

**City of Darien**  
**2024 Water Quality Report**  
**Georgia Water System ID #: GA1910000**

**Water System Contact (Phone Number):**  
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**Summary of Water Quality Information**

The **City of Darien** drinking water system is owned and operated by the **City of Darien**. The facility office is located at 106 Washington Street in Darien, Georgia. If there are ever any comments or inquiries to be made, please feel free to contact City Hall during regular working hours.

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 Darien** 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 City Hall. **This report will not be mailed to individual consumers but is available at City Hall upon request.**

Your water comes from three (3) community *groundwater* wells located inside the **City of Darien**. The water source for wells 101 and 102 is the *Upper Floridan Aquifer*, while well 104 derives water from the *Miocene Aquifer*. In the event of an emergency, water can be obtained from a back-up source, well 103, located within the McIntosh Industrial Park. Necessary treatment is performed at the well sites and may include removal of contaminants, chlorine disinfection, as well as the addition of fluoride. City personnel monitor chlorine residual, fluoride content, and flow rate of the water daily.

A **Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP)** has been completed for the **City of Darien**. This is a report which the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (GA DNR EPD) identifies and protects against activities that could potentially cause contamination to the water source. The **WHPP** does not cite any potential pollution sources present within the fifteen (15) foot control zone for any of the wells. Cited potential pollution sources for the 100-foot management zone for all three (3) wells include electrical transformers, utility poles, access roads, secondary roads, sewer lines, vehicle parking areas, a maintenance shop, a diesel generator, and storm water runoff. **A copy of the WHPP is available upon request at City Hall.** The **WHPP** and **2024 Water Quality Report** for well 103 can be obtained at the **McIntosh County Board of Commissioners office**.

The water distributed from the **City of Darien** water system is tested for more than eighty (80) drinking water parameters on a periodic basis determined by the GA DNR EPD Drinking Water Program and/or the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Sampling/testing schedules are based on initial contaminant level assessments and can be changed, if deemed necessary. Waivers may be issued for the analyses of any of the compounds mentioned below if analytical data shows that the distributed drinking water in this area is not vulnerable to contamination from these chemicals.

Generally, samples are collected from the **City of Darien** water system for analyses of inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, synthetic organic compounds, lead, and copper once in a three (3) year cycle. Drinking water samples are also tested for the presence of nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, and HAA5s annually and for bacteriological content monthly. Radiological monitoring is performed every nine (9) years.

During 2024, the **City of Darien** submitted water samples for the analyses of bacteriological content, nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, HAA5s, lead, copper, IOCs, VOCs, radionuclides, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS/PFOS). **We are proud to inform you that the City of Darien did not have any violations of water quality parameters during 2024.** All detected contaminants are delineated in the accompanying charts. Any contaminants not listed had results less than the detection limits and/or MCLs.

For the 2024 lead and copper monitoring event, ten (10) representative locations were selected throughout your community. Locations included single and multi-family residences, municipal buildings, and/or commercial buildings. Detectable levels of lead and copper were found in some of the analyzed samples; however, **NO** sampled site exceeded the *action level* for lead or copper. To access all individual lead tap sample results for the **City of Darien** visit [www.gadrinkingwater.net](http://www.gadrinkingwater.net).

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water. **The City of Darien has submitted the required lead service line inventory. To view the complete SLI, please visit the following website:**  
<https://cityofdarienga.com/lead-line-survey-report/>.

*Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Darien is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home.*

Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the **City of Darien**. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Additionally, the following measures may 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.

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 (1-800-426-4791)**.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

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**, i.e., viruses and bacteria from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, i.e., salts and metals, 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** 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**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil/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 Darien** 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**

**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 Darien Water System**  
**2024 Water Quality Data**  
**WSID: GA1910000**

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	Darien Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.1	1.0 to 1.1	2024	No	Water additive used for control of microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4 [2]	4	0.69	0.69 to 0.69	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive to promote strong teeth
Iron	ppm	[0.3]	**	0.36	0.36 to 0.36	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	Darien Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5	ppb	60	**	ND	N/A	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs	ppb	80	**	13.5	7.1 to 13.5	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection

OTHER DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
Parameter	Units	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	Darien Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	**	**	26.0	26.0 to 26.0	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING RESULTS								
Parameter	Units	Action Level	MCLG	Darien 90th Percentile	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	ppb	15	0	ND	N/A	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.031	ND to 0.042	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

MICROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING RESULTS								
Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	Darien Water System Results	Positive Sample Date (Month/Year)	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform	Present/	1*	0	0	N/A	2024	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	Absent	0	0	0	N/A	2024	No	Human and animal fecal waste

RADIONUCLIDES TABLE								
Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	Darien Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	5	0	ND	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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

•N/A: Not applicable to this contaminant      •ppb (ug/L): parts per billion or micrograms per liter      •ppm (mg/L): parts per million or milligrams per liter      •pCi/l: picocuries per liter, a measurement of radiation

•ND (Not Detected): By regulation, this substance or group of substances was tested for in our finished tap water; however, none was detected at the testing limit.

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

•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.