

City of Willacoochee
2024 Water Quality Report
Georgia Water System ID #: GA0030001

Water System Contact (Phone Number):

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Summary of Water Quality Information

The **City of Willacoochee** drinking water system is owned by the **City of Willacoochee** and operated by **Tindall Enterprises, Inc.** The facility office is located at 33 Fleetwood Avenue in Willacoochee, Georgia. If there are 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 Willacoochee** is committed to providing your community with clean, safe, and reliable drinking water. For more information about your water or this report please call **Tindall Enterprises, Inc.** at 912-449-0999. **A copy of this report will not be mailed to individual consumers but is available at City Hall upon request.**

Your water typically comes from two (2) community *groundwater* wells, which derive water from the *Upper Floridan Aquifer* to provide ample volumes of water for this community. Well 102 is located next to the water tower on Ga Route 135/Peterson Street S. Well 104 is located off Fleetwood Avenue, west of City Hall. In the event of an emergency where one of these wells could not be used, the city would rely on the remaining well to provide the community's water needs until the equipment is repaired or an alternate source can be found. Necessary treatment is performed at the wells to include chlorine disinfection and removal of contaminants. Well properties are protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of the water source through the implementation of a **Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP)**.

A **WHPP** has been completed for well 102 by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD). This report identifies any types of pollution to which your water supply could be vulnerable and includes information regarding potential sources of contamination in your watershed. A 15-foot radius control zone has been set for well 102, for which no potential pollution sources are cited. Certain potential pollution sources have been cited in the 100-foot radius management zone for well 102; sources include electrical transformers, utility poles, access roads, secondary roads, sewer lines, vehicle parking areas, stormwater runoff, and Ga Route 135. A WHPP has yet to be completed for well 104. Once the report is available, the complete list of potential pollution sources can be found on the WHPP report at City Hall.

The **City of Willacoochee** water system is tested for more than eighty (80) drinking water parameters on a periodic basis as determined by the GA EPD. Generally, the water system is tested for the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), synthetic organic compounds, inorganic compounds, radionuclides, lead, and copper once in a three (3) year cycle; nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, and HAA5s annually; and bacteriological content monthly. Well 104 is the newest well in the city and thus requires sampling and analysis of radionuclides on a quarterly basis and VOCs annually. Sampling schedules are decided by initial contaminant level assessments and can be changed if deemed necessary. EPD may also issue monitoring waivers if testing shows that the distributed drinking water in this area is not vulnerable to contamination.

During 2024, well 104 was exclusively used while well 102 undergoing a rehabilitation project. The **City of Willacoochee** water system was sampled and analyzed for bacteriological content, nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, HAA5s, synthetic organic compounds, volatile organic compounds, and radionuclides. **The City of Willacoochee water system (well 104) was analyzed for radionuclides quarterly during 2024. The average of the combined radium results was below the EPA Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), however the average for the gross alpha results exceeded the MCL. The City of Willacoochee received a violation from the EPD each quarter of 2024 for exceeding the MCL average. Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard MCL for the periods indicated. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. All other detected contaminants are delineated in the accompanying chart. Any contaminants not listed in the accompanying charts had results less than the detection limits and/or maximum contaminant levels.**

During the 2022 sample cycle, ten (10) water samples were taken from different areas in your community, including single- and multi-family residences, commercial and municipal buildings. **One** sampled site exceeded *Action Level* for lead, and both contaminants were detected in at least one other sample. This could indicate the presence of some service lines or home plumbing that may contain lead and/or copper materials. To access all individual lead tap sample results for the **City of Willacoochee** visit 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 Willacoochee has submitted the required lead service line inventory. To view the complete SLI report, please visit the following website:** <https://ga-epd.120water-ptd.com/>.

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

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 Willacoochee 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 keep these costs as low as possible by utilizing good water conservation practices.

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

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 Willacoochee
2024 Water Quality Data
WSID: GA0030001

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 Willacoochee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.069	0.050 to 0.069	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.94	0.94 to 0.94	2023	No	Water additive used for control of microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4 [2]	4	0.78	0.55 to 0.78	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive
Iron	ppb	[300]	**	2400	60 to 2400	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	ppb	[50]	**	160	290 to 160	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Willacoochee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5	ppb	60	**	2.9	2.9 to 2.9	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
THMs	ppb	80	**	8.5	8.5 to 8.5	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
Chlordane	ppb	2	0	0.72	ND to 0.72	2024	No	Residue of banned termiticide

OTHER DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
Parameter	Units	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	City of Willacoochee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	**	**	8.1	4.2 to 8.1	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING RESULTS								
Parameter	Units	Action Level	MCLG	City of Willacoochee 90th Percentile	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	ppb	15	0	5.0	ND to 21.0	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.095	0.0029 to 0.25	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

MICROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING RESULTS								
Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Willacoochee # of Positive Samples	Positive Sample Date (Month)	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	City of Willacoochee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters excluding radon & uranium	pCi/L	15	0	20	15.9 to 24.2	2024	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	ug/L	30	0	ND	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium 226/228	pCi/L	5	0	5	4.50 to 5.84	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.