



Macon Water Authority

790 Second St. - P.O. Box 108 - Macon, Georgia 31202-0108

Customer Service: (478) 464-5600 / Fax: (478) 750-2007

Comments, questions? webg@maconwater.org

2000 WATER QUALITY REPORT

A message from H.E. Holcomb, Executive Director

Management and employees of the Macon Water Authority are pleased to present the Annual Water Quality Report on Macon's drinking water. The Water Treatment Plants and the Water Distribution System received the Gold Award for the year 2000. This award is presented to the systems that have had zero water quality violations.

The Town Creek Water Treatment Plant began full operation on July 10, 2000. The Riverside Water Treatment Plant that has served us well for almost 100 years was taken off line on March 29, 2001.

The water that is produced by the Town Creek Water Treatment Plant is a better quality than that of the Riverside Water Treatment Plant. We expect even better quality as the Treatment Plant Specialist become more experienced with the operation the new plant. The new plant has thirteen Treatment Plant Specialist, twelve which have the top certification given by the State of Georgia. We expect the thirteenth will receive his Class I certification in early July.

The new plant has ten less employees than the Riverside Plant. We can operate with fewer because they have all received extensive training in operations and maintenance.

We are very proud of our new plant and want to show it to you. Call for a tour at 478-464-5650.



View of Town Creek Reservoir from Dam

INFORMATION ON DRINKING WATER

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount 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 at (800)426-4791.

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 (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, in some cases, radioactive material, and 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 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 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 prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottle water which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we have detected during the 2000 calendar year.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Parameter	Units	MCLG	MCL	Detected Amount	Range	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper	ppb	1,300	1,300	270	0 - 270	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Fluoride	ppm	4.0	4.0	1.02	.73 - 1.02	Natural deposits, Water additive
Lead	ppb	0	15	4.8	0 - 4.8	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.4	0.4	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use.
Sodium	ppm	N/A	500	15	15	Natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	N/A	TT	0.45	0.02 - 0.45	Soil Runoff
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	0	70	40.95	29.8 - 40.95	By-product of water chlorination.
Total Coliform	%	0	5%	1%	0 - 1%	Naturally present in the environment.
Zinc	ppm	5	5	0.15	0.15	Naturally present in the environment.

Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.6	0.6	Erosion & runoff
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UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

Parameter	Units	MCLG	MCL	Detected Amount	Range	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorate	ppb	N/A	N/A	19	19	Disinfection with chlorine dioxide
Chloride	ppm	TT	250	107	33 - 107	Soil runoff
Chlorite	ppb	N/A	N/A	186	20 - 186	Disinfection with chlorine dioxide
TDS	ppm	TT	500	67	49 - 67	Soil runoff
Total Haloacetic acids	ppm	TT	N/A	42.7	20.4 - 62.2	By product of water chlorination

NOTE: Information on how to read the report is located below.

HOW TO READ THE REPORT

LEGEND

MCL	Maximum contaminant Level, is the highest amount of a substance allowed in drinking water.
MCLG	Maximum contaminant Level Goal, is the ideal goal, below which there is no known or expected health risk.
N/A	Not Applicable
NTU	nephelometric turbidity units, is the standard measuring unit for turbidity
ppm	parts per million, means 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as a milligram per liter)
ppb	parts per billion, means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as a microgram per liter)
TT	Treatment Technique, means a required treatment technique or process intended to reduce the level of contamination is required in drinking water
<	Less than

If you have any questions regarding the Water Quality information, feel free to contact the Town Creek Water Resources Center and ask for Mr. George Couto, Chief Operator and Water Quality Specialist, at the Macon Water Authority. Mr. Couto can be reached at 478-464-5650.



Town Creek Water Resources Center Administration Building

OUR WATER SOURCE

At the beginning of 2000, our water was being pumped out of the Ocmulgee River for treatment at the Riverside Water Treatment Plant. Later in July of 2000, the new Town Creek Water Treatment Plant was brought on line for extensive testing and shakedown. At the end of the year both plants shared the duty of producing drinking water. The new plant drew its water from the Town Creek Reservoir that the Macon Water Authority started to construct back in 1994. The Reservoir gives a constant and better source water to treat, it also allows the Authority to guard and protect this precious resource from contamination.



Town Creek Reservoir Pump Station

The Macon Water Authority conducts over 90,000 water quality tests per year throughout our system to ensure that our customers are getting the best product we can treat. With the closing of the Riverside Water Treatment Plant in late March 2001, the new Town Creek Plant has taken on the full demand of the community. This new state of the art facility was built with all the new regulations in mind and with the the Reservoir at its disposal we will see an improvement in water quality. We at the Authority are very proud of this new facility, if you are interested in visiting, please give us a call at 464-4650.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER BOARD

The Macon Water Authority Board of Commissioners meet the first Thursday of every month at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room on the second floor of the Albert Billingslea Building (MWA Administration Building) located at 790 Second Street in Macon, Georgia.

MACON WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NAME	REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER
Frank C. Amerson, Jr.	Bibb County at Large	745-3003
Javors J. Lucas	District 2, Vice Chairman	742-2722
Dorothy "Dot" Black	District 1	742-3503
Barbara Knight	District 3	477-6746
Clifford R. Howard	District 4	757-1848
Carlder B. Clay	County Representative	474-7334
Henry C. Ficklin	City Representative	745-2515

SENIOR AUTHORITY STAFF

NAME	TITLE	PHONE NUMBER
H.E. (Gene) Holcomb	Executive Director	464-5622
Jan Hudson	Human Resources Director	464-5646
Melissa Thorpe	Chief Financial Officer	464-5628
Terry Forest	Interim, Plant Operations Director	464-5624
Frank Sanders	Field Operations Director	464-5637
Jim Shelton	Customer Service Director	464-5619

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Customer Service	464-5600
Water Distribution (Maintenance)	464-5660
Sewage Collections (Maintenance / Overflows)	464-5670
AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES	464-5656