



Water Quality Report

GA Community Water System Name:

Suwanee Water System

GA Water System ID#:

1350010

Name of water system contact:

James H. Miller
Public Works Director
330 Town Center Avenue
Suwanee, GA 30024
770-945-8996

Time Period Covered:

This report details information on our water system for the calendar year 2010, unless otherwise noted. We are required to monitor for certain parameters less than once per year, because the concentration is not expected to vary significantly from one year to the next. Therefore, some of the data in this report is more than one year old.

Water System Information Summary:

The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water safety. Last year, our water system conducted numerous tests for various different parameters in our tap water. The results from these tests indicated that Suwanee's water complied with Clean Water Act standards.

Information on our Raw Water Source:

Your water comes from a groundwater well approximately 235 feet deep and is then

housed in a 150,000-gallon elevated water tank. The water source has been identified as a crystalline rock aquifer and provides water for our community. These locations are protected from activities that could potentially cause contamination of the water source. We treat the raw water with chlorine disinfectant and fluoride. The City currently has 331 connections on the water system, which consists primarily of 6-inch water mains, with some 2-inch and 8-inch lines. The City also has a connection to the Gwinnett County Department of Public Utilities trunk line for emergency backup use.

Public Participation Opportunities:

The City Council holds meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall unless otherwise scheduled. To verify the location, date and time of any City Council meeting please call 770-945-8996 or visit us at www.suwanee.com.

Questions or comments concerning the water system can be submitted to the attention of James H. Miller, Public Works Director in writing, by calling 770-945-8996, or by e-mail at jmiller@suwanee.com.

Availability of Source Water Assessments and Information on Potential Watershed Contaminants:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has written a Wellhead Protection Plan that details the City's course of action in the event of a chemical spill. The report is available to the public and includes information regarding potential sources of

contamination in the watershed. To obtain a copy of the Wellhead Protection Plan, please call the City at 770-945-8996.

Important Health Information:

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.

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)**.

Contaminants and Health Risks:

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

Lead: 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 Suwanee Water System 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>.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, 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.

Notes:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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 Disinfection 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.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

ppm: Parts per million; means 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years, or 1 penny in \$10 thousand.

ppb: Parts per billion; means 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as microgram per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or 1 penny in \$10 million.

pCi/l: Picocuries per Liter; a unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

n/a: Not applicable.

Water Quality Data

Detected Inorganic Contaminants Table							
Parameter (units)	MCL	MCLG	Suwanee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.72	0.1 to 1.5	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	Not Detected	n/a	May 2010	No	Runoff from fertilizer use
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.16	n/a	June 2010	No	Discharge of metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfectants Monitoring Table							
Parameter (units)	MRDL	MRDLG	Suwanee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.07	0.33 – 2.25	2010	No	Water additive used to control microbes

Radiological Monitoring Results

Parameter (units)	MCL	Suwanee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	15	3	n/a	Aug. 2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Monitoring Results

Parameter (units)	Action Level	MCLG	Suwanee Water System Results	No. of Sites found above the Action Level	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.12	0	Sept. 2010	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	15	0	2.5	0	Sept. 2010	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Disinfectants By-Product Monitoring Results

Parameter (units)	MCL	Suwanee Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	Not Detected	Not Detected	2010	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	35	Not Detected	Not Detected	2010	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

City of Suwanee Water System

The City of Suwanee water system was created in 1952 by action of the City Council, and extended throughout the 1960's and 70's as new houses were built in Old Town and between Buford Highway and Suwanee Creek. Extension of lines occurred during 2004-2006 to and throughout the Stonecypher Subdivision

development. A capital project during 2005 was the replacement of an existing water storage tank with a new 150,000 gallon elevated water storage tank. In accordance with Georgia Environmental Protection Division regulations, during 2009 we completed baseline water quality testing for the implementation of Stage Two Disinfectant By-Product Rule. It was a series of tests to determine if our

disinfectant, chlorine, produces Trihalomethanes (THM's) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA's) as by-products. The 2009 and subsequent 2010 test results were consistent with other water quality tests we had previously conducted indicating the test results were below detection limits. This provides affirmation for our choice and use of our existing disinfectant type. During 2009 we completed the comprehensive water system study via our Consultant on our source water supply, distribution system and operations creating a recommended short and long range master plan to better serve you with the highest quality of water. Implementation of initial recommended improvements began in 2009 and were completed in 2010 with 1) acquiring a G.E.F.A. loan with 40% forgiveness as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for water system improvements; 2) completed the water line replacement improvement projects on Martin Farm Road and Stonecypher Road along with the water line improvements at the

intersection of King Street and Davis Street; and 3) completed an additional well, well house, water pump, chemical feed & monitoring equipment, and water tie-in to our existing water main system. The final permitting of the new well is expected through the Georgia Environment Protection during 2011. Also, on May 25, 2010, the City Council adopted revised administrative fees and water rates for the Water System. It had been six years since the last water rates implementation date, which was July 1, 2004. The initial revised water rates became effective for the bills due on August 10th. During the same meeting, revised water rates were also approved to become effective with the water bills that are due the first part of July 2011, July 2012 and July 2013.

The City continues to implement projects designed to protect water quality, evaluate our source of supply, and replace aging infrastructure.