



# City of Cartersville

W A T E R D E P A R T M E N T

## 2009 Annual Water Quality Report

WATER SYSTEM ID: 0150002

### A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

By the time you receive this, the Cartersville Water Department will have funded a new toilet rebate program for our customers. This program is aimed at encouraging the use of water conserving toilets in local homes. Any homeowner who currently has an installed toilet that uses greater than 1.6 gallons per flush (this is usually marked on the bowl or tank) and a home constructed before 1993 is eligible for the rebate on up to two (2) toilets.

The rebate process is as follows:

1. Choose an approved toilet from the "approved list" at [www.northgeorgiawater.org/files/\\_50.00\\_List.pdf](http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/files/_50.00_List.pdf) or call the Water Department
2. Mail in your rebate application form see [www.northgeorgiawater.org/files/MNGWPD\\_ToiletApp\\_form.pdf](http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/files/MNGWPD_ToiletApp_form.pdf) or call us for the form.
3. Allow us to verify your installation.
4. Complete a short survey about the program
5. Rebate check mailed to you within two (2) billing cycles.

For more information, please call 770-387-5653.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT 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

**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 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, 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.

### CONTAMINANTS AND HEALTH RISKS FOUND IN DRINKING WATER

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 the public water systems. Food and Drug Administration 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### NOTICE TO THE IMMUNO-COMPROMISED

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).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about any item contained in this report contact Jim Stafford, Cartersville Water Department Director at P.O. Box 1390 Cartersville, GA 30120 or call (770)387-5653.

# Drinking Water Analysis

## NOTES

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Amount Detected	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Met Standard	Probable Source
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.91	0.72 - 1.10	1/1/09 to 12/31/09	YES	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.20	N/A	4/29/09	YES	Runoff from fertilizer use and natural organic material
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT=1.0 TT=0.3	0.15 max <sup>1</sup> <0.3=100% <sup>2</sup>	N/A	1/1/09 to 12/31/09	YES	Soil runoff and erosion
Total Trihalomethanes	N/A	80	45.4	11.9 - 57.2	Previous four quarters	YES	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	N/A	60	24.8	4.7 - 42.0	Previous four quarters	YES	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	1	1 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	1/1/09 to 12/31/09	YES	Naturally occurring in the environment
Chlorine (ppm)	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	0.98	0.15 - 1.18	1/1/09 to 12/31/09	YES	Water disinfectant
Lead (ppb)	0	15	8.5 <sup>4</sup>	0 - 34.0	2007 <sup>5</sup>	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper (ppb)	1300	1300	240	0 - 340	2007 <sup>5</sup>	YES	

1 Maximum Turbidity allowed = 1.0 NTU. Maximum turbidity observed during 2009 was 0.28 NTU.

2 Ninety-five percent (95%) of all turbidities must be less than 0.3 NTU. During 2009, all (100%) turbidity observations were less than (<) 0.3 NTU.

3 On 9/14/09 and 10/28/09 one "at" sample tested positive for Total Coliform bacteria. Confirmation samples were collected the following day above, below and at the positive location. All confirmation samples tested negative. The 9/14/09 positive sample was attributed to collection error and the 10/28/09 sample occurred due to a leaking sample valve that could not be properly sanitized prior to sampling.

4 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 CWD 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>. During 2007 one lead sample tested above the 15 ppb MCL.

5 As authorized by Georgia EPD, our system has reduced 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. The last year in which samples were collected and analyzed was 2007.

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
ppm	Part per million: A measure of concentration of a substance in water. 1 ppm = \$1 in \$1,000,000.	MRDL	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbiological contaminants.
ppb	Part per billion: A measure of concentration of a substance in water. 1 ppb = 1 penny in \$1,000,000.	MRDLG	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
NTU	Nephelometric turbidity units: Turbidity is a measurement of the clarity of water. Lower NTU = clearer.	AL	Action Level: A concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
max	Maximum: The single highest turbidity reading during the entire year.	TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.		
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.		