

Georgia Baptist Children's Home-Baxley
2024 Water Quality Report
Georgia Water System ID #: GA0010006

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Summary of Water Quality Information

The **Georgia Baptist Children's Home-Baxley** drinking water system is owned and operated by **Georgia Baptist Children's Home, Inc.**, a non-profit organization. The facility office is located at 9420 Blackshear Highway, Baxley, Georgia. If there are ever any comments or inquiries to be made, please feel free to visit the administration office or contact Mike Shumans by phone 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. **Georgia Baptist Children's Home** is committed to providing clean, safe, and reliable drinking water for everyone in your community. For more information about your water or this report please call Mike Shumans. **This report is available upon request in the administrative office.**

Your water comes from two (2) community *groundwater* wells, referred to as well 101 and well 102. They are approximately 650 feet deep and derive water from a source called the *Upper Floridian Aquifer*. The wells are located at 9420 Blackshear Highway, Baxley, Georgia. Treatment, such as addition of disinfectant, is performed at the well sites. Well properties are protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of this water source.

A **Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP)** has been completed for this facility by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division. This plan identifies any types of pollution to which your water supply could be vulnerable and includes information regarding potential sources of contamination in your watershed. This system is ranked to be in the high susceptibility range for pollution. Cited potential pollution sources for the wells' management zones include access roads, utility poles, domestic waste lines, electrical transformers, vehicle parking areas and storm water run-off from parking areas potentially containing volatile organic compounds and/or pesticides and herbicides from lawns. A copy of the complete **Source Water Assessment Plan** is available upon request in the administrative office.

Georgia Baptist Children's Home 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 Drinking Water Program and/or the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Sample/testing schedules are based on initial contaminant level assessments and can be changed by EPD if deemed necessary. Waivers may also be issued for analyses of certain contaminants if analytical data shows that the distributed drinking water in this area is not vulnerable to contamination from these compounds. Generally, samples are collected from this water system for analysis of lead and copper, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, synthetic organic compounds, TTHMs, and HAA5s once every three (3) years. Nitrate-nitrite testing is done annually, and analyses of bacteriological content is performed monthly. Radionuclide testing is carried out every nine (9) years. Even though this facility has personnel for daily maintenance, **Georgia Baptist Children's Home** has also secured the services of **Tindall Enterprises, Inc.** for routine monitoring of the water system.

During 2024, the **Georgia Baptist Children's Home** drinking water was analyzed for bacteriological content, nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, and HAA5s. **The Georgia Baptist Children's Home did not have any violations of water quality parameters during 2024. 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.**

For the 2022 lead and copper monitoring event, five (5) representative locations within the water system were sampled for analyses. **NO** sampled site exceeded the lead or copper *Action Levels*, however low levels of lead and copper were found in one or more samples. This indicates the presence of service lines or home plumbing that may contain one or both of these contaminants. To access all individual lead tap sample results for **Georgia Baptist Children's Home** 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 Georgia Baptist Children's Home 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 Georgia Baptist Children's Home 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 **Georgia Baptist Children's Home**. 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>.

To minimize exposure to lead and/or copper, the following measures may also be taken:

- Flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking
- 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 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 at 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**, which 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 number 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.

Georgia Baptist Children's Home 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 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.

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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	Georgia Baptist Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.07	0.07 to 0.07	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.03	1.03 to 1.03	2024	No	Water additive used for control of microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4 [2]	4	0.4	0.4 to 0.4	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron	ppb	[300]	NA	64.0	64.0 to 64.0	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
PARAMETER	UNITS	MCL	MCLG	Georgia Baptist Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs	ug/l	80	**	ND	N/A	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ug/l	60	**	ND	N/A	2024	No	By product of drinking water disinfection

OTHER DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE								
PARAMETER	UNITS	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	Georgia Baptist Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	**	**	17	17 to 17	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING RESULTS								
PARAMETER	UNITS	Action Level	MCLG	Georgia Baptist Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	ppb	15	0	2.7	ND to 5.4	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.0205	0.0034 to 0.021	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

MICROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING RESULTS								
PARAMETER	UNITS	MCL	MCLG	Georgia Baptist Number of Positive Samples	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	Georgia Baptist Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226	pCi/L	5	0	1.12	1.12 to 1.12	2017	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.