Town of Martin 2021 Consumer Confidence Report WSID# GA2570000

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The Town of Martin water system uses groundwater as its principal source of supply. Your water comes from groundwater that is taken some 450 feet deep from the Piedmont Aquifer by five wells. These wells are located at: Anderson Thomas Road, North Martin Drive, Hurricane Grove Road, and Gumlog Road (Ga. Hwy. 328). The Anderson Thomas Road well is equipped with sand filters to remove manganese and iron from the water received. All wells together provide ample volumes of water for our community. Each well site is protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of the water source. Groundwater pumped into our water system has been treated with chlorine for disinfection. During extreme drought conditions and/or maintenance on Martin's wells or storage tanks, Martin will receive treated water from the Toccoa Water System. Water received from Toccoa comes through a connection of the two systems. The connection is located on Ga. Hwy 17 near Arrowhead Drive. Water supplied by the Town has met or exceeded water safety and quality standards set by state and federal agencies. Once the water is in the Town's system additional testing is performed to ensure the water remains safe and of the highest quality.

Source water assessment and its availability

Source Water Assessment is available upon request at city hall.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:
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 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Your water system is an active participant in the community. Our employees are involved in many civic organizations and are pleased to offer information and speakers to the community on water protection and water treatment as well as provide tours of our facilities.

Your Town Council meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Martin Town Hall. The Town Hall is located at 3707 Historic Hwy 17 in Martin. Your participation or comments are welcome at these meetings.

Additional Information for 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. Town of Martin 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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	2	.22	1.75	2021	No	Water additive used to control microbes (Monitored by the Town of Martin)
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.76	NA	NA	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
								additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories (Monitored by the City of Toccoa)
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.3	NA	1.3	2021	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits (Monitored by the Town of Martin)
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100	NA	NA	2021	No	Soil runoff (Monitored by the City of Toccoa)
100% of the samples were below the TT value of .3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was .11. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	11.9	10.2	11.9	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits (Monitored by the Town of Martin)
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	3	2.25	3	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits (Monitored by the Town of Martin)

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.2	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits (Monitored by the Town of Martin)
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4.2	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits (Monitored by the Town of Martin)

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it

Unit Descriptions	
	because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	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	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

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