



# 2021 Water Quality Report

Catoosa Utility District Authority

**Serving Unincorporated Catoosa County  
and Surrounding Areas**

**April 11, 2022**

## **Our Mission**

We are dedicated to producing drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards. We are routinely adopting new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. While new challenges do emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, conservation, and community education when serving our customers.

## **Community Participation**

You are invited to participate in our public forum. The Board of Commissioners meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, beginning at 8:30 AM at the Catoosa Utility Office located at 1058 Old Mill Road, Ringgold, GA.

## **Lead in Home Plumbing**

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. Catoosa Utility is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Flushing your tap for 30 seconds up to two minutes before use can help minimize the potential for lead exposure when water has been sitting for several hours. If you have concerns about lead contamination, 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Source Water Assessment

Catoosa Utility District Authority (CUDA) draws water from Yates Spring. CUDA's goal is to ensure our water is protected from contamination. CUDA has developed a source water assessment plan. Also, Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has completed a Well Head Protection Plan for identifying different sources of pollution that could affect the Yates Springs. Some sources of pollution are electrical poles, transformers, stormwater runoff, agricultural fields, and petroleum pipelines. Both plan documents are available for viewing at CUDA's main office at 1058 Old Mill Road, Ringgold, GA. If you would like to view these documents, please call our main office at (706) 937-4121 before you visit so a staff member will be available to view the documents with you and answer any questions you may have. CUDA takes all precautions to ensure your source water remains free of pollution. Both Tennessee America Water Company and Eastside Utility District have also developed a source water assessment plan.

Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible (high), moderately susceptible (moderate), or slightly susceptible (low), based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Both TAWC and EUD have been rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination. For information on these ratings, you can contact TAWC at (866) 736-6420, and EUD at (423) 892-2890.

## **Important Health Information**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those 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 <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

## **Where Does Our Water Come From?**

Catoosa Utility provides water to customers from Yates Spring. This source is a clean and pure groundwater source. A groundwater source means it is not exposed to air and is not subject to direct pollution or contamination like a river or reservoir. Groundwater is the safest and highest-quality water available and is delivered to you directly from the source. On average we deliver 5 to 6.5 million gallons of water to customers daily. We add, as required, only chlorine at 1.5 ppm and fluoride at 0.85 ppm. Chlorine is added as a precaution against any potential bacterial presence. Fluoride is added to help strengthen teeth.

## **Other Sources**

Issues such as high demand, extreme drought or emergencies could have negative consequences for Yates Spring. On these occasions, Catoosa Utility could purchase water from Tennessee American Water Company (TAWC) and Eastside Utility District (EUD). Both utilities pull surface water from the Tennessee River. These companies must meet or exceed the same strict quality regulations and requirements. You can view the complete Consumer Confidence Reports for TAWC and EUD at the links below.

<https://www.amwater.com/ccr/chattanooga.pdf>

<https://www.eastsideutility.com/water-quality-report>

## Potential Substances in Water

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the US EPA prescribes regulation limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by a public water system. UD FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily mean the water poses a health risk.

Drinking water sources include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material and substances brought about by human and animal activity.

Potential Substances Include:

Microbial Contaminants: Sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural operations, or wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants: Salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or a result of urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil, gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides or Herbicides: results of agricultural activities, storm water runoff, and septic systems

Organic Chemical Contaminants: By-products of industrial processes and petroleum production contain synthetic and volatile organic chemicals. These could also be a result of gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems

Radioactive Contaminants: naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining operations

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the US EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426- 4791.

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Test Results

Our water is monitored for many kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. Also, water we deliver must meet specific health standards. With this report we show you the substances detected in our water. A complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request. It is important to remember the detection of a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink. Our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowances.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included noting the year the sample was taken.

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> System complies for the E. coli MCL unless it has an E. coli- positive repeat sample, a total-coliform-positive repeat sample for an E. coli positive routine sample, the system fails to collect all required routine samples, or the system fails to test all positive total coliform samples for E. coli.

<sup>2</sup> The value reported under Amount Detected for TOC is the lowest ratio between the percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than 1 indicates the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than 1 indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements

<sup>3</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of disinfectants

<sup>4</sup> Eastside samples taken in 2020

<sup>5</sup> Sampling was performed between May 2019 and March 2020

## REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCES (UNIT OF MEASURE)		Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Catoosa Utility District Authority		Eastside Utility District		Tennessee American Water		Violation	Typical Source
					Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Amount Detected	Range Low-High		
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L) Barium (ppm)		2021	15	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	<2.72	<2.72 - <2.72	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
		2021	2	2	0.068	0.06-0.08	NA	NA	NA	NA	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters (pCi/L) Chlorine (ppm)		2021	50	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	<2.04	<2.04 <2.04	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
		2021	[4]	[4]	1.52	1.40 - 1.68	1.69	0.61 - 2.31	1.5	0.51 - 2.35	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
<i>E. coli</i> (# positive samples) Flouride (ppm)		2021	See fodnote 1	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NO	Naturally present in the environment
		2021	4	4	0.74	0.72 - 0.76	0.7	0.57 - 0.74	0.71	0.67 - 0.76	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] - Stage 2 (ppb) Nitrate (ppm)		2021	60	NA	12.51	0 - 20.3	19.1	9.10 - 29.20	30.9	10.3 - 38.0	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		2021	10	10	0.82	0.88 - 0.86	0.383	0.383	0.34	0.10 - 0.34	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tank, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] - stage 2 (ppb) Total Coliforms Bacteria (# positive samples)		2021	80	NA	26.08	1.17 - 41.9	38.65	16.50 - 43.60	59.9	22.4 - 83.8	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		2021	TT	NA	0	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) <sup>2</sup> (ppm) Turbidity <sup>3</sup> (NTU)		2021	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.9255	0.792 - 1.02	NA	0.221 - 0.419	NO	Naturally present in the environment
		2021	TT	NA	0.1	0.04 - 0.25	0.06	0.02 - 0.06	0.13	0.02 - 0.13	NO	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)		2021	TT	NA	NA	NA	100%	NA	100%	NA	NO	Soil runoff

### TAP WATER SAMPLES COLLECTED FOR LEAD AND COPPER ANALYSES FROM SAMPLE SITES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY

SUBSTANCES (UNIT OF MEASURE)		Year Sampled	AL	MCLG	Catoosa Utility District Authority		Eastside Utility District		Tennessee American Water		Violation	Typical Source
					Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Sites Above AL/ Total Sites	Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Sites Above AL/ Total Sites	Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Sites Above AL/ Total Sites		
Copper (ppm) <sup>4</sup> Lead (ppb) <sup>4</sup>		2019	1.3	1.3	0.21	0/30	0.175	0/30	0.108	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
		2019	15	0	4.3	1/30	< 2.00	0/ 30	1	0	NO	

## UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCES (UNIT OF MEASURE)		Year Sampled	Eastside Utility District		Tennessee American Water		Typical Source
			Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Range Low-High	Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Range Low-High	
Sodium (ppm)		2020	5.72	5.72 - 5.72	8.1	7.5 - 8.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Used in water treatment



We participated in the 4th stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contamination monitoring data are available to the public by contacting our office. If you would like more information on the UCMR4, call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 423-4791.

The first round of UCMR4 sampling started in May 2019. The last quarter of sampling was performed in March 2020.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE PART 4 CATOOSA UTILITY DISTRICT AUTHORITY <sup>5</sup>			
SUBSTANCES (UNIT OF MEASURE)	Year Sampled	Amount Detected	Range Low-High
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	1.113	0.26 - 1.566
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	2.09	1.668 - 2.81
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	0.405	0.249 - 0.676
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	4.87	0.566 - 6.867
Manganese (ppb)	2020	1.737	0 - 1.737
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	7.799	7.135 - 8.67

Catoosa Utility District Authority UCMR4 Sampling Results



## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is necessary. Every five years, the EPA issues a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored. For additional information call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426- 4791.

ADDITIONAL WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS OF INTEREST					
Parameter	Units	Years	Average Result	Range Detected	Typical Source
Bromochloroacetic Acid	ppb	2018, 2019	2.1	0.8 to 3.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloroacetic acid	ppb	2018, 2019	2.8	1.5 to 4.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromoacetic acid	ppb	2018, 2019	0.08	<0.3 to 0.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromoacetic Acid	ppb	2018, 2019	0.05	<0.3 to 0.47	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dichloroacetic Acid	ppb	2018, 2019	8.9	3.6 to 15	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Monobromoacetic Acid	ppb	2018, 2019	0.04	<0.3 to 0.32	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	2018, 2019	23	11 to 38	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids - Br	ppb	2018, 2019	5.1	2.7 to 7.9	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids-UCMR4	ppb	2018, 2019	28	13 to 45	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trichloroacetic Acid	ppb	2018, 2019	13.5	7.1 to 23.0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Manganese	ppb	2018, 2019	0.6	<0.4 to 1.5	Naturally-occurring elemental metal largely used in aluminum alloy production. Essential dietary element

Haloacetic acids test were performed on water in the distribution system.

Manganese test was performed on effluent water leaving the treatment plant and has a Secondary MCL of 50 ppb..

## PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES

UNREGULATED PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS					
Parameter	Units	Year	Average Result	Range Detected	Typical Source
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	ppt	2021	3.3	3.3	Manufactured chemical(s); used in household goods for stain, grease, heat and water resistance
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)	ppt	2021	3.2	3.2	
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	ppt	2021	10.7	10.7	
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	ppt	2021	6.7	6.7	

Unregulated perfluorinated compounds (a class of synthetic chemicals) voluntary sampling was conducted to better understand certain occurrences of PFAS levels in drinking water sources. The non-enforceable Health Advisory Level set by USEPA is 70 nanograms per liter or parts per trillion for a combination of two PFAS compounds, PFOA and PFOS.

## Definitions for Test Result Information

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements that a water system must follow.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHNs and HAAs are reported as the highest LRAAs.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant 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 a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs all for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence the addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. Does not reflect the benefits of using disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not Detected): Substance not found by lab analysis

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.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity

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.

### **Questions?**

If you have questions about your drinking water or would like a hard copy of this report, please contact our office at 706-937-4121.

Matt Shoemaker, Water Plant Manager and Lab Analyst

Dennis Faulkenberry, Water Plant Operator and Lab Analyst

David Collett, General Manager



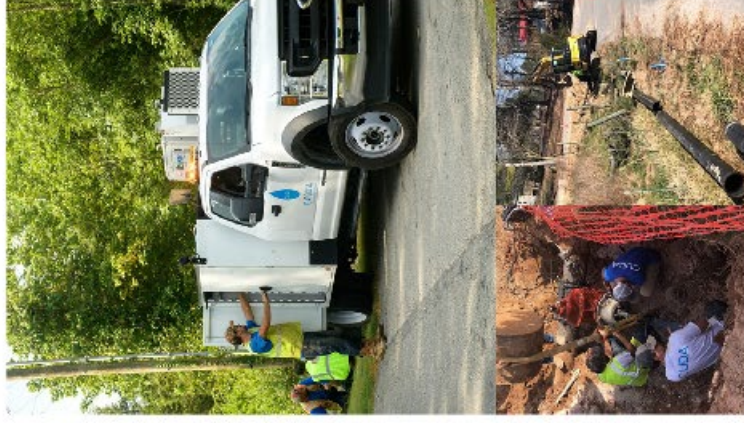
# 2021 AT A GLANCE



## SERVICE AREA

### WATER SERVICE COVERAGE

Catoosa Utility covers 148 square miles of Unincorporated Catoosa County and surrounding areas.



## WATER USAGE

### WHOLESALE AND INDIVIDUAL

In 2021, 1.39 billion gallons of water were provided to residents and businesses.

54.8 million gallons were sold to City of Ringgold, City of Lafayette, and Dalton Utilities.



## CAPITAL PROJECTS

### SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

\$2.28 Million invested in capital projects to replace close to five miles of aging water lines, provide service reliability and increase fire protection.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### WATER DISTRIBUTION

Catoosa Utility has approximately 560 miles of main line pipe to provide water service to over 21,000 service meters. The Utility also maintains over 2,200 fire hydrants across the service area.



## **Board of Commissioners**

Randall Crawford - Chairman

Greg Beasley - Vice Chairman

Richard Dycus

David Turner

Jena Grant

## **Upcoming Improvements**

- Cinderella Hills
- Yates Springs Road



**Credits: CDC, US-EPA, US-FDA, Georgia EPD**