Vidalia, Georgia's
2016 Water Quality Report

Vidalia Water System ID# GA2790002

Your Water is Safe to Drink

The City of Vidalia Waterworks is pleased to report that your community's drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia EPD during the previous year. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Division (EPD) standards. We are committed to providing you with the information because we want you to be informed. For more information about your water call the Water Department at 912-537-4566.

Special Population Advisory

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/Center For Disease Control guidelines on how to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.

Drinking Water Sources

Your water comes from ground water wells located throughout the City of Vidalia. The wells draw water from the Upper Floridian Aquifer. Wellhead protection program information for the Vidalia wells can be obtained from the City of Vidalia, 111 Brinson Rd., Vidalia, GA 30474.

Public Participation Opportunities

Our City Council meets monthly at the Vidalia Annex located at 302 East First Street.. Contact 912-537-7661, to obtain the dates for these meetings. Please feel free to participate in these meetings and find out about your drinking water.

Contaminants in Water

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 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it 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 & herbicides,* which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential use.
- *Radioactive contaminants,* which are naturally occurring.
- *Organic chemical contaminants,* including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Water Quality Monitoring

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

Water Quality Data

The table in this report lists all the drinking water contaminants we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2015. **The state requires the City to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.**

Terms & Abbreviations

- **AL**: Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **MCLG**: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - 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.
- **MCL**: Maximum Contaminant Level - 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.
- **N/A**: not applicable
- **nd**: not detectable at testing limit
- **NTU**: Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- **pCi/l**: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **ppm**: parts per million or milligrams per liter -- (corresponds to one minute in two years)
- **ppb**: parts per billion or micrograms per liter --(corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years)
- **TT**: Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- **MRDL:** maximum residual disinfectant level – the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water
- **MRDLG:** maximum residual disinfectant level goal – the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.15	0.14-0.17	2015	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3(AL)	1.3	0.11	0	2012	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	15(AL)	0	2.5	0	2012	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Residual (ppm)	4	4	0.93	.64-1.5	2015	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate/Nitrate	10	0	ND	ND-10	2015	N	Erosion of natural deposits and leaching.
Manganese (ppb)	N/A	N/A	40	37-47	2015	N	Erosion of natural deposits and leaching.
Iron (ppb)	N/A	N/A	33	26-48	2015	N	Erosion of natural deposits and leaching.
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Substance	MRDLG	MRDL	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	4	4	0.73	.30-1.48	2015	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.
Substance	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation (Y or N)	Typical Source of Contamination
TTHM; Total Trihalomethanes (ppm)	0.1	N/A	0.00012	ND - 0.0020	2015	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Xylene	10	0	ND	ND-10	2012	N	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories.
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	1	-------	2015	N	Naturally present in the environment.
Radio Nucleoids							
Alpha (ppb)	15 pCi/l	0	0	-------	2013	N	Erosion of natural deposits and certain minerals that maybe radioactive.