

CITY OF MILLEN
2018 WATER QUALITY REPORT
Georgia Water System ID Number: GA1650000

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Summary of Water Quality Information

The **City of Millen** drinking water system is owned and operated by the City of Millen. The office address is 919 College Avenue, Millen, Georgia. If there are ever any comments or inquiries to be made, please feel free to contact **John R. Thomas** by phone at the number listed above.

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 Millen** 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 **Jeff Brantley**, City Manager, at 478-982-6100. This Water Quality Report is available at City Hall upon request or may be viewed on their web site at www.jenkinscountyga.com.

Your water comes from four (4) community wells. All four (4) wells are located within the City of Millen and tap into an underground water source called the *Coastal Plain Aquifer*. Any necessary treatment of the water, such as addition of disinfectant and/or removal of contaminants, is performed at the well sites. These properties are protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of the water source through the implementation of a **Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP)**.

A **Wellhead Protection Plan** for this facility has been completed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division. This report identifies any types of pollution to which your water supply could be vulnerable and includes information regarding potential sources of contamination in this watershed. This system is considered to be in the average susceptibility range for pollution. There are no cited potential pollution sources for either well within the control zone in a radius of fifteen (15) feet. For information on the management zones of these well sites, a copy of the **Wellhead Protection Plan for this facility is available to the public at City Hall upon request.**

The **City of Millen** water system is tested for more than eighty (80) drinking water parameters on a regular basis at a frequency 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. EPD may also issue waivers for the analysis of any of the mentioned 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 from within the **City of Millen** water system for the analysis of inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, synthetic organic compounds, lead, and copper once in a three (3) year cycle. Nitrate-nitrites, total trihalomethanes, and haloacetic acids are analyzed yearly, and bacteriological content is monitored monthly. Radionuclide levels are tested every nine (9) years for all wells. In addition to the monitoring requirements set by Georgia EPD, the **City of Millen** also participates in a voluntary monthly fluoride monitoring program with the Georgia Public Health Laboratory Environmental Health Unit.

During 2018, the **City of Millen** water system was tested for bacteriological content, nitrate-nitrites, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, radionuclides, total trihalomethanes, and haloacetic acids. **We are proud to inform you that the City of Millen had no violations of water quality parameters during 2018. All detected contaminants are delineated in the accompanying charts. Any constituents not listed in the accompanying charts had results less than the detection limits and/or maximum contaminant levels.**

Even though the **City of Millen** had no violations of Lead and/or Copper during the most recent monitoring event, Lead and Copper analysis in single- and multi-family residences, municipal buildings, and commercial buildings indicates the presence of some service lines containing these contaminants. Results indicated **NONE** of the twenty (20) sites sampled contained quantities of Lead or Copper which exceeded the action levels for these parameters.

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 Millen** 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>.*

To minimize exposure to Lead and/or Copper, the following measures may be taken.

- 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. The EPA has established Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL’s) and Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLG’s) for potential contaminants. MCL’s are the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLG’s are 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. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s 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**, 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 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 Millen 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.”*

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

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.”*

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

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.

NA: Not applicable to this contaminant

ppb or ug/l: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

ppm or mg/l: parts per million or milligrams per liter

pCi/l: picocuries per liter, a measurement of radiation