

2002 Water Quality Report



Carroll County Water Authority

Who provides my water?

You are a customer of the Carroll County Water Authority. We take the responsibility of distributing water to you in a manner safe to our families and the environment very seriously. The Water Authority produces water and purchases water from four different municipalities and delivers water in its distribution system to more than 13,000 customer accounts, serving nearly 35,000 people in the Water Authority service area (with only 30 employees). The Water Authority is a self-funding agency, and receives no tax revenues from Carroll County government.

Where does my water come from?

In the year 2001, your drinking water came from one of five municipal sources:

- Carroll County Water Authority Water Production Facilities. By June of 2001, the Water Authority brought on-line its Snake Creek Water Treatment Plant, the Abilene Well, and the Lake Paradise Well.
- Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority (Douglas County). In the first half of 2001, the eastern portion of the service area was served by water from the Douglas County water treatment plant, whose water source is the Dog River Reservoir.
- City of Carrollton. The central portion of the service area was served by water from the City of Carrollton water treatment plant, whose water source is the Little Tallapoosa River, as well as Lake Buckhorn, the Sharpe Creek Reservoir, and Lake Carroll.
- Heard County Water Authority (Heard County). The southern portion of the service area was served by water from the Heard County water treatment plant, whose water source is Centralhatchee Creek.
- City of Bowdon. The northwestern portion of the service area was served from the City of Bowdon water treatment plant, whose water source is Lake Tysinger.

In 2001, the average daily flow in the Water Authority system was 2.90 million gallons per day (mgd), which remained steady from year 2000 average daily flows, due to watering restrictions. In the second half of 2001, the Water Authority was producing nearly 70% of the drinking water in the system, and was purchasing the remaining 30% from the City of Bowdon, the City of Carrollton, and Heard County. By the end of 2001, water was not purchased from Douglas County.

In 2001, the Water Authority began treated water production at its new water treatment plant, utilizing a temporary intake on Snake Creek. In July of 2002, the Water Authority is expecting to receive a permit to withdraw from the new permanent intake at the Snake Creek reservoir. The Water

Authority also brought two water supply wells into the system in 2001, and another in early 2002. After construction of water transmission main improvements in the second half of 2002, the Water Authority will be able to supply all of the treated water to its customers from Water Authority water production facilities. Connections to other municipal supplies will remain for emergency purposes. The graph on the next page shows the timeline as the Water Authority transitions from a water purchaser to a water producer.

What is the Water Authority doing?

The Water Authority is committed to providing safe, reliable water supply to residents and businesses in Carroll County. The Water Authority has been in the process of developing its own drinking water source on Snake Creek (in southeastern Carroll County) for the past 12 years. Project construction began in May of 2000, and is nearing completion. The project includes a 650-acre reservoir, and a 4-mgd water treatment facility. The Water Authority is also successfully developing groundwater supply in the area, to fully maximize every resource available. Highlights of the drinking water supply projects are as follows:

- The 650-acre Snake Creek Reservoir is constructed, is currently filling with water, and is within 8-feet of the full pool water level. The reservoir is expected to be filled to full pool later this year.
- The Snake Creek Water Treatment Plant began treated water production on June 1, 2001, producing 2.0-mgd, utilizing a temporary intake on Snake Creek. The plant as constructed, can treat 4.0-mgd.
- Construction on the permanent raw water intake is now complete, and the Water Authority expects to receive a 4.0-mgd withdrawal permit in early July 2002.
- The Abilene Well began full production in May 2001. Its treated water capacity is 0.53-mgd.
- The Lake Paradise Well began full production in May 2001. Its treated water capacity is 0.12-mgd.
- The Bethesda Church Road Well began full production in March 2002. Its treated water capacity is 0.10-mgd.

In addition to drinking water source development, later this summer, the Water Authority will begin construction on nearly 14 miles of 16, 12, and 10-inch water transmission mains to help distribute water to the areas not yet served by Water Authority supply facilities. Also, each year, the Water Authority adds at least 7 miles of new distribution piping, to serve additional areas of the County, and to improve existing service.

The Water Authority is planning for the next 50 years, both in water supply, treatment, and distribution.

Why this report?

The Carroll County Water Authority is committed to delivering to you, 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. This is the second of these annual reports. Reports will be made available to you by July 1st of each year.

Is my water safe?

Yes. In fact, last year, the Water Authority and its suppliers conducted more than 20,000 tests for over 105 compounds. In these 20,000 tests, only 13 of those constituents were detected, and only 5 tests found levels higher than the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows. As per the EPA guidelines, all testing that exceeded the action level were resampled and were not found in subsequent sampling. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality, and lists only the 13 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.

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. 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 Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Why are there contaminants?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some chemical contaminants. The EPA sets limits for the compounds that can be present in drinking water. When there are contaminants, the EPA has set treatment methods to reduce them to levels that protect human health. 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 (800-426-4791).

Water Purchase and Production Timeline

