CITY OF SANTA CLAUS
2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT
Georgia Water System ID #: GA2790001

Name of Water System Contact:	Contact Phone Number:
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Summary of Water Quality Information

The **City of Santa Claus** drinking water system is owned by the **City of Santa Claus** and operated by **Tindall Enterprises, Inc.** The facility office is located on 25 December Dr. in Santa Claus, Georgia. If there are ever any comments or inquiries to be made, please feel free to call or visit City Hall.

Included in this report is information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The **City of Santa Claus** is committed to providing your community with clean, safe, and reliable drinking water for everyone. For more information about your water or this report please call the numbers listed above. **This Water Quality Report will not be mailed to each customer but is available at City Hall upon request**.

Your water comes from one (1) community *groundwater* well located on December Drive in Santa Claus, Georgia. This well derives water from a source called the *Coastal Plain Aquifer* to provide ample volumes of water for your community. Treatment is performed at the well site to include removal of contaminants and chlorine disinfection. The well property is protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of this water source.

A **Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP)** for this facility has been completed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division. This report identifies types of pollution to which your water supply could be vulnerable and information regarding potential sources of contamination in this watershed. This system is considered to be in a range of average susceptibility for pollution. Cited potential pollution sources include access and secondary roads, utility poles electrical transformers, and domestic septic tanks. For more information, the **WHPP report is available at City Hall** upon request.

The **City of Santa Claus** water system is tested for more than eighty (80) drinking water parameters on a periodic basis determined by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division. Sample/ testing schedules are based on initial contaminant level assessments and can be changed by EPD if deemed necessary. EPD may also issue waivers for the analysis of certain compounds if analytical data shows that the distributed drinking water in this area is not vulnerable to contamination from these chemicals.

Generally, samples are collected in the **City of Santa Claus** for analysis of TTHMs, HAA5s, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, synthetic organic compounds, lead, and copper once in a three (3) year cycle. The water system is also tested annually for nitrates and monthly for bacteriological content. Radionuclide testing is performed every nine (9) years.

During 2023, the **City of Santa Claus** submitted water samples for the analysis of bacteriological content, nitrates, lead, and copper. **All detected contaminants are delineated in the accompanying charts. Any contaminants not listed in the accompanying charts had results less than the detection limits and/or maximum contaminant levels.**

In the 2021 lead and copper monitoring event, five (5) representative locations were sampled from throughout your community. Sampled sites included single and multi-family residences, commercial, and municipal buildings. One sampled site exceeded the lead *Action Level*, and therefore the *90th percentile* limit was exceeded, resulting in a violation of the water quality standards. **In 2022, the City of Santa Claus, following EPD corrective action guidelines, sampled two rounds of ten samples each from single and multi-family residences, commercial, and municipal buildings to obtain full compliance. None of the samples collected in 2022 exceeded the lead or copper *Action Levels*.** In 2023, five (5) representative locations were sampled from throughout your community. Sampled sites included single and multi-family residences, commercial, and municipal buildings. **None of the samples collected in 2023 exceeded the lead or copper *Action Levels*.** However, during the 2022 sampling events, at least one sample site found trace levels of lead and/or copper, indicating that some service lines contain one or both contaminants.

Lead and copper are metals naturally found throughout the environment in soil and water. These metals can also be found in lead, copper, or brass household plumbing pipes and fixtures. Even consumer products such as paints, pottery, and pewter can contain lead and/or copper. Corrosion or deterioration of lead or copper-based materials, as well as erosion of natural deposits can release these metals into the drinking water.

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 Santa Claus** *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.

The following measures may also be taken to minimize exposure to lead and/or copper:

- Use cold water for drinking or cooking.
- Do not cook with or consume water from the hot water faucet.
- Do not use hot water for making baby formula.
- Use only "lead-free" solder, fluxes and materials in new household plumbing and repairs.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be expected to contain at least small amounts of 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.**

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 at 800-426-4791.**

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 include the following:

- ***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 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 water runoff, and residential uses.
- ***Organic chemical contaminants*** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- ***Radioactive contaminants*** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The **City of Santa Claus** *strives to maintain the highest standards of performance and quality possible. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, improvements that benefit the community must be made. Please help keep these costs as low as possible by utilizing good water conservation practices.*

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): "*The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology."*

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): *"The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety."*

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Reasonable goals for drinking water quality. Exceeding SMCL's may adversely affect odor or appearance, but there is no known risk to human health.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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."*

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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.*

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes): One or more of the organic compounds chloroform, bromodichloromethane, chlorodibromomethane, and/or bromoform.

HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids): One or more of the organic compounds monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, and dibromoacetic acid.

CITY OF SANTA CLAUS
2023 WATER QUALITY DATA
WSID: GA2790001

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that have been detected in your drinking water. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The data presented in this table is from testing done during the year noted. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) require monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Parameters, values, and or sources may vary.

DETECTED INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE

PARAMETER	UNITS	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	City of Santa Claus Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.082	0.082 to 0.082	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.23	0.23 to 0.23	2021	No	Water additive used for control of microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.45	0.45 to 0.45	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Santa Claus Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5	ppb	60	**	ND	N/A	2021	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs	ppb	80	**	ND	N/A	2021	No	By product of drinking water disinfection

OTHER DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Parameter	Units	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	City of Santa Claus Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	**	**	13.0	13.0 to 13.0	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING RESULTS

Parameter	Units	Action Level	MCLG	City of Santa Claus 90th Percentile	# of sample sites above AL	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	ppb	15	0	0.55	0 of 5	2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.061	0 of 5	2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Santa Claus # of Positive Samples	Positive Sample Month	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform	Present/ Absent	1*	0	0	N/A	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli		0	0	0	N/A	2023	No	Human and animal fecal waste

RADIONUCLIDES TABLE

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Santa Claus Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	5	0	ND	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Total Coliform Rule MCL= 1 postive sample for systems that collect < 40 samples a month** * No established MCL, SMCL or MCLG**

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

N/A: Not applicable to this contaminant **ND:** Not detected; by regulation, this substance or group of substances was tested for in our finished tap water; however, none was detected at testing limit

ppm or mg/L: parts per million or milligrams per liter **ppb or ug/L:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter, a measurement of radiation