



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

UNION CITY WATER SYSTEM

5047 Union Street - Union City, Georgia 30291 - (770) 306-6855

This report includes data collected between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025

The City of Union City Water System (**WSID#: GA1210010**) is proud to present our 2025 Annual Water Quality Report. Our dedicated employees are committed to providing you with safe, dependable drinking water on a year-round basis, and we are pleased to outline our monitoring performance from the past year.

While our drinking water met or exceeded the vast majority of safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), our system experienced a localized regulatory compliance issue regarding disinfection byproducts. We believe in complete transparency with our community; this report provides detailed information about our water quality monitoring results and ongoing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply. For more information about your water, consumer protection guidelines, or this report, please call **Kinta Johnson** at **(770) 306-6855**.

The primary source of Union City's water is the **Chattahoochee River**. Initial treatment of this raw surface water is provided by the City of Atlanta at two main facilities: the **Chattahoochee Plant** and the **Hemphill Plant**. These two facilities supply 75% of Atlanta's drinking water. The remainder of the regional supply comes from the **Atlanta Fulton County Water Treatment Plant**, which primarily serves the northeast metropolitan area.

Treated water is then distributed through the City of Atlanta's distribution system and connects to the Union City distribution system through ten master water meters located at various points around Union City. Water received by Union City has met or exceeded all water safety and quality standards set by state and federal agencies. Once the water is in the Union City distribution system, additional testing is performed to ensure the water remains safe and of the highest quality in accordance with the **Georgia Safe Drinking Water Act of 1977** and the state's **Rules for Safe Drinking Water**.

WATER QUALITY DATA & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE TABLES

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that the City of Atlanta detected during the 2025 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 is from testing done from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.

Regulated Contaminants Sampled at the Source Treatment Plants						
Parameter (units)	Regulatory Limit (MCL)	Range of Detections	Results	Result Description	Violation?	Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	0.46 - 0.83	0.74	Highest Monthly Average	No	Naturally occurring mineral; added to promote dental health
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)*	10	0.56 - 0.82	0.72	Yearly Average	No	Runoff from fertilizer; leaking from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)**	TT (RAA < 2.0 ppm)	1.1 - 1.8	1.4	Highest Monthly RAA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	TT = 1 NTU	0.01 - 0.31	0.09	Highest Monthly Average	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (% of samples)	TT = 95% of samples <0.3 NTU	NA	100.0%	Lowest Monthly Percentage	No	Soil runoff

Plant Testing Notes:

* Nitrate and Nitrite are measured together as Nitrogen (N).

** TOC compliance is determined by calculating the Running Annual Average (RAA) of treated water monthly; an RAA < 2.0 ppm is in compliance.

*** **TT** stands for *Treatment Technique* (a required engineering process intended to lower contaminant levels).

Regulated Contaminants Sampled in the Distribution System						
Parameter (units)	MCL	Range of Detections	Results	Result Description	Violation?	Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL = 4	<0.07 - 1.90	1.13	Highest Monthly Average	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Coliform (% of Samples)	<5% Positive / Month	0 - 2%	2.0%	Highest Monthly Percentage	No	Naturally present in the environment
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	15.2 - 37.3	35.5	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	18.0 - 71.4	70.5	Highest Quarterly LRAA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

During 2025, our water system exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) across three monitoring periods, resulting in an MCL violation. TTHMs are chemical disinfection

byproducts that form when chlorine (crucial for wiping out harmful microbes) interacts with natural organic matter.

- **Contaminant:** Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)
- **Regulatory Limit (MCL):** 80 ppb (0.080 mg/L, calculated via an Annual Running Average)

Highlighted Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) — Regulatory Violation Details			
Violation Monitoring Period	Level Detected (Annual Running Average)	Over Limit?	Major Source of Contamination
04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	0.087 mg/L	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
07/01/2025 – 09/30/2025	0.087 mg/L	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	0.085 mg/L	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection

What Is Being Done to Correct This?

To aggressively remediate this issue, Union City implemented an **active main flushing program** focusing specifically on dead-end water mains. This targeted flushing reduces the overall "water age" and improves localized water circulation. We are continuing to monitor TTHMs tracking and are making operational adjustments alongside our suppliers to maintain strict compliance moving forward.

Health Effects: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over *many* years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of developing cancer.

Supplemental Lead CCR Information

Required Lead Language: *Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. **Union City** is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Public Services by dialing 770-306-6855. Information on lead in drinking water, testing*

methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead and Copper Data Range							
Parameter (units)	Dates Sampled	Action Level (AL)	Range of Detections	90th Percentile Result	Violation?	Sites Exceeding AL	Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	08/29/2024	15	0 - 10.0	1.4	No	0	Household plumbing corrosion; service lines
Copper (ppm)	08/29/2024	1.3	0.0011 - 0.4	0.14	No	0	Household plumbing corrosion; natural erosion

(Triennial Monitoring Program — Data represents the most recent cycle)

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water.

To access the SLI for GA1210010 Union City, submit a written request to access inventory.

Unregulated Contaminants Sampled at Source Water					
Parameter (units)	Guidance Level (SMCL)	Range of Detections	Highest Detected Result	Violation?	Context & Core Source
PFPeA (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.0033 - 0.0048	0.0048	No	PFAS chemical; industrial/consumer products
PFBA (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.0064 - 0.0083	0.0083	No	PFAS chemical; industrial/consumer products
PFHxA (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.0030 - 0.0046	0.0046	No	PFAS chemical; industrial/consumer products
PFBS (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.0030 - 0.0046	0.0046	No	PFAS chemical; industrial/consumer products

(Sampling takes place every five years to assist the EPA in determining future rule-making requirements)

PFAS Context Note: PFAS chemicals are widely distributed compounds found in food packaging, fire extinguishing foams, personal care items, and consumer goods. They degrade at an exceptionally slow rate globally within soils and water. The data displayed represents the UCMR 5 cycle compiled across four events spanning April 2023 through January 2024.

TTHMs and HAA5s: Annual running averages for the year.

Terms & Abbreviations used in the previous table:

-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 Contaminant Level (MCL): the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

-Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): the highest level of disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water.

-Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements that a water system must follow.

-N/A: not applicable.

-ND: not detectable at testing limit.

-ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or 1 penny in \$10,000.

-ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years or 1 penny in \$10,000,000.

-Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): a measure of very small particulate matter in drinking water.

-Treatment Technique (TT): a required treatment technique or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

-TOC is a calculated removal ratio and is reported for compliance as a running annual average computed quarterly.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONTAMINANTS

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immunocompromised 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 healthcare 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 (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 materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

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

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Lead**, if present, in 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 Union City 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 for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

- ***Pesticides and herbicides*** may come from various sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- ***Organic chemical contaminants***, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by- products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- ***Radioactive contaminants*** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number 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.



INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLIC CONTAMINANTS

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite that is found in surface water throughout the United States. When ingested, it can cause symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illnesses. Immunocompromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested for it to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Monthly source water monitoring during 2024 did not detect the presence of these organisms at either the Hemphill or the Chattahoochee Water Treatment Plants. No *Cryptosporidium* was found in Atlanta's finished (treated) drinking water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The City of Atlanta Water Works and the Atlanta Regional Commission have completed an assessment of the potential for pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The results of this assessment can be found on the Internet, or you can request a copy by mail from the Information Center, Environmental Planning Division, Atlanta Regional Commission, 40 Courtland Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30303, or by Phone at (404) 463-3100.

A source water assessment is a study and report unique to each water system that provides basic information about the water used to provide drinking water. The Source Water Assessments:

- Identify the area of land that contributes the raw water used for drinking water,
- Identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies, and
- Provide an understanding of the drinking water supply's susceptibility to contamination.

This information can help communities understand the potential for communicating their drinking water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

PARTICIPATION

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

Your City Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 5047 Union Street, Union City, GA 30291. You are welcome to participate in or comment at these meetings.