BRYAN COUNTY WATER SYSTEM – WSID: 0290105

2024

Important Information about the Safety of Your Drinking Water

(A message from Bryan County Water & Sewer Utility)

The Bryan County Water and Sewer Utility is pleased to report to you that the drinking water supplied by the Bryan County Water System is safe. Our water department staff prides themselves in their ability to provide you, our customer, with clean safe water. All sources of drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances. All water sources, including rivers, lakes, reservoirs and wells, are fed by water that passes over the surface of the land or through the ground. The water dissolves naturally occurring minerals and materials. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plant, septic systems, agricultural livestock operation, and wildlife; (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) 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 Strom water runoff, and septic systems; (E) 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, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.
As new standards are established for drinking water, Bryan County will add new technology in order to be able to meet the new requirements. Please adhere to the state mandated water conservation restrictions as our water is a precious resource.

Source of Water

The Bryan County Water System gets its water from the Floridan aquifer. This pristine source provides a safe and dependable supply of water. Bryan County continues to be pro-active in protecting the Floridan aquifer in accordance with EPD regulations and a Wellhead Protection Plan has been developed and approved by EPD. There are 2 wells located at the Oak Level Facility. The system pumped on average approximately 0.082 million gallons per day (MGD) during 2022.

Treatment Process

The water pumped from the Floridan aquifer is very pure. The only treatment needed is chlorination. Chlorine is added to the water for disinfection purposes prior to entering the distribution system.

About Bryan County and the Water Supply and Treatment System

Bryan County's government works under the direction of an Administrator/Commission form of government. The County Commissioners meet the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at alternating locations between the Bryan County Courthouse in the City of Pembroke and the County Administration Building located off of SR 144. These meetings are open to the public.

Bryan County Water and Sewer Utility business hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The main office is located at 66 Captain Matthew Freeman Drive, Suite 111, Richmond Hill, GA 31324. The customer service number is 912-756-3177 and the 24 hour a day emergency telephone number is 912-675-3930.

Bryan County has a laboratory contract with the Georgia EPD for testing of all water during the course of the year. The number and type of tests are in accordance with EPD requirements and procedures. The County has met all sampling and reporting requirements. A table listing all detected substances that require monitoring are included in this report.

Due to a discrepancy in testing and sampling techniques, Bryan County has submitted an Action Plan to remediate any differences in the reporting of its CCR and Lead and Copper results. This plan is available at our offices, listed above.

For additional information about the quality of your drinking water call – Bryan County Water and Sewer Manager at (912) 944-5695.

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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/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).

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

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. Bryan County 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Symbol, Acronym, or Note	Definition
AL	*Action Level*: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
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.
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.
n/d	Not detected
ppm	*Parts Per Million*: 1 part per 1,000,000 (same as milligrams per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or 1 penny in $10 thousand.
ppb	*Parts Per Billion*: 1 part per 1,000,000,000 (same as micrograms per liter) and corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years or 1 penny in $10 million.
90th Percentile	Level used to determine compliance

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

GA0290105 OAK LEVEL WATER SYSTEM

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Matt Gilmore

Phone 912-944-5695

OAK LEVEL WATER SYSTEM is Ground Water

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 water 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 by-products 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 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

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/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).

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. We 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.

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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.

Source Water Information

SWA = Source Water Assessment

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
WELL #1	GW		Oak Level Road
WELL #2	GW		Oak Level Road

Lead and Copper

Definitions:
Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/23/2023	1.3	1.3	0.0428	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/23/2023	0	15	0.448	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:	The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.
Avg:	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:	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.
Level 1 Assessment:	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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.
Level 2 Assessment:	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	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.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:	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.
na:	not applicable.
mrem:	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	07/11/2022	7.9	7.9 - 7.9	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Fluoride	05/16/2022	0.5	0.5 - 0.5	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

Combined Radium 226/228	2024	0.7	0.7 - 0.7	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2024	0.7	0.7 - 0.7	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	2024	0.149	0.149 - 0.149	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Violations Table

Consumer Confidence Rule			
The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	10/01/2022	2024	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.
CCR REPORT	07/01/2022	2024	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

2024 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information
For Oak Level Water System (GA0290105) Water System

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. Oak Level Water system (GA0290105) 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 Matt Gilmore at 912-944-5695 or our billing department at 912-459-6520. 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 Range Data.

Analyte	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Range		Units	Violation
				Low	High		
Lead	8/10/2023	0	15	0.0	2.72	ppb	N
Copper	8/16/2022	1.3	1.3	0.00296	.0448	ppm	N

To access all individual Lead Tap Sample results for Bryan County Water System (GA0290102) please contact Matt Gilmore at 912-944-5695 or contact the billing department at (912) 459-6520

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 Bryan County-Interstate Center please use the following link:
https://ga-epd.120water-ptd.com/