ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT
(Water testing performed in 2010)

City of Thomaston
PO Box 1243
Thomaston, GA 30286

PWSID#: Upson County GA. 2930000

Quality First

Once again we are proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2010. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with quality drinking water.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, we are always available to assist you.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Chet Ward, Southwest Water, Assistant Project Manager, 706-647-9694

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month and part of meeting is devoted to questions and comments from the public about any part of county government.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include: Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife; Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Water is withdrawn from Potato Creek of up to 6 million gallons per day. The water is then stored in one of two reservoirs, Hannah's Mill which is 250,000,000 gallons and Lake Thomaston, which is 500,000,000 gallons. From there is is routed to the Water Plant for treatment.
Common name and type of water source: City of Thomaston – surface water

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are 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

Contaminants that MAY be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants: V**iruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock and wildlife.**
Inorganic Contaminants**: Salts and metals (natural or runoff), Wastewater discharges, Oil and gas production, mining, farming.**

Pesticides and Herbicides**: Come from a variety of sources including agriculture, urban stormwater runoff.**
Organic Chemical Contaminants**: Synthetic and volatile organic chemicals(by products of industrial and petroleum production), Gas stations, urban stormwater runoff.**
Radioactive Contaminants**: Occuring natural or as result of oil and gas production or mining.**

Regulated Substances
City of Thomaston

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Range Low - High	Violation	Typical Source
Fluoride (ppm)	**2010**	**4.0**	**4**	**0.93**	**NA**	**No**	**Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories**
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppm)	**2010**	**0.06**	**NA**	**0.023**	**NA**	**No**	**By-product of drinking water disinfection**
Nitrate (ppm)	**2010**	**10.0**	**10**	**ND**	**0 - 0**	**No**	**Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits**
Total Coliform Bacteria (# positive samples)	**2010**	5%	**0**	**0%**	**NA**	**No**	**Naturally present in the environment**
Turbidity (NTU)	**2010**	**1.0**	**NA**	**0.07**	**0.07 - 0.07**	**No**	**Soil runoff**
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	**2010**	**1.0**	**NA**	**100%**	**NA**	**No**	**Soil runoff**

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community
City of Thomaston

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	AL	MCL	MCLG	Sites Above AL/ Total Sites	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2008	1300	1300	ND	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2008	15	0	ND	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Other Regulated Substances
City of Thomaston

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL	MRDLG	Amount Detected	Range Low - High	Violation	Typical Source
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] - IDSE Results (ppm)	2010	0.08	NA	0.044	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Turbidity Footnote:
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

Table Definitions

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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