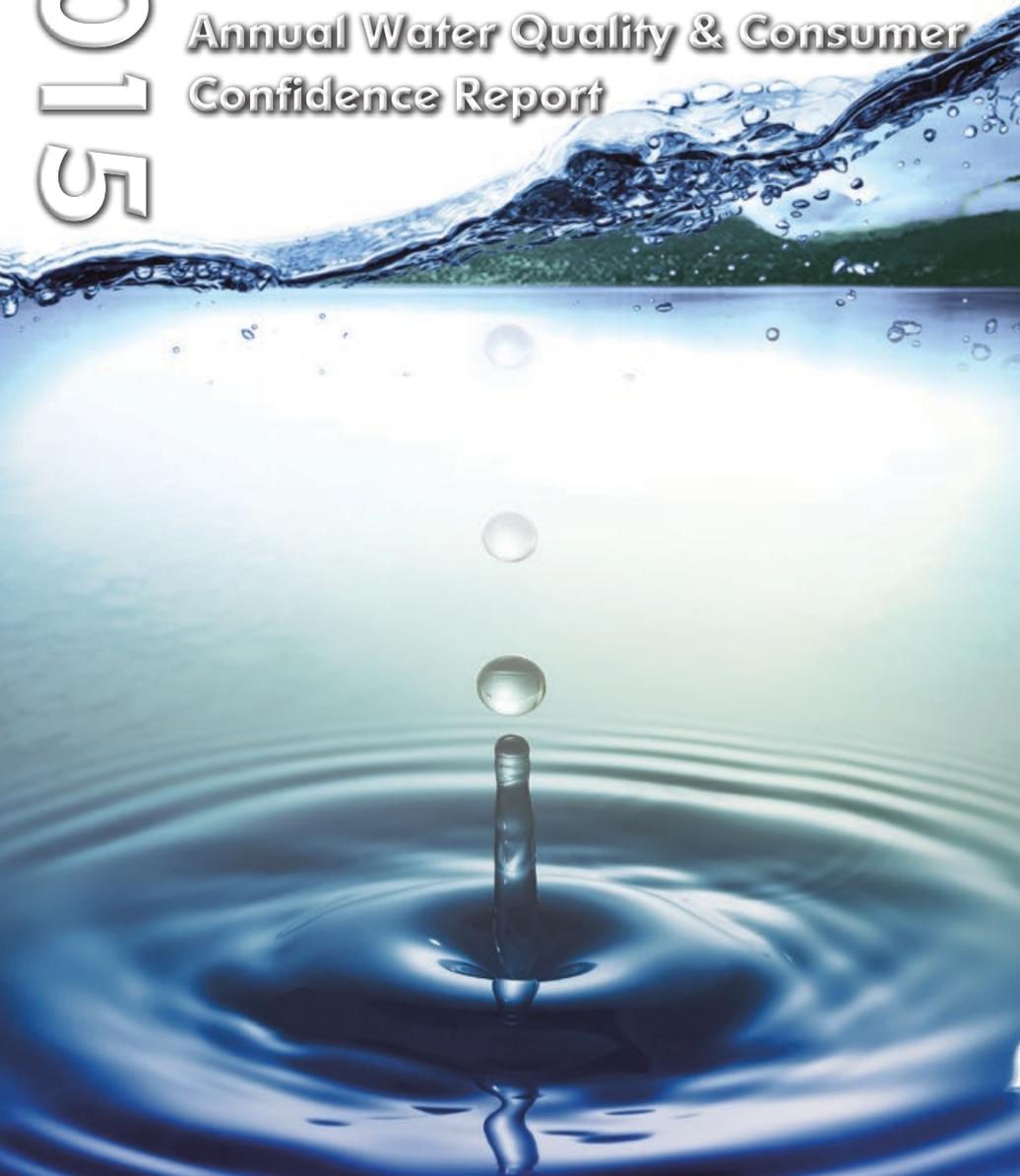


# The City of Roswell

2015

Annual Water Quality & Consumer  
Confidence Report



# **The City of Roswell Water Utility Division** is proud to present the City's 2015 Water Quality and Consumer Confidence Report. This report provides valuable information about the City's drinking water.

Included in this report is information about where the City's water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

The City of Roswell Water Utility Division in conjunction with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division conducted laboratory tests for drinking water parameters in 2015. All tests came back well within accepted ranges with no violations reported. Data from these tests are included in this report.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## **Other Reference Sites for Drinking Water Information**

United States Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water Hot Line:  
(800) 426-4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

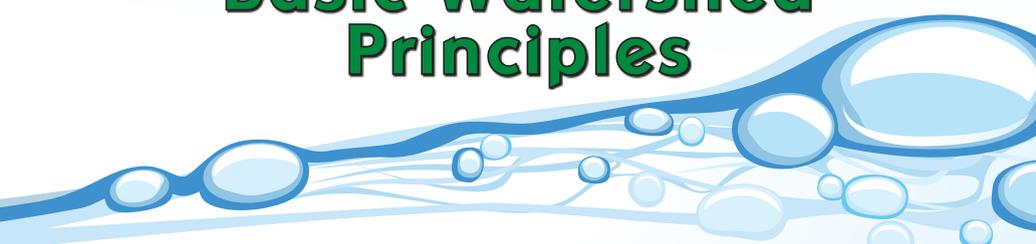
American Water Works Association: [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

## **EPD Monitoring Waivers for 28 Synthetic Organic Compounds and Inorganic Compounds (Asbestos, Cyanide)**

As authorized by Georgia EPD, the City of Roswell water system has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

For information on the water produced by Fulton County, contact Fulton County Water at 404-730-7400.

# Basic Watershed Principles



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 the following:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

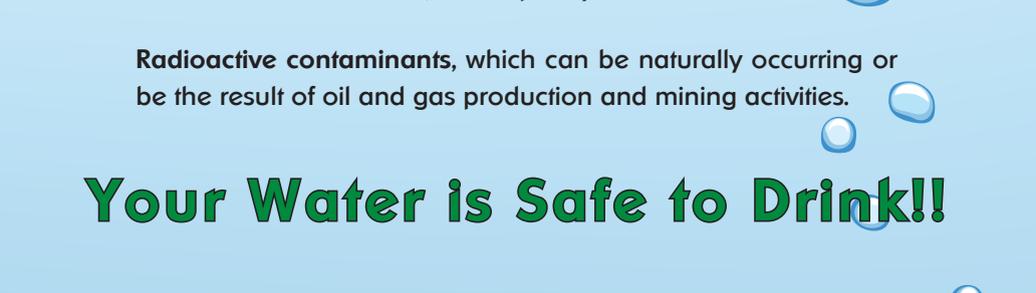
**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**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.

## Your Water is Safe to Drink!!



Roswell's Water Utility Division is proud to serve the citizens of Roswell and provide the best possible services related to water resources. Whether we are producing and distributing the highest quality of drinking water to our customers, ensuring that the drainage system is working properly or completing waterline and stormwater pipe improvement projects, the employees of the Water Utility Division are committed to excellence and striving to protect and enhance our community.

## **Customer Service**

For billing questions or new service connection / disconnection, call the Finance Department at 770-641-3759.

## **City of Roswell Water Emergencies**

Call 770-641-3707, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call 770-640-4100 after hours and weekends

## **Website**

Visit our website at [www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com) for comprehensive utility, water conservation and customer service information, as well as online bill payment.

## **City of Roswell Organizational Committee**

The City of Roswell Public Safety/Public Works Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. in Room 220 of Roswell City Hall, 38 Hill Street. These meetings are open to the public.

## **Questions about this report?**

Please call Jeremy Pirkle, Water Operations Manager, Roswell Water Treatment Plant, 770-641-3816, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained at 38 Hill Street, City Hall. A PDF image of this report may also be downloaded from our website, [www.roswellgov.com/CCR](http://www.roswellgov.com/CCR).

Produced by the City of Roswell Community Relations Division, January 2016

## Definitions and Abbreviations:

### AL - Action Level

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

### MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The 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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

### NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

A measure of turbidity or cloudiness of water.

### PPB – Parts per billion

(same as micrograms per liter)

One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in \$10 million.

### PPM – Parts per million

(same as milligrams per liter)

One part per million is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in \$10,000.

### THHA – Total Haloacetic Acids

A by-product of disinfection by chlorination.

### TT - Treatment Technique

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### TTHM – Total Trihalomethanes

A by-product of disinfection by chlorination.

# Table of Detected Contaminants (2015 Calendar Year)

REGULATED SUBSTANCES						
Substance (units)	MCLG (ideal level)	MCL (highest allowed)	Roswell System Average	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	Probable Sources
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	presence of bacteria in <5% of monthly samples	0	<5%	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.78	0.68 - 1.09	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (ppm)	10.0	10.0	0.76	0.76	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	N/A	TT ≥ 1.0 (1.0 in the minimum removal ratio)	1.7	1.3 - 2.1	No	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0	4.0	1.05	0.59 - 1.26	No	Added to water as a disinfectant
Turbidity	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU	0.027	0.02 - 0.06	No	Soil runoff and erosion
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	N/A	80	30.2	16.2 - 56.7	No	By-product of disinfection by chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (THAAs) (ppb)	N/A	60	17.6	7.8 - 23.0	No	By-product of disinfection by chlorination

LEAD AND COPPER						
Substance (units)	MCLG (ideal level)	MCL (highest allowed)	Roswell System Average	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	Probable Sources
Lead (ppb)	0	AL = 15	0.0025	0.0 - 0.016	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.38	0.0 - 0.58	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

## Where does Roswell's water come from?

The City of Roswell's water comes from two sources. The primary source is the Roswell Water Treatment Plant in Roswell. Water for this facility is withdrawn from the Big Creek Watershed.

Supplemental water is purchased by the City from the North Fulton/Atlanta Treatment Plant in Alpharetta. The source for this plant is the Chattahoochee River. Since the City has two sources, Roswell's system is classified as a "blended water source."

## Source Water Assessment Watershed Susceptibility Rankings

Watershed	Potential Point Source Rank	Potential Non-Point Source Rank	Overall Watershed Ranking
Big Creek	Medium	High	Medium - High

Point Source Pollution involves actual facilities, which have contaminants on site and can pose a potential health risk if humans consume those contaminants.

Non-Point Source Pollution is caused by development and everyday activities that take place in residential, commercial, and rural areas and is carried by rainfall to streams and lakes. The non-point source analysis used land use categories and their corresponding impervious surface area to determine the possible impact on the water supply intakes. Land use categories vary from forested areas to urban or commercial areas. Impervious surfaces are mainly constructed surfaces covered by impenetrable materials. These materials seal surfaces, repel water and prevent precipitation from infiltrating the soil. These paved or impervious surfaces collect pollution from many possible sources including dust, dirt, leaks from vehicles, animal wastes, yard pesticides and fertilizers, leaky sewer lines, construction, and barren soil areas. These sources become pollution problems when rain events cause the accumulated pollutants to be washed into nearby streams.

The Source Water Assessment can help communities understand the potential for contamination of their drinking water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

## What is a Watershed?

A watershed is the land area that drains to a particular stream, lake, or river. The quality of the streams, lakes and rivers in the watershed is affected by activities on both the water and land.

## What is Water Pollution?

Water pollution is caused when substances such as chemicals, pathogens, sediment, and metals are dumped into the water. There are two types of water pollution, point source and non-point source pollution.

## What is a Source Water Assessment?

A source water assessment is a study and report, unique to each water system that provides basic information about the water used to provide drinking water.

## What will the Assessment tell?

The assessments will:

- identify the area of land that contributes the raw water used for drinking water,
- identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies, and
- provide an understanding of the drinking water supply's susceptibility to contamination.

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

The City of Roswell's Source Water Assessment is available to the public. To obtain a copy, please contact the City of Roswell Public Works/Environmental Department at 770-641-3707.

# Vulnerable 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 (1-800-426-4791).



*Cryptosporidium* is a microscopic organism that is common in surface water. The organism comes from animal wastes in the watershed and are removed by a well-maintained water treatment process.

## Awards

- GAWP Public Education Award 2000
- GAWP Water Distribution System Award 2006, 2011, 2014
- GAWP Gold Award 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014, 2015
- GAWP Platinum Award 2010
- Consumer Confidence Award 2006, 2008, 2011



**City of Roswell  
Water Utility Division  
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Roswell, GA 30075**

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