

# 2015 Water Quality Report

## Vienna, GA



**Public Water System I.D. Number - GA 093004**

### Your water meets all state and federal regulations for safety

Last year we conducted numerous tests for more than 80 drinking water contaminants. We are proud to inform you that the City of Vienna did not have any violations of water quality parameters during 2015 with 8 regulated contaminants detected. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards. We are committed to providing you with the information because we want you to be informed. For more information about your water call 229-268-4744 and ask for Nathan Jordan.

### Special population advisory

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/Center For Disease Control guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.

### Drinking water sources

Your water comes from the Cretaceous and Claiborne aquifers located beneath the ground. The water is pumped from six ground water wells located throughout the City of Vienna. Source water assessment information may be obtained from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Drinking Water Program, Floyd Towers East, Suite 1362, 205 Butler St. S.E., Atlanta, GA 30334.

### Public participation opportunities

Our City Council meets twice a month at City Hall. Please feel free to participate in these meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Additional information regarding these meetings can be obtained by contacting City Administrator, Michael Bowens, at 229-268-4744

### Contaminants in 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.

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 Vienna 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 purposes. 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 at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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 can pick up 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- *Pesticides & herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential use.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

### Water quality monitoring

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food & Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Water quality data

Unless otherwise noted, data presented in the following table are water analysis results from the 2015 calendar year. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The state requires community water systems (CWS) to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly year to year.

The Environmental Protection Division issued waivers to the City of Vienna for some 34 contaminants based on years of non-detects. As authorized by Georgia EPD, our system has reduced monitoring 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. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

Based on an initial radiological monitoring event from October 2005 through June 2006, the Division issued a schedule for our system to monitor the following four parameters once every six years: Alpha, Radium-226, Radium-228, and Uranium. The last radiological monitoring was conducted 2015 which resulted in all parameter not being detected.

## Terms & Abbreviations

- **AL:** Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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 Disinfection Level - the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbiological contaminants.
- **MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.
- **N/A:** not applicable
- **ND:** not detectable at testing limit
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter -- (corresponds to one minute in two years)
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter --(corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years)

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	0.7 (avg)	0.3	1.0	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	5.4	NA		2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.10	0.08	0.10	2014	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.67 (avg)	0.02	1.1	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	0.29 (avg)	ND	1.4	2015	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	0.002 (avg)	ND	0.009	2015	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water 90%	# Samples Exceeding AL		Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
<b>Lead and Copper<sup>1</sup></b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.058	0 of 20		2013	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3.2	0 of 20		2013	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup> During the most recent round of Lead and copper testing, 0 out of 20 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level for copper or lead.. Lead and Copper values are 90th percentile values. 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. Vienna 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>.

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