CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK

Annual Water Quality Report for 2023

PWS ID: GA1210007

A Message From Your CCR Preparer

Dear Community,

This is your annual report about your drinking water quality, also called a Consumer Confidence Report or CCR. Having clean, safe water is one of the most important services we provide, and we want you to be as informed as possible about your drinking water.

This report is intended to provide peace of mind and confidence in your drinking water. Here we explain where your water comes from, the results of the sampling that we have performed, and what we are doing to protect you and your family. We are proud to report that the water we provide to you has met all federal and state requirements in 2023.

If upon reading this report, you have any questions, or don’t feel that peace of mind, please reach out. You may contact us at 770-993-4231 and city.clerk@mountainparkgov.com.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Zalokar
118 Lakeshore Drive
Roswell, GA 30075
www.mountainparkgov.com

About Your Water

Where Your Drinking Water Comes From

Most drinking water in the United States comes from a river, a lake, or from an underground well. You are a customer of the Mountain Park Water System. We distribute treated water to you and collect wastewater in a manner safe for your family and to the environment. The City of Mountain Park purchases water from Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA), a utility providing treated drinking water on a wholesale basis to other cities and counties in the region. The water that the Cobb County – Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) provides to its wholesale customers comes from two surface water sources. The Wyckoff Water Treatment Plant is supplied from Allatoona Lake, a Corps of Engineers impoundment in north Cobb, south Cherokee and south Bartow counties. The Quarles Water Treatment Plant receives water from the Chattahoochee River south of the Morgan Falls Reservoir in east Cobb County.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment plan was prepared for CCMWA by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. Its purpose is assessing the sources and determining the risk for potential pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The most recent one, completed in 2020, is a very comprehensive 95-page document. If you would like more information about the assessment view it here: https://www.ccmwa.org/reports on the CCMWA website. The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District integrated Plan for Atlanta's Water Resources is available online here: https://northgeorgiawater.org/plans-manuals/.

What Is in Your Drinking Water

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which 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 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 at 800-426-4791.

Not All Substances in the Water Have Official Health Limits

In this report, we share the data for all the substances we monitor as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The law doesn’t specify a limit for every potential substance that could be found in the water, so the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is constantly studying new potential pollutants (they call them unregulated contaminants) to determine what their affects are on our health, and at what levels, to determine where to set limits for them.

Sampling and Testing

We take samples across our water system. We’re looking for bacteria, metals, and chemicals to make sure the water continues to be safe to drink.

Bacteria

We look for bacteria regularly, as required by law, and there are 3 locations in the water system where we take samples for analysis. More thorough testing, evaluation, and action is required if bacteria is found in even a small percentage of tests.

Disinfection by-products (Trihalomethane (THM) or Haloacetic Acids (HAA))

4 times per year we look for byproducts of the disinfection process. When chlorine, the disinfectant we use to protect against the water of bacteria and viruses, starts to break down in the water, it can form new compounds. These compounds, trihalomethanes (THM) and haloacetic acid (HAA), have been known to cause cancer at high levels. The legal limit for drinking water is 80 parts per billion and 60 parts per billion respectively. We test for these compounds at 2 different locations in the water system.

Lead and Copper

We take water samples from 3 different homes in our system every 3 years to test them for lead and copper. More information about lead and copper can be found on the pages below.

Cryptosporidium- CCMWA was not required to monitor for Crypto in 2023

Cryptosporidiosis or “Crypto” is a disease that causes mild to severe diarrhea. It comes from a microscopic parasite, Cryptosporidium, that can live in the intestine of humans and animals and be passed in the stool of an infected person or animal. The parasite is protected by an outer shell, an oocyst, that allows it to survive outside the body for long periods of time. This makes it very resistant to the type of disinfectant we use to clean the water. During the past two decades, Crypto has become recognized as one of the most common causes of waterborne disease (recreational water and drinking water) in humans in the United States. The parasite is found in every region of the United States and throughout the world.

There are currently no accurate ways for detecting Crypto in the water supply at the very low levels that cause sickness. Therefore, EPA does not require testing for the Crypto parasite unless concentrations in the water before treatment exceed 10 oocysts per liter.

Symptoms of a Crypto infection include nausea, diarrhea, and stomach cramps. Most healthy people are able to recover from the disease within a few weeks. However, some immuno-compromised people (such as those with AIDS, undergoing chemotherapy or recent organ transplant recipients) are at a greater risk of developing a severe, life-threatening illness. Immuno-compromised persons should contact their doctor to learn about appropriate precautions to prevent infection.

Your Water Meets All Standards

In the tables listed below, you will find all the substances that we detected in your drinking water in 2023. Every contaminant regulated by EPA that was detected in the water, even at trace levels, is listed here.

Disinfection By-products, By-product Precursors and Disinfectant Residuals

Chemical Detected	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
TTHMs	2023	ppb	80	0	**62.8** Highest LRAA at site 502	**31.8 – 62.8**	By-products of drinking water disinfection	No
HAAs	2023	ppb	60	0	**29.0** Highest LRAA at site 501	**26.5 – 29.0**	By-products of drinking water disinfection	No
TOC	2023	ppm	TT	n/a	2.1	0.9 - 2.10	Decay of organic matter in the water withdrawn from sources such as lakes and streams	No
Chlorite	2023	ppm	1.0	0.8	0.33	0.021 – 0.33	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	No
Chlorine Free	2023	ppm	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	2.10	0.00– 2.10	Drinking water disinfectant	No

TTHMs - Total Trihalomethanes
THAAs - Total Haloacetic Acids
TOC – Total Organic Carbon
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.
PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

Turbidity – A Measure of Clarity (Tested at Wyckoff and Quarles Water Treatment Plants).

Item Detected	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical source
Turbidity	TT = 1 NTU	0	0.09	n/a	2023	NO	Soil runoff
	TT = percentage of samples <0.3 NTU		100%	n/a			

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. Measurements are given in nephelometric turbidity units.
Turbidity - the measure of cloudiness of the water and has no health effects. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Lead and Copper – Tested throughout the consecutive system. Starting in 2025, testing will be done every year for the next couple of years. Most recent tests were done in 2023.

Item Detected	Date Tested	Unit	AL	MCLG	90th % Level	# Of Samples Exceeding the AL	Major Sources	Violation
Lead[1]	2023	ppb	15	0	1.9	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper[2]	2023	ppm	1.3	0	0.054	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives	NO

[1]The next round of testing is due in 2025.
[2]The next round of testing is due in 2025.

90th percentile = # of samples taken x 0.9. Therefore, the sample result from the 45th highest sample is the 90th% result.
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The goal level of a pollutant in drinking water. Below this amount, there is no known or expected health effect.
PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) – Consist of salts, metals and other inorganics

Chemicals Detected	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Result	Range of Test Results for the Year	Violation	Major Sources
Fluoride	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.78 ppm	0.50 – 0.78 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate/Nitrite[2]	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.67 ppm	0.28 – 0.67 ppm	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits

[1]EPA has a recommended non-enforceable Secondary Maximum Contaminant (SMCL) level for Aluminum based on aesthetics.
[2]Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as N.

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The goal level of a pollutant in drinking water. Below this amount, there is no known or expected health effect.
PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
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CCMWA had no detections of Total Coliform or E. coli in 2023.
City of Mountain Park had no detections of Total Coliform or E. coli in 2023.

Item Detected	MCL	MCLG	TT Level 1 Assessment Trigger	Level Detected	Sample Dates	Violation	Likely Source
Total Coliform	none	none	2 or more TC+ samples in a month	0	Jan-Dec 2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	One Positive Sample*	0	n/a	0	Jan-Dec 2023	No	Human or animal fecal waste

** A PWS will receive an E. coli MCL violation when there is any combination of an EC+ sample result with a routine/repeat TC+ or EC+ sample result*

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, we sometimes also monitor for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits or MCLs for drinking water.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The meaning of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring 2023 at both Wyckoff and Quarles Water Treatment Plants

Unregulated Contaminants PFAS	Date	Highest Detected Level PPT	Range	Sources of Contaminant in Drinking Water
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	2023	2.8	2.8 - 2.1	PFOAs come from a wide range of consumer products, stain-resistant carpet, water-repellent clothes, paper and cardboard packaging, ski wax, and foams used to fight fires. PFOA is also created when other chemicals break down.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	2023	2.4	2.6 - Not Detected	PFOSs can still be found in older consumer products in which it was used before phase-out. PFOA is used in household goods including non-stick coatings like Gore-Tex or cookware (think Teflon), or in carpet and furniture that have been treated to be stain resistant.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	2023	4.2	4.2 - 2.0	PFBS is the replacement chemical for Scotch guard water repellant. It has been used as a surfactant in industrial processes and in water-resistant or stain-resistant coatings on consumer products such as fabrics, carpets, and paper.
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	2023	3.9	3.9 - 2.0	PFBA is a breakdown product of other PFAS used in stain-resistant fabrics, paper food packing, and carpets. PFBA was also used for manufacturing photographic film.

Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	2023	3.1	3.2 – 2.5	PFPeA is a shorter chain chemical created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFPeS comes from a wide range of consumer products that are coated to provide water-resistance or stain-resistance
Perfluoroheptanesulfoic acid (PFHpS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFHpS comes from a wide range of consumer products that are coated to provide water-resistance or stain-resistance
Perfluorononanesulfonic acid (PFNS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFNS chemicals were used in the production of non-stick, stain repellent and chemically inert coatings
Perfluorodecanesulfonic acid (PFDS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFDS chemicals were used in the production of non-stick, stain repellent and chemically inert coatings
Perfluorododecanesulfonic acid (PFDoS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFDoS created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs used in a wide variety of consumer products
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (4:2FTS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	4:2FTS has been used in stain-resistant fabrics, fire-fighting foams, food packaging, and as a surfactant in industrial processes
1H, 1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (6:2FTS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	6:2FTS can functionalize gallium nitride (GaN) to tune the optical properties, which can potentially be used in chemical sensor based applications. It can modify the surface characteristics of copper substrates that find usage in printed circuit boards as copper foils
1H, 1H ,2H, 2H-perfluorodecanesulfonic acid (8:2FTS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	8:2FTS is an aliphatic compound for fluorinated surfactant synthesis. It can modify the surface characteristics of copper substrates that find usage in printed circuit boards as copper foils. It can also be coated on the indium tin oxide substrate, which may be utilized in organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs) and organic photovoltaics (OPVs).
Perfluorooctanesulfonamide (PFOSA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFOSA was an ingredient in 3M's former Scotchgard formulation. It was used to repel grease and water in food packaging [3] along with other consumer applications.
N-Methyl Perfluorooctane Sulfonamide (NMeFOSA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NMeFOSA chemicals were used in the production of non-stick, stain repellent and chemically inert coatings
N-ethylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonamide (N-NEtFOSA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NEtFOSA is a PreFOS, which is commonly known as sulfluramid (an insecticide used to control cockroaches, termites, and leaf-cutting ants) and surfactants, as well as intermediates in the synthesis of other PFASs.
N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NMeFOSAA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NMeFOSAA chemicals used in many consumer products
N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NEtFOSAA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NEtFOSAA created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs used in a wide variety of consumer products

2-(N-methylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonami do) ethanol (NMeFOSE)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NMeFOSE Alcohol used in many manufacturing applications such as Lithium-Ion batteries, apparel, building and construction, coatings, paints and varnishes, wood processing, production of other chemicals and many other uses.
2-(N-ethylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonamide o) ethanol (N EtFOSE)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	N EtFOSE created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs used in a wide variety of consumer products such as fire-fighting apparel and water-repellent clothes
Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFMP A created as a replacement chemical for PFOS used in a wide variety of consumer products
Perfluoro(4-methoxybutanoic acid) (PFMBA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFMBA is in a variety of consumer products
Nonafluoro) Perfluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	NFDHA is in a variety of consumer products
9-Chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic acid (9CL-PF3ONS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	9Cl-PF3ONS or F53B created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs and PFOS used in a wide variety of consumer products
11-Chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid (11CL-PF3OUdS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	11Cl-PF3OUdS created as a replacement chemical for PFOAs and PFOS used in a wide variety of consumer products
Perfluoro (2-ethoxyethane) sulfonic acid (PFEESA)	2023	Not detected	N/A	PFEESA is a specialty chemical used in various industries, including electronics, aerospace, and product surface treatment.
2H,2H,3H,3H-Perfluorohexanoic acid (3:3 FTCA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	3:3 FTCA is a shorter chain chemical created as a replacement chemical for PFOA and PFOSs
2H,2H,3H,3H-Perfluorooctanoic acid (5:3 FTCA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	5:3 FTCA is a shorter chain chemical created as a replacement chemical for PFOA and PFOSs
2H,2H,3H,3H-Perfluorodecanoic acid (7:3 FTCA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	7:3 FTCA is a shorter chain chemical created as a replacement chemical for PFOA and PFOSs
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFPeS comes from a wide range of consumer products that are coated to provide water-resistance or stain-resistance
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	Breakdown product of stain- and grease-proof coatings on food packaging, couches, carpets. A 7-carbon version of PFOA
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	Sources include firefighting foams, textile coating, metal plating and in polishing agents
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFNA is used as surfactant to produce the fluoropolymer polyvinylidene fluoride
Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFDA is a fluorosurfactant and has been used in industry, with applications as wetting agent and flame retardant.
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	2023	3.2	3.2 - 2.0	PFHxA is breakdown product of stain- and grease-proof coatings on food packaging and household products.

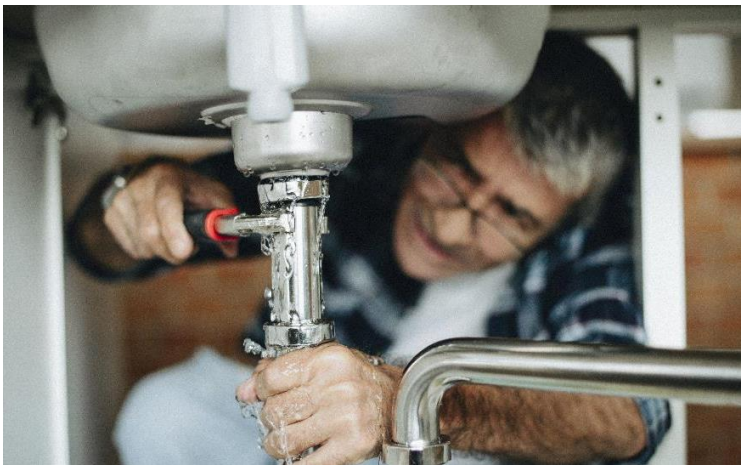
Perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFDoA is a product of stain- and grease-proof coatings on food packaging, soft furnishings and carpets.
Perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFTrDA is a product of stain- and grease-proof coatings on food packaging, soft furnishings and carpets
Perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	PFUnA is a product of stain- and grease-proof coatings on food packaging, soft furnishings and carpets.
Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA/GenX)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	HFPO-DA/GenX Sources include food packaging, paints, cleaning products, non-stick coatings, outdoor fabrics and firefighting foam.
4,8-dioxia-3H-perflourononanoic acid (ADONA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	Sources include food packaging, paints, cleaning products, non-stick coatings, outdoor fabrics and firefighting foam.
Perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTeDA)	2023	Not Detected	N/A	Sources include food packaging, paints, cleaning products, non-stick coatings, outdoor fabrics and firefighting foam.

PPT – Part Per Trillion = 1 drop of water in a lake six square acres or a single second out of 32,000 years
PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

Definitions

ACRONYMS	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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: This is the lowest amount of cleaning chemical drinking water should have, because it is the lowest amount needed to make sure bacteria and viruses can't live.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
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.
mg/L	Number of milligrams in one liter of water
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. Measurements are given in nephelometric turbidity units.
PPM	Part Per Million= 1 drop of water in a hot tub
PPB	Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
PPT	Part Per Trillion (ppt) = 1 drop of water in a lake that's 6 square acres

Your Role in Water Quality



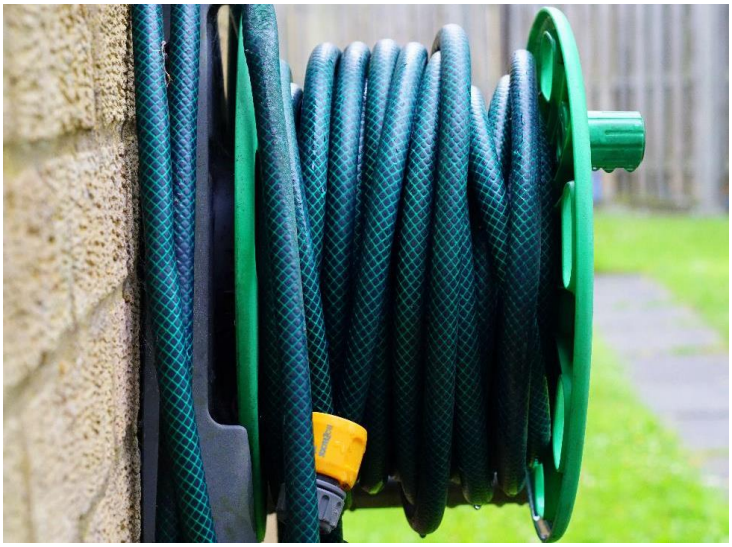
Check Your Home or Business' Plumbing for Lead and Copper

We work hard to provide high quality water when it arrives on your property. Once the water we provide passes through the meter on your property however, it is exposed to a whole new environment in your home that we have no control over. But you do.

Some of the things that can change the water quality on your property include your plumbing and pipe material, how long you go without running the water, and whether or how you connect outdoor hoses to your home's water supply. 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 Mountain Park is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the City of Mountain Park at 770-993-4231. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead (opens in a new window).

Run Water After Vacation

Another factor that affects water quality in your home is how "stale" the water is. When you leave your home or business for a long time, as you may when you take a vacation, the water in the pipes and plumbing doesn't move. When water has been sitting in the pipes for days, bacteria can grow, and if you have lead or copper plumbing, those metals can start to seep into the water. The best thing to do when you get back from being away after a long time is to run the water on full blast for 30 seconds to two minutes before using it for drinking or cooking. And always use cold water for cooking, to draw in fresh water from the outside.



Safely Connect Outdoor Hoses

A third factor that can influence water quality in your home are connections to your water outside your home. The outdoor spigot connection to a hose provides a potential way for pollutants to enter your plumbing. If you use the hose to spray chemicals on your yard by connecting the nozzle to a spray bottle, or if you have a sprinkler system connected, there is the potential for chemicals from the bottle or the lawn to be accidentally sucked back into your internal plumbing. To prevent this from happening, we recommend (and in some states it is the law) that you have a device installed to prevent that from happening.

Look Out for Special Populations

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/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 at 800-426-4791.

Additional Resources

- Information on lead in drinking water: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead (opens in a new window)
- Requirements of the Water Quality Report (also known as the Consumer Confidence Report): http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/201405/documents/guide_qrg_ccr_2011.pdf (opens in a new window)
- The Safe Drinking Water Act: www.epa.gov/sdwa (opens in a new window)
- CDC Guide to Understanding your CCR: http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/understanding_ccr.html (opens in a new window)
- American Water Works Association: http://www.awwa.org (opens in a new window)
- Water Environment Federation: http://www.wef.org (opens in a new window)
- Groundwater Information: https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis and http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/ (opens in a new window)