT	0	0 - 0	No	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.
E. Coli Detections	0	1	0	0 - 0	No	Human or Fecal Waste	Fecal Coliforms and E.coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
<b>UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	MNR	MNR	5.5	7.3-9.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	See Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	MNR	MNR	0.9	0.0-1.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	See Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
Chloroform (ppb)	MNR	MNR	27	25-43	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	See Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
<b>VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM] (ppb)	0	80	38.1	19.2-73.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic Acids [HHA5] (ppb)	0	60	20.5	15.8-50.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
<b>LEAD AND COPPER (2016)</b>							
	MCLG	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> %	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	HEALTH EFFECTS
Lead (ppb)(90th Percentile)	0	15	2.6	0-2.6	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Copper (ppm)(90th Percentile)	0	1.3	0.2	0.01-0.2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the AL over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress and over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Water purchased during 2016 from wholesale connections: City of Carrollton, Douglasville/ Douglas County WSA, and Haralson County. Water purchased during 2017 from wholesale connections; City of Carrollton. The Contaminants listed are including those reported by these wholesale suppliers.