Water is a precious resource in Georgia and its neighboring states.

Growing populations and recurring drought conditions are squeezing our water resources dry, causing natural habitat degradation and impacting our everyday use of water. We have no choice but to pay more attention to how we are using water and how we may be wasting it. We must bridge the gap between our understanding of how important water is to our survival and what we can do to ensure that we have adequate supply of clean water for years to come.

Ways to Conserve Our Water Resources

THE TOILET: Check for leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. Consider purchasing a Low Flow Toilet.

THE SHOWER: Replace all shower heads with low flow fixtures and/or take shorter showers.

THE KITCHEN: Don't use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run to get a cool glass of water. Fully load automatic dishwashers, they use the same amount of water no matter how much is in them. When washing dishes by hand don't let the water run while washing.

WATERING THE LAWN: Don't over water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every 5 to 7 days in the summer. Water lawns during early morning hours when temperatures and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces losses from evaporation. Don't water the street, driveway or sidewalks. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not the paved areas. Don't leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn the water off.

LAWN CARE: Raise your lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than closely-clipped lawns.

LANDSCAPING: Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water. Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees.

MAINTENANCE: Verify that your home is leak free, because many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

Contact the City of Griffin Watershed Management Department to ask about receiving a water conservation kit! Our kits include standard plumbing parts along with instructions to retrofit your non-low flow compliant fixtures. Utilizing a City of Griffin water conservation kit may reduce your overall water consumption resulting in a healthier environment and potential cost savings on your utility bill!

CITY OF GRIFFIN DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

The City of Griffin issues water use restrictions based on drought response conditions as declared by Georgia EPD. Please pay attention to your local news, newspapers and radio announcements for the current level of the restrictions.

There are THREE LEVELS of GA EPD declared drought response:

LEVEL 1 — Public Information Campaign to encourage voluntary water conservation efforts.

LEVEL 2 — Outdoor watering for irrigation purposes only between **12:00am – 10:00am** and **4:00pm – 12:00am** in accordance with the following schedule.

Level 2 Drought Outdoor Watering Schedule

EVEN NUMBER Street Addresses:			ODD NUMBER Street Addresses:		
MON	WED	SAT	TUE	THU	SUN

LEVEL 3 — All outdoor water use is prohibited unless otherwise stated by your water system.

Griffin Growing, TOGETHER

Wastershed Management Department • (770) 229-6424

www.cityofgriffin.com

The City of Griffin follows the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter 391-3-30 Guidelines on Water Restrictions.

QUESTIONS? For questions concerning this publication you can contact Angie Golden or Linda Talley at Watershed Management (770) 229-6424. For more information about the City of Griffin please visit our website at: www.cityofgriffin.com.

The City of Griffin is a member of

Georgia Association of Water Professionals · American Water Works Association · EPA WaterSense

WATER QUALITY REPORT 2021

Griffin Growing, TOGETHER

Spalding COUNTY

Water Quality Testing Results (obtained from testing performed during January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021)

SUBSTANCE	Units	MCL	MCLG	Maximum Amount Detected		Violation	Typical Source
				City of Griffin	SCWA		
Copper*	PPB	1300 AL	1300	180	180	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead*	PPB	15 AL	0	4.70	4.70	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Fluoride	PPM	4	4	0.97	0.97	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Turbidity	NTU	TT	TT	0.28	0.28	No	Erosion of natural deposit
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	NA	TT	TT	1.90	1.90	No	Natural organic matter from rainfall runoff
Nitrate (ppm)	PPM	10	10	0.48	0.48	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform	%	5%	5%	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment

*Lead and Copper results data from 2019

Disinfectants & Disinfectant Byproducts (Substance)	Units	MCL	MCLG	Maximum Amount Detected		Violation	Typical Source
				City of Griffin	SCWA		
Chlorine	PPM	4	4	1.90	1.90	No	Drinking Water Disinfectant
Chlorine Dioxide	PPM	0.80	0.80	0.46	0.46	No	Drinking Water Disinfectant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Mg/L	0.08	NA	0.063	0.096	No	Byproduct of water chlorination
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	Mg/L	0.06	NA	0.042	0.043	No	Byproduct of water chlorination
Chlorite	Mg/L	1	0.80	0.73	0.73	No	Byproduct of water chlorination
Cryptosporidium	oocysts/L	0	0	ND	ND	No	Naturally present in the environment



Health Information About Your 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 Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791. 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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Testing shows that the amount of lead found in our drinking water is below the EPA's allowed level. However lead in elevated levels can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. It is important to know that lead in drinking water is primarily from the materials and components associated with private water service lines and home plumbing. The City of Griffin Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in residential plumbing.

TABLE DEFINITIONS

Action Level (AL): The EPA determined level at which Treatment Techniques are required to reduce Lead and/or Copper concentrations in a drinking water system.

Parts per million (PPM): The equivalent of 1 drop in 13.2 gallons of water.

Parts per billion (PPB): The equivalent of 1 drop in 13,200 gallons of water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminants that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity: A measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit) is a measurement of the clarity of the water.

Data shown is from results obtained in 2020 with the exception of Lead and Copper which were tested in 2019.

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. 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, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Message from the EPA

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 and from human activity.

- Microbial contaminants are viruses and bacteria that 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, oils and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals 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 storm water 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 the tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provide by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Is My Water Safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and State of Georgia drinking water standards.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Griffin currently withdrawals water from the Flint River, Heads Creek Reservoir and the Still Branch Regional Reservoir. Spalding County Water Authority purchases all their water from the City of Griffin. (PWSID #2550000 & #2550036).

How Can I Get Involved?

You can help by practicing water conservation and using the resource wisely. Additionally you are encouraged to assist in the stream clean ups held in your local community.