



CATOOSA
UTILITY DISTRICT AUTHORITY

2020 Water Quality Report



Our Mission

We are pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please remember we are always available to answer questions or concerns about your water.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday each month, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Catoosa Utility's Office located at 1058 Old Mill Road, Ringgold, Georgia. Call (706) 937-4121 for more information.

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.



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 My Water Come From?

Catoosa Utility District Authority (CUDA) provides water to its customers from Yates Spring. Our customers are very fortunate to have a clean and pure supply of drinking water. Our water supply is a groundwater source, which means it is not exposed to air and is not subject to direct pollution and contamination like a river or reservoir. In fact, because groundwater is the safest and highest-quality water available to meet the public demand of water intended for human consumption, we are able to provide you with water directly from the source.

Throughout the distribution system, we add only, as required, chlorine at 1.5 ppm and fluoride at about 0.85 ppm. Chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria potentially present, and fluoride is added to help strengthen teeth. Demand for good, clean water is high. On average, we provide approximately 5 to 6.5 million gallons of water a day to customers.

A natural spring like Yates Spring could be vulnerable to underground contaminants and potential underground changes. CUDA is well aware of the importance of high quality drinking water and risks associated with our drinking water source. Consequently, CUDA takes every precaution to protect our water from being contaminated. On occasions such as extremely high demand, drought, or emergencies, CUDA purchases water from Tennessee American Water Company (TAWC) and Eastside Utility District (EUD). Both draw surface water from the Tennessee River. We assure you these companies meet or exceed the same strict quality regulations and requirements as we do.

If you have any questions or concerns about their water, you can find their full reports at:

www.eastsideutility.com/water-quality-report

www.amwater.com/ccr/chattanooga.pdf



Potential Substances in Water

To ensure the tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulation limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration 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 indicate the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Potential substances present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 agriculture, urban stormwater, runoff, and septic systems;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call **Matt Shoemaker**, Water Plant Manager and Laboratory Analyst, or **Dennis Faulkenberry**, Water Plant Operator and Laboratory Analyst, or **David Collett**, General Manager at (706) 937-4121.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. Also, the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we show only those substances detected in our water. A complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request. Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

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

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.

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)	2020	15	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	<2.72	<2.72 - <2.72	NO	Erosion of natural depos-
Barium (ppm)	2020	2	2	0.08	0.08-0.08	NA	NA	NA	NA	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters (pCi/L)	2020	50	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	<2.04	<2.04 <2.04	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	[4]	[4]	1.46	1.35-1.62	1.67	0.80 - 2.13	1.52	0.62 - 2.19	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
E. coli (# positive samples)	2020	See footnote 1	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	4	4	0.73	0.72 - 0.76	0.72	0.60 - 0.83	0.71	0.69 - 0.75	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Halo acetic Acids [HAAs] - Stage 2 (ppb)	2020	60	NA	10.79	0 - 16.375	19.05	12.10 - 23.10	27.7	12.5 - 32.9	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	10	10	0.86	0.86 - 0.86	0.39	0.39	0.44	0.21 - 0.44	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tank, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] - stage 2 (ppb)	2020	80	NA	23.8	1.575 - 41.625	40.23	24.00 - 55.20	51.7	32.4 - 71.7	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliforms Bacteria (# positive samples)	2020	TT	NA	0	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) ² (ppm)	2020	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.909	0.752 - 1.07	1.09	0.992 - 1.19	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity ³ (NTU)	2020	TT	NA	0.12	0.05 - 0.24	0.22	0.02 - 0.22	0.14	0.03 - 0.14	NO	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2020	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) ⁴	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
Lead (ppb) ⁴	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 %)	Range Low-High	Amount Detected (90th %ILE)	Range Low-High	
Sodium (ppm)	2020	3.46	3.46 - 3.46	7.2	6.3 - 8.0	Erosion of natural deposits; Used in water treatment

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE PART 4 - CATOOSA UTILITY DISTRICT AUTHORITY

SUBSTANCES (UNIT OF MEASURE)	Year Sampled ⁵	Amount Detected	Range Low-High
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019-2020	1.113	0.26 - 1.566
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019-2020	2.09	1.668 - 2.81
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2019-2020	0.405	0.249 - 0.676
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019-2020	4.87	0.566 - 6.867
Manganese (ppb)	2019-2020	1.737	0 - 1.737
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2019-2020	7.799	7.135 - 8.67

¹System is in compliance 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.

²The 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

³Turbidity 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

⁴Eastside samples taken in 2020

⁵Sampling was performed between May 2019 and March 2020

DEFINITIONS

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 in 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.