

2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Social Circle Water System I.D. #2970002

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The City of Social Circle is committed to supplying you with the highest quality of water possible. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water safety. The city will not be providing copies of this water report by mail to each customer. Copies are available at City Hall upon request. The following data will explain where your water comes from and the processes that are used.

Social Circle's main source is surface water drawn from the Alcovy River, four miles west of town on Social Circle-Jersey Rd. Our plant can produce one million gallons per day. The other sources are mainly for emergencies and comes from the Walton County Water and Sewage Authority with a water purchase agreement set at one half million gallons per day and an emergency interconnect with Newton County Water Authority.

Water Department staff test and monitor the water continuously. Also, monthly samples are sent to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division for testing at state labs. These tests ensure that proper chemical levels are maintained and that the water remains free of unwanted contaminants.

A Source Water Assessment Plan was completed by the Northeast Georgia Regional Development Center. (Website: www.negrdc.org). Most potential pollution sources within the Social Circle water supply watershed were marked as low release and low risk potential (sewer leaks and spills, urban run-off, road crossings, agricultural operations, pipelines, oil and gas). This source assessment and protection plan can be used by Social Circle in times when emergency response is needed.

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 risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Water Drinking 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 **EPA's 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 materials, and can pick up substance resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment 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, and septic systems.

***Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

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

Definitions

*MG: Million Gallons

*MGD: Million Gallons per day

*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's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water below which there is known or expected risk to health.

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

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

*Turbidity: A measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it's a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

*PPM: parts per million (one pound of a substance per one million pounds of water)

N/A: non-applicable

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units (measures cloudiness of water)

**REGULATED
CONTAMINANTS
DETECTED 2016**

**PARAMETERS REGULATED AT
WATER PLANT**

SUBSTANCE	MCL	MCLG	LEVEL DETECTED	IS THE WATER SAFE?	SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
HALOACETIC ACID (4 QTR AVG)	.06 PPM	0	.042 PPM	YES	TREATMENT BY-PRODUCT
TRIHALOMETHANE (4 QTR AVG)	.080 PPM	0	.064 PPM	YES	TREATMENT BY-PRODUCT
FILTER TURBIDITY	TT=% OF	0	.02-.24 PPM	YES	TREATMENT BY-PRODUCT
	SAMPLES <0.3 NTU 95% 0.5 NTU				

**PARAMETERS REGULATED AT
CUSTOMER'S TAP**

SUBSTANCE	MCL	MCLG	LEVEL DETECTED	IS THE WATER SAFE?	SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
LEAD	.015 PPM	0	.002 PPM	YES	HOUSEHOLD PIPES
COPPER	1.3 PPM	1.3 PPM	.27 PPM	YES	HOUSEHOLD PIPES

**UNREGULATED
PARAMETERS**

SUBSTANCE	MCL	MCLG	LEVEL DETECTED	IS THE WATER SAFE?	SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
CHLOROFORM	NOT REGULATED	N/A	.08 PPM	YES	TREATMENT PROCESS BY-PRODUCT
CHLORODIBRO-METHANE	NOT REGULATED	N/A	.02 PPM	YES	TREATMENT PROCESS BY-PRODUCT
BROMEDI-CHLOROMETHANE	NOT REGULATED	N/A	.05 PPM	YES	TREATMENT PROCESS BY-PRODUCT
NITRATE	NOT REGULATED	N/A		YES	TREATMENT PROCESS BY-PRODUCT

**TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON
REMOVAL SUMMARY
JAN-DEC 2015 AVG.**

SOURCE WATER	TREATED WATER	ACTUAL TOC REMOVAL %	REQUIRED TOC REMOVAL %
TOC (MG/L)	TOC (MG/L)		
2.0	1.2	40%	35

A Community Partnership: We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting water. Here's how you can help: Immediately report any problems you experience or witness to our Customer Service Department. Our representatives can help determine the source of the problem and respond with a course of action. Any inquiries about your water quality should be directed to **Barry Parsons at (770) 545-9106**. (Spanish translation available if needed).

Increasing populations increase great demands on available water supplies. In addition, droughts have been more common in the last 20 years and are decreasing our available source and ground water. Conservation is a must if we are to maintain our current way of life. In the future communities, will be forced to increase water efficiency by conserving water and reuse and treatment of waste water. Conservation will help protect this valuable resource. Water, sewer, and energy bills decrease when water is used more efficiently.