



## 2024 Water Quality Report for The City of Swainsboro Water System ID: GA1070005

### Dear City of Swainsboro Water Customers

We are pleased to present the 2024 Water Quality Report. The data presented in this report is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2024. We are required by law to publish this assurance report annually via newspaper in order for our customers to stay informed about the quality of the water you are consuming.

### Your Water is Safe to Drink

We are pleased to report that we conducted more than 125 tests for over 160 drinking water contaminants and detected only 5 contaminants. These contaminant levels did not reach the Maximum Contaminant Level set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and did not affect the water quality. Your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to EPA standards. We are committed to providing you with the information

because we want you to be informed. For more information about your water, call 478-237-6738 and our Clearwater Solutions staff will be glad to help you.

### Special Population Advisory

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/Center for Disease Control guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.

### Drinking Water Sources

Your water comes from ground water wells located throughout the City of Swainsboro. Wellhead protection program information for the Swainsboro wells can be obtained from CWS, 574 Industrial Way, Swainsboro, GA 30401. An assessment was done to determine Potential Pollution Sources (PPS) within the City's system. Sources include: electrical transformers, utility poles, vehicle parking areas, sewer lines, roads, railroad tracks, abandoned wells, diesel generators, dumpsters, abandoned vehicles, industrial facilities, and water treatment facilities.

### Public Participation Opportunities

Your City Council meets monthly at Swainsboro City Hall. Contact City Hall at 478-237-7025 to obtain the dates for these meetings. Please feel free to participate. Please feel free to participate in these meetings and find out about your drinking water.

### Contaminants in Water

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 800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- *Pesticides & herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential use.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

### Water Quality Monitoring

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.



### Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### Lead-Specific Information

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. The City of Swainsboro 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 is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



### Water Quality Data

The table in this report lists all the drinking water contaminants we detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these 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 January 1 through December 31, 2024. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Substance	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination	
<b>Residual Disinfectants</b> (There is convincing evidence that that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	1.0	1 - 1	2024	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.18	0.16 – 0.18	2024	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.56	0 – 0.56	2024	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
<b>Lead and Copper</b>								
Definitions: Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety. Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	10/20/2022	1.3	1.3	0.095	0	Ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

### SWA = Source Water Assessment

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
EAST MAIN/FORTUNE LOOP WELL #7	GW	<u>Off Line</u>	<u>East Main and Fortune Loop</u>
ELECTRIC DR/SOUTH CIRCLE DR WELL #5	GW	<u>On Line</u>	<u>South Circle and Electric Drive</u>
EMPIRE EXPRSS WAY 'WELL #8	GW	<u>On Line</u>	<u>Empire Expressway</u>
INDUSTRIAL WAY/S CIRCLE DR WELL #6	GW	<u>On Line</u>	<u>South Circle Drive and Industrial Way</u>
KITE RD/HWY 57 WELL #4	GW	<u>On Line</u>	<u>Kite Rd and HWY 57</u>
RENTZ ST/HILL ST WELL #9	GW	<u>On Line</u>	<u>Rentz St and Hill Street</u>

## Violations Table

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)			
The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E. coli. E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE, MINOR (RTCR)	01/01/2024	01/31/2024	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

### Terms & Abbreviations

- AL - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.
- MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- MRDLG - Maximum residual disinfectant level goal, or the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- ND – Not detectable at testing limit.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - explained as a relation to time or money as one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – explained as a relation to time or money as one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- RAA- Running Annual Average
- Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.