

Sampling Results

As in the past, we remain committed to producing the best quality drinking water and services to all of our water users. Last year, there were approximately 30,000 chemical/process and 150 bacteriological test performed on samples taken at the treatment plant and at more than 50 sample points in Thomaston's water system. The City of Thomaston and Southwest Water Co. Technologies are determined to meet the challenges of increasingly demanding standards while securing Thomaston's growth with our own. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

2010 TEST RESULTS

SUBSTANCES (UNITS)	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Copper	1300ppb	NA
Fluoride	4.0ppm	.93ppm
Lead	15ppb	NA
Sodium	500ppm	NA
Total Nitrate/Nitrite	10ppm	ND
Turbidity	1.0NTU	0.070NTU
Trihalomethanes	0.08ppm	0.044ppm
Haloacetic Acids	0.06ppm	0.023ppm
Total Coliform	5%	0%

Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. During the reporting year, 100% of all samples taken to measure turbidity met water quality standards.
 NA = The system was not mandated to test for this substance.
 ND = No amount of substance was detected when tested.

Table Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if needed, 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 do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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.

NA = The system was not mandated to test this substance.

ND = No amount of substance was detected when tested.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.

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

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

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

Naturally Occurring Bacteria

The simple fact is, bacteria and other micro-organisms inhabit our world. They can be found all around us; in our food; on our skin; in our bodies; and in the air, soil and water. Some are harmful to us and some are not. Coliform bacteria are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of this bacterial form in drinking water is a concern because it indicates that the water may be contaminated with other organisms that can cause disease. Throughout the year, we test 120 samples (10 samples every month) for coliform bacteria. In that time, none of the samples came back positive for the bacteria. Federal regulations now require that the public water testing positive for coliform bacteria must be further analyzed for fecal coliform bacteria. Fecal coliform are present only in human and animal waste. Because these bacteria can cause illness, it is unacceptable for fecal coliform to be present in water at any concentration. Our tests indicate no fecal coliform is present in our water.

How Is My Water Treated and Purified?

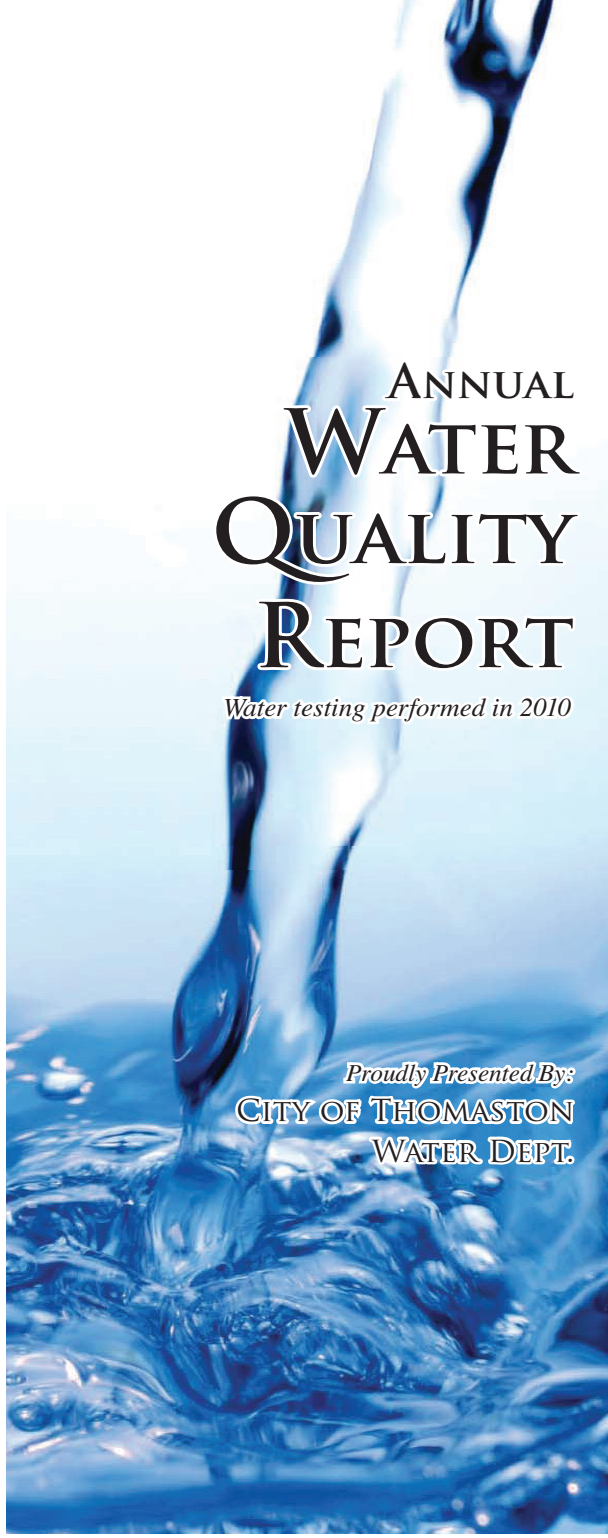
As water is withdrawn at a rate of up to 6 million gallons per day, an algicide is injected into the water at a rate of 5 gallons a day to prevent taste and odor caused by algae growth. The water is then stored in one of two reservoirs, Hannah's Mill which is 250,000,000 gallons and Lake Thomaston which is 500,000,000 gallons. Lake Thomaston went on line in early 2010 and now allows a 90 day drought condition storage. The reservoirs allow a very large percentage of contaminants to settle before the water is sent to the treatment plant. Low contaminant levels result in lower amounts of treatment chemicals, ensuring that you receive water at the highest quality possible. When the water reaches the treatment plant, coagulants are immediately added, causing particles to adhere to one another and creating larger particles known as floc. Floc is heavy enough to settle into a basin from which sediment is removed. Following sedimentation, water is filtered through layers of anthracite and sand. As particles are removed by the filter, turbidity disappears and clear water emerges. Finally, soda ash is added to help adjust the pH within a range of 7.0 and 7.2, chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may be present, fluoride is added to prevent tooth decay and orthophosphosphate is added to minimize corrosion of service lines and plumbing.



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2010

Proudly Presented By:
 CITY OF THOMASTON
 WATER DEPT.



Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. In this report you will find a table showing what substances were detected in our drinking water from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. The City of Thomaston and Southwest Water Co. are pleased to announce that your drinking water complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements.

The operation of Thomaston's Water Works is conducted under the direction of Southwest Water Co., based out of Sugarland, TX. The Thomaston Water Works business office is located at 340 N. Center Street, Thomaston, Georgia. The business office is open daily Monday through Friday. Lobby hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The customer service telephone number is (706) 647-9694. If you did not receive a mailed copy of this report and would like to be included in future mailings, please contact City Hall at (706) 647-6633. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water please call Glenn Fountain, Water Production Manager, at (706) 647-9694.

Working Hard for You

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is responsible for setting national limits for hundreds of substances in drinking water and also specifies various treatments that water systems must use to remove these substances. Each system continually monitors for these substances and reports their findings to the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA uses the data to ensure that consumers are receiving clean water.

This publication conforms to the regulation under SDWA requiring water utilities to provide detailed water quality information to each of their customers annually. We are committed to providing you with this information about your water supply because customers who are well informed are our best allies in supporting improvements necessary to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

Community Participation

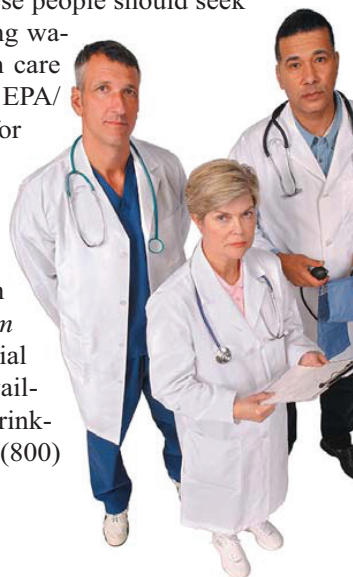
You are invited to participate in our city council meetings. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 106 East Lee Street, Thomaston, Georgia. Promote the prevention of water pollution in your neighborhood by organizing the cleanup of a river, lake, stream or canal in your community. And please do not litter.

Where Does My Water Come From?

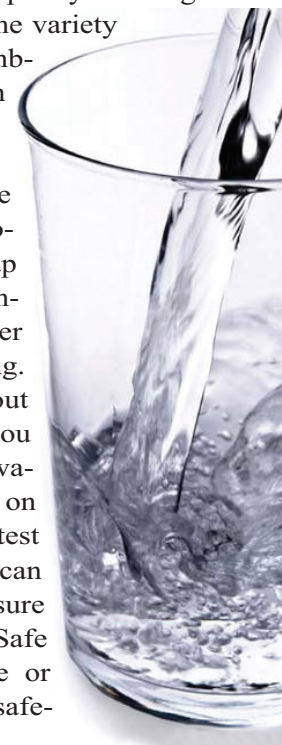
The City of Thomaston's supply of water is retrieved from Potato Creek. The Georgia Environmental Protection Department (EPD) regulates daily pumping amounts and levels to ensure all communities have abundant resources as water travels southward through our state.

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.



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. [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, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safe-water/lead>.



Outdoor Water Usage Schedule

- Odd-numbered addresses may water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays - 12 midnight to 10 a.m.
- Even-numbered and unnumbered addresses may water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays - 12 midnight to 10 a.m.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhome) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) websites provide substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. Also, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division has a website (www.gaepd.org) that provides complete and current information on water issues in our state.