

# City of Jefferson Water System

## 2019 Water-Quality Report

### Water System ID # GA 1570003



The City of Jefferson Water System is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during the past year. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that utilities issue an annual "Consumer Confidence" report to customers. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. The City of Jefferson is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water. We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular City Council meetings occur at the Jefferson Station at 1000 Washington Street on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 6:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend.

### Water Source

The City of Jefferson's water system is supplied by surface water from the Curry Creek Water Reservoir. The water is then treated at the Water Treatment Plant at 320 Kissam Street before entering the system. The following chemicals are used in the treatment process: aluminum sulfate, liquid caustic, poly-phosphate, hydrofluorosilicic acid, sodium bicarbonate, potassium permanganate and chlorine. In 2002 the consulting firm Brown and Caldwell conducted a source water assessment identifying potential pollution sources which may pose a risk to Jefferson's water sources. A copy of this report is available at City Hall for review. The City has the ability to purchase water from the Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority, which obtains its water supply from the 505-acre Bear Creek Reservoir managed by the Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority and is treated at the Bear Creek Water Treatment Facility.

### How to Read This Table

The chart in this report provides representative analytical results of water samples, collected in 2019 from The City of Jefferson's water system. Please note the following definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** 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.

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant, which triggers treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.

Volatile Organic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
<b>TTHMs</b>								
City of Jefferson	Quarterly	ppb	80	0	46.92	20.6-46	Byproduct of disinfection	NO
Jackson County	Quarterly	ppb			70			
<b>HAA5s</b>								
City of Jefferson	Quarterly	ppb	60	0	27.22	10.8-29	Byproduct of disinfection	NO
Jackson County	Quarterly	ppb			45.5			
Lead and Copper	Date	Units	AL	MCLG	Detected	# Exceeding AL	Major Sources	Violation?
<b>Copper<sup>1</sup></b>								
City of Jefferson	2019	ppb	1300	0	550	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO
Jackson County	2017	ppb			43			
<b>Lead<sup>2</sup></b>								
City of Jefferson	2016	ppb	15	0	1.4	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO
Jackson County	2017	ppb			0			
Inorganic Contaminants	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
<b>Fluoride</b>								
City of Jefferson	Daily	ppm	4	4	0.83	0.75-0.90	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive	NO
<b>Nitrate</b>								
City of Jefferson	Annual	ppm	10	10	0.87	n/a	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
<b>Chlorine Residual</b>								
City of Jefferson	Daily	ppm	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.6	1.29-1.97	Water disinfectant	NO
Jackson County	Daily	ppm			2.1			

Contaminants	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Value	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
<b>Turbidity<sup>3</sup></b>								
City of Jefferson	Continuous	NTU	TT	n/a	0.77		Soil runoff	NO
<b>Turbidity</b>			95% samples ≤0.3					
City of Jefferson	Continuous	NTU		n/a	99.60%	n/a	Soil runoff	NO
<b>Total Organic Carbon<sup>4</sup></b>								
City of Jefferson	Monthly	ppm	TT	n/a	1.49	1.20-1.89	Naturally present in the environment	NO
<b>Microbiological</b>								
City of Jefferson	Monthly	#/100mL	5% of samples	0	0	n/a	Naturally present in the environment	NO
Jackson County	Monthly				1			NO

#### Water-Quality Table Footnotes

- 1 ppb of copper is reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken.
- 2 ppb of lead is reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken.
- 3 Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness in water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
- 4 Compliance for TOC is met with a treatment technique. No violations occurred in 2019.

#### Table Key

AL = Action Level

TTHM = Total Trihalomethanes

HAA5 = Haloacetic Acids

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

p/a=presence/absence (microbial)

#### Required Additional Health Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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'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 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:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- (E) 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Lead in Drinking Water

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 Jefferson Water System 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



### National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

If you have any questions please call The City of Jefferson at 706-367-5644 or email at [jkillip@cityofjeffersonga.com](mailto:jkillip@cityofjeffersonga.com). Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at [www.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com). Individual copies of this report will not be mailed. Copies of this report are available at Jefferson City Hall. This report contains water quality information from the Jefferson Water Treatment Plant (WSID 1570003). Member: Georgia Rural Water Association (GRWA) [www.grwa.org](http://www.grwa.org)

*Este informe contiene information muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.*