ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

FITZGERALD WATER, LIGHT & BOND COMMISSION

WATER DEPARTMENT

ID GA0170000

THIS REPORT INCLUDES DATA COLLECTED BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023

We are pleased to report to you that the drinking water supplied by Fitzgerald Water, Light & Bond Commission is SAFE. The tables included show that the drinking water in Fitzgerald gets an excellent report when compared to health standards.

WATER SOURCE

The Fitzgerald Water, Light & Bond Commission withdraws water from five (5) municipal ground water wells. These wells range in depth from 450' to 550' deep. The water source is commonly called the Floridan Aquifer (shaded in gray).

These wells are located at various locations within the city of Fitzgerald. These wells are protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of this water source. We perform treatment at each of these wells to include removal of contaminants and chlorine disinfection. The treated drinking water is pumped into five water storage tanks. These tanks have a storage capacity of 1,750,000 gallons. From these sites, the water is distributed throughout the community through over 100 miles of water mains and distribution lines. These mains are flushed annually to keep them free of mineral settlements and dissolved air.

Copies of our source water assessment plan are available at the Fitzgerald Water, Light & Bond Commission business office at 103 West Central Ave. Based on our Source Water Assessment, our drinking water meets all minimum EPD standards.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE SAFETY OF YOUR DRINKING WATER

All 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).

In order 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunodeficient persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV / AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of 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).

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 animal or from human activity. Every few years we are required to participate in the UCMR which stands for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule. This year we did the UCMR5 and the results are in the table below.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following.

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 byproducts 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER DEPARTMENT

Fitzgerald Water, Light & Bond Commission Water Department is staffed with people dedicated to provide you with quality safe drinking water. Our department has licensed GROUND WATER OPERATORS, licensed DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATORS, and DISTRIBUTION CREW MEMBERS. We also have 4 meter readers and 13 office staff.

The operation of the water department is conducted under the direction of the Fitzgerald Water, Light, & Bond Commission. The Commission holds regularly scheduled meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday after the first Monday of each month. The meetings are open to the public and are held at the Commission conference room located at 103 West Central Ave., Fitzgerald, Georgia.

The Commissions' business office is located at 103 West Central Ave. in Fitzgerald.

The office is open between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you have any questions concerning water quality, you may call (229) 426-5400 during business hours to speak to Andy Royal or Jonathan Stubbs, or after regular business hours, dial (229) 426-5455 and report any emergency to the appropriate personnel.

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. Fitzgerald Water, Light & Bond Commission 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.

Substance Tested & Detected	Units	MCLG Goal	Maximum Allowed MCL	Amount Detected in System	Range	Is it Safe? Does it meet standards?	Probable Source
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.180------ 90th percentile	0-230 ug/l	YES	Copper Plumbing
Fluoride	ppm	0.7 - 1.3	4	0.67 ppm yearly average		YES	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Lead	ppm	0	15	0.0014------ 90th percentile	0-3.5 ug/l	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing
TTHM's Trihalomethanes, Total	ppm	NA	0.08 ppm	.0000 - .0027 ppm		YES	Chlorination
HAA5's Haloacetic Acids	ppm	NA	0.060 ppm	.0000 - .0000 ppm		YES	Chlorination
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.96	0.01-1.70	YES	Water additive used to control microbes
UCMR5			**MRL**				
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (6:2 FTS)	ug/l		0.005	0.017	0.0022-0.017	YES	

TERMINOLOGY:

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Allows for a margin of safety.
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level – Highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. Using the best available treatment technology, MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible.
MRL: Minimum Reporting Limit - The lowest analyte concentration which demonstrates known quantitative quality.
AL: 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 or milligrams per liter. One part per million is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in 10 thousand dollars.
PPB: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in 10 million dollars.
NTU: Nephelometric turbidity unit – Measures water quality

Consumer Confidence Reports are due to Georgia EPD offices and local water system customers annually no later than July 1.
Additional water quality information can be found on these websites: www.epa.gov/safewater/ www.dnr.state.ga.us/epd www.awwa.org