

What's in the water?

Water can pick up contaminants from many sources on its long journey to becoming your drinking water. It can pick up and dissolve naturally occurring minerals, radioactive materials and substances resulting from the presence of animals and humans. Microbiological contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, inorganic substances such as salts and minerals, pesticides and herbicides, organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use can and may be in the untreated water.

Even bottled water that you buy at the grocery might reasonably be expected to contain small traces of some contaminants. Just because water may contain small traces of some contaminants it does not mean that it is not safe to drink. Therefore, for health reasons, the state has specified what may and may not be allowed in our drinking water. The Safe Drinking Water Act gives government agencies at Federal, state and local levels the rules and regulations to insure that the water we drink is safe. Over 500 tests were performed on our community's drinking water and the reports we received stated that our drinking water was excellent. We are proud of the ongoing efforts made by our water quality workers to keep our water safe to drink for the citizens of Flowery Branch.

Water Quality Report For 2008 Data

City of Flowery Branch

System ID#: GA 1390000

Our Water

Our well water is brought to the surface and pumped into two elevated holding tanks that are constantly monitored. As the water is drawn from the well chlorine is added to it for disinfection and fluoride is added to promote healthy teeth and bones. Water samples are drawn daily and tested to make sure the chlorine and fluoride levels are within the correct range. Also, samples are collected from sites around the city on a monthly basis and sent to the state to be tested for bacteria.

Special points of interest:

- Over 500 tests performed annually to confirm water quality
- Call (770) 967-6371 to report problems or ask questions
- Community drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards.
- Call City Hall for public meeting information at (770) 967-6371.

Well Water!

We have multiple wells within our city limits that supplies our water needs. Some of these wells are in service and some are on standby in case of an emergency. The City has the new well up and working. Also, we have a new storage tank which has increased our storage capacity for potable water. We will maintain our backup connection to the City of Gainesville water system to our community for emergency. The wells that we are currently using are drilled hundreds of feet into what geologists refer to as Crystalline Rock aquifer. An aquifer is a natural underground layer of porous water bearing material usually capable of yielding large amounts of supply water.

Special Information:

Some people in our community, such as immune compromised persons who have undergone chemotherapy, have had organ transplants, have HIV/Aids or other kinds of immune depressing illness, some elderly people and infants may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These persons may want more information, in which case they can contact either their healthcare providers or the Environmental Protection Association's **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.**

Conservation Corner

There are many things that we can do to help conserve water in our homes.

City of Flowery Branch City Hall has water conservation kits available for sell. They can save the average family over 500 gallons of water per month. Each kit costs \$12.95.

Also, pick up a do it yourself "Household Water Assessment" brochure. And see how your water usage ranks and ways you can reduce water waste.

Flowery Branch Water Quality Report for 2008 Data

How We Rate: Over 500 test were completed on our community's drinking water and the reports we received stated that our drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and Environmental Protection Agency during the previous year. We are proud of the ongoing efforts to maintain the quality of our drinking water for the citizens of Flowery Branch.

Organic and Inorganic Contaminants Table:

Substance	MCL	EPA	FB System	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
Fluoride	4 ppm	0.7-1.2 ppm	0.92 mg/L	Yearly Average	Added
Total Coliform Bacteria	None	None	0	Yearly Average	All Samples were Negative
Nitrate/Nitrite	10 ppm	—	1.1	05/28/08	Wildlife/ Septic Systems
VOCs	2 ppm	—	Nothing Detected for 3 years	Next Test in 2009	Pesticides, Solvents and Agricultural by products
Chlorine	4.0 ppm	0.2-4ppm	0.65 mg/L	Yearly Average	Added
THMs	0.08 mg/L	—	Due May 2009	EPD Request	Chlorination Byproduct
HAA5	0.06 mg/L	—	Due May 2009	EPD Request	Chlorination Byproduct

Metal Contaminants Table:

Substance	Action Level	EPA	FB System	# of Sites Above Action Level	Source Of Contaminant
Lead	15 ppb	—	Next Sample 2009	0	Household Plumbing
Copper	1300 ppb	1300pb	Next Sample 2009	0	Household Plumbing

Lead Health Notice

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 City of Flowery Branch 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

MCL: Maximum Contaminate Level (highest level of contaminate allowed in drinking water)

Action Level: concentration of a contaminate which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

Ppm: Parts per million