**2017 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**CITY OF OGLETHORPE, GEORGIA WATER DEPARTMENT**

**WATER ID # 1930003**

The City of Oglethorpe Water Department is pleased to report that the drinking water meets and/or exceeds the regulations as set by the State and Federal Government.

**WATER SOURCE**

The Oglethorpe Water Department withdraws water from 3 municipal ground water wells. These wells

Range in depth from 500” to 850” deep. The water source is commonly called the Cretaceous Aquifer, made up to 5 (five) sand formations and provides ample volume of water for our community. Treated water is pumped into a 100,000 ground reservoir then pumped to 3 water storage tanks. These tanks have a storage capacity of 850,000 gallons. From these sites the water is distributed throughout the community through water mains and distribution lines.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUTH THE**

**SAFETY OF YOUR DRINKING WATER**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminates. The presence of contaminates does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPD’s Safety Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water that 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 Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The source of drinking water, both tap and bottled water, Incudes Rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the ground it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or from human activity.

**CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE**

**WATER INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:**

* **Microbial Contaminants,** such as viruses and bacteria that may be from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock, operations, and wildlife.
* **Inorganic Contaminants,** such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or resulting 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 storm runoff, and residential uses.
* **Organic Chemical Contaminants,** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by products of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm runoffs and septic systems.
* **Radioactive Contaminants,** which can be naturally occurring or be the results of oil and gas productions and mining activities.

The City Of Oglethorpe Water system is a vital part of our community and drinking water is our most precious commodity. Therefore, it is needful for all of us to work together to conserve and protect our source water as well as our drinking water. Our Class III State Certified Water Treatment Plant Operator is pleased to offer information and/ or speak to our community on water treatment and/or water protection.

**WATER QUALITY DATA**

The following tables list all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in our drinking water during the calendar year of 2017. The presence of the contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the dates presented in the tables are from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2017.

**DEFINITIONS, TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

(Ppb)- Parts per billion: One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in ten million dollars.

(Ppm)- Parts per million: One part per million is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in ten thousand dollars.

ug/L: micrograms/liter <: less than

mg/L: milligrams/liter MCI: Maximum Containment Level

mg/kg: micrograms/kilogram PQL: Practical Quantitation Limit

ug/kg: micrograms/kilograms LSPC: result less than lower specification

ug/g: micrograms/gram USPC: result greater than upper specification

TIE: Tentatively Identified or Estimated

VIOL: Violation (result exceeds MCL)

**Laboratory Contacts:**

Inorganics: Pat Simmons Ext. 5239

Metals: Mark Tolbert Ext. 5240

Organics: Danny Reed Ext. 5252

GC Mass Spec: Steve Bryan Exit 5260

**A memorandum signed May 4, 1999 by Mr. Harold F. Reheis, Director of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, states that Georgia Governor Roy Barnes has approved a special variance for community water systems which serves less than 10,000 consumers.** Since our system serves less than 10,000 customers, the City of Oglethorpe chooses to exercise this option and not mail the Water Quality Annual Report to each customer. The City will publish the report in the local newspaper. Also in the same newspaper, the City will provide Public Notice that the report will not be mailed and that the report will be available upon request at City Hall, 115 Chatham Street.

Report prepared by Terry Cross, State Certified Operator

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Water Complaints**

In answering complaints about bad smelling water we find it most occurs in the hot water and usually in the business district. Why? Hot water heaters are oversized for the required hot water usage and heat dissipates chlorine.

While we add chlorine to our drinking water primarily as a disinfectant, it also combines with or ties up hydrogen sulfate gases which causes the bad smell.

In the business district people often have a thirty gallon or forty gallon quick recovery water heater and only uses hot water in a couple of lavatories for the purpose of washing hands.

When this occurs, the heating of the water dissipates the chlorine (over a period of time) because there is not enough water being used to keep the chlorine residual at the appropriate level to control the odor. To get rid of the odor, the water heater tank will have to be flushed. To correct the problem, a smaller water heater will need to be installed.

**High water Bill?**

One of the most common, yet sometimes one of the hardest leaks to detect is found in the water closet. If the 1/8” refill tube from the float valve is inserted in the overflow tube of the flush valve, below the water level in the tank, the water will siphon from the tank to the bowl. Bend the float rod down to adjust water level.

**Did you know?**

According to Rockwell International Measurement and Flow Control Division a hole 1/16” in diameter, (less than the size of a number two pencil lead), at 60 psi water pressure will leak approximately 24,600 gallons per month.

The City of Oglethorpe is proud to report that over 60 contaminates tested, no detected traces were found or were within the detectable limits.

**Macon State Prison City**

Yearly Average Fluoride .87 PPM .91 PPM Erosion of Natural Deposits

Promotes strong teeth

Discharge from fertilizer

Yearly Average Chlorine .83 PPM .94 PPM Water Additives used to

Control microbes

IDSE RESULTS

August 1, 2016 RESULTS MCL TEST RANGE

THM’s 11.0 ug/l 8.0-12.0 ug/l By product of Drinking water disinfection. Save concentration under 80 ug/l MCL.

Haloacetic Acids 4.05 ug/l 3.5-6.5 ug/l By product of Drinking water disinfection. Save concentration under 60 ug/l MCL.

RESULTS MCL OR QC RANGE

NITRATE – MACON STATE PRISON NOT DETECTED 10.0

NITRATE – CITY HALL WELLS NOT DETECTED 10.0

LEAD AND COPPER RESULTS WERE WITHIN SAFE RANGE FOR 2013

**Lead 90Th Percentile = 20.0 ug/l**

**Copper 90th Percentile = 1.3 ug/l**

The greatest risk is to young children and pregnant women. The US EPA has established an “action level” of 15 ug/l for lead and 1300 ug/l for copper. If concentrations measured in your household water exceed these “action levels” you can minimize your exposure by:

* “flushing” the cold water faucet until the water becomes as cold as it will get; this removes the water that has stagnated in your home plumbing over several hours
* Using cold water for drinking and cooking
* Not cooking with or consuming water from the hot water faucet
* Not using hot water for making baby formula
* Using only “lead free” solder, fluxes, and materials in new household plumbing and repairs

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CITY OF OGLETHORPE**

**WATER QUALITY ANNUAL REPORTS**

**WILL NOT BE MAILED TO CONSUMERS**

**BUT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT**

**CITY HALL UPON REQUEST**

**BETWEEN**

**9:00 A.M. -5:00 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY**