

CITY OF CAMILLA

2013 WATER QUALITY REPORT PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM I.D. #205-0001

CAMILLA WATER QUALITY EXCEEDS SAFE STANDARDS

The City of Camilla Utilities Department and specifically the Water Department employees are committed to providing our citizens with safe and superior quality drinking water. Our goal is to keep the drinking water meeting or exceeding State and Federal regulations for safe drinking water.

Where does this water come from? Is it safe for you and your children? This annual Water Quality Report will answer those questions for you. A copy of this report is available for you at the Customer Service Department located in City Hall. You are welcome to stop by any time during normal business hours and pick up a copy.

Customers of the City of Camilla's water supply are fortunate to have one of the finest sources of drinking water available. Our water is collected from deep in the ground and taken out of what is known as the Floridan Aquifer, the state's largest aquifer. The Floridan extends from near Dawson southeast into the Atlantic Ocean. This water is deep enough in the ground that it is very unlikely to be as easily contaminated as water that is above ground, such as lakes and rivers. Camilla has four deep wells that provide water to be contained in raised, clean and well maintained water storage towers. The transfer of the water from underground to



enclosed towers protects it from contaminants such as pesticides, heavy metals and other chemicals. During the collection, storage and delivery chlorine and fluoride are added to the water. Chlorine is added for disinfection and fluoride is added to promote strong teeth.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets limits on the amount of certain contaminants (over 100 of them) allowed to be in drinking water provided by public water systems. The City, with assistance from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division Water Quality Laboratory, performs several thousand tests annually on our water to monitor continued compliance with these regulations. Even with all of this testing, drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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). For questions about our water quality or copies of this report, call the Customer Service Department at City Hall at 336-2220.

QUALITY WATER FOR TODAY

WHERE DOES DRINKING WATER COME FROM?



The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 human activity.

Contaminants that could 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 a 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 runoff and residential uses.
- ▶ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm runoff and septic systems.

WHERE DOES DRINKING WATER COME FROM? (cont.)

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

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. Camilla 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 the drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at:

www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

El informe contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Traduzcalo o hablo con



P.O. Box 328~Camilla, GA 31730
Phone: (229) 336-2220

As a public utilities company, Camilla Utilities is governed by your elected members of the Camilla City Council which sits as the Board of Utilities. The public is encouraged to attend Council Meetings. A schedule of City Council meetings is available at City Hall, 30 East Broad Street. We invite public interest in community decision-making processes affecting drinking water. If you have any information or concerns about our drinking water, contact City Hall at 336-2220 or any elected member of your City Council.

WHAT IS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

Terms and abbreviations used below:

PPM=parts per million – one part per million is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000

PPB=parts per billion – one part per billion is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000,000

MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

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.

AL=The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

SUBSTANCE DETECTED	UNIT OF MEASURE	GOAL MCLG	MAXIMUM ALLOWED MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	IS IT SAFE? DOES IT MEET STANDARDS	PROBABLE SOURCE
Fluoride	PPM	0.8-1.4	4	0.79	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	PPB	0	AL=15	3.8	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	PPB	1300	AL=1300	480	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Chlorine	PPM	>0.2	<1.2	0.26	Yes	Additive for disinfection

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 systems disorders, some elderly and infants can be at particular risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Center for Disease Control 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).

Call the City of Camilla at 336-2220 for questions or comments regarding our 2013 Water Quality Report. We encourage and appreciate your input.

Date of Publication: June 19, 2014