Alpine Terrace Water System

PWS ID: **GA3110075**

Utilities Inc. of Georgia℠

Annual Water Quality Report 2024

Message from Tiffany Van Horn, President

Dear Utilities, Inc. of Georgia Customers,

I am pleased to present your Annual Water Quality Report for 2024. We strive to do our part in delivering vital, safe and reliable water services that empower our communities to flourish. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory standards.

We are proud to share this report which is based on water quality testing through December 2024. We continually strive to supply water that meets and/or exceeds all federal and state water quality regulations at your tap.

Providing a safe and reliable water supply is hard work, but it is satisfying. Our team of local water experts are proudly dedicated to providing safe, reliable, and cost-effective service every day. This commitment includes acting with integrity, protecting the environment, and enhancing the local community.

Best regards,

Tiffany Van Horn

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Visit us online at www.myutility.us/UIGeorgia to view the Water Quality Reports.

Also visit our website for water conservation tips and other educational material.

Source of Drinking Water

Your water comes from 1 well drilled deep into rock aquifer. The water from these wells are filtered to remove iron and manganese and then treated with small amounts of chlorine for disinfection.

Source Water Assessment

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) has completed the Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) for Alpine Terrace Water System. The relative susceptibility rating of the source was ranked as medium susceptibility. The rating is determined by identifying potential pollution sources near each well. It is important to understand that a susceptibility rate of "medium" does not imply poor water quality, only the systems' potential to become contaminated by potential pollution sources in the assessment area. The water system's susceptibility assessment is available by contacting our customer service office at (888) 527-9707.

Help Protect our Resources

Help put a stop to the more than **1 trillion gallons of water lost annually** nationwide due to household leaks. These easy to fix leaks waste the average family the amount of water used to fill a backyard swimming pool each year. Plumbing leaks can run up your family's water bill an extra 10 percent or more, but chasing down these water and money wasting culprits is as easy as 1—2—3. Simply check, twist, and replace your way to fewer leaks and more water savings:

⇒ **Check** for silent leaks in the toilet with a few drops of food coloring in the tank, and check your sprinkler system for winter damage.

⇒ **Twist** faucet valves; tighten pipe connections; and secure your hose to the spigot. For additional savings, twist a WaterSense labeled aerator onto each bathroom faucet to save water without noticing a difference in flow. They can save a household more than 500 gallons each year—equivalent to the amount water used to shower 180 times!

⇒ **Replace** old plumbing fixtures and irrigation controllers that are wasting water with WaterSense labeled models that are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform well.

For more information visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

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EPA Wants You To Know

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

*A.**Microbial contaminants,** such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.*

*B.**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.*

*C.**Pesticides and herbicides,** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.*

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

What measures are in place to ensure water is safe to drink?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Special notice from EPA for the elderly, infants, cancer patients and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system problems

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/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 (1-800-426-4791).

Information Concerning Lead in Water

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. Utilities, Inc. of Georgia, Inc. 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 Utilities, Inc. of Georgia, Inc. by emailing lead.lines@nexuswg.com. 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*.

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 or individual Lead Tap Sample results for the water system, send a request by email at: lead.lines@nexuswg.com.

Drain Disposal Information

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause is sewer pipes blocked by grease, which gets into the sewer from household drains. Grease sticks to the insides of pipes. Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Help solve the grease problem by keeping this material out of the sewer system in the first place:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets. Scrape grease into a can or trash.
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps / solids for disposal.

Prescription Medication and Hazardous Waste

Household products such as paints, cleaners, oils, and pesticides, are considered to be household hazardous waste. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet can pass through the wastewater treatment system and enter rivers and lakes (or leach into the ground and seep into groundwater in a septic system). Follow the directions for proper disposal procedures. **Do not flush hazardous waste or prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain.** They may flow downstream to serve as sources for community drinking water supplies. Many communities offer a variety of options for conveniently and safely managing these items. For more information, visit the EPA website at: www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw.

If You Have Questions Or Want To Get Involved

Utilities, Inc. of Georgia does not have regularly scheduled public meetings. Please contact Ron Medders at (888) 527-9707 should you have any questions.

The Safe Drinking Water Act was passed in 1974 due to congressional concerns about organic chemical contaminants in drinking water and the inefficient manner by which states supervised and monitored drinking water supplies. Congress' aim was to assure that all citizens served by public water systems would be provided high quality water. As a result, the EPA set enforceable standards for health-related drinking water contaminants. The Act also established programs to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination.

Understanding This Report In order to help you understand this report, we want you to understand a few terms and abbreviations that are contained in it.	
Action level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The "goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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 (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.
Not applicable (N/A)	Not applicable.
Not Detected (ND)	Analysis or test results indicate the constituent is not detectable at minimum reporting limit.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)	One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)	One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)	A measure of radioactivity in the water.
Running Annual Average (RAA)	Calculated running annual average of all contaminant levels detected.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Monitoring Your Water

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2024.** The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, maybe more than one year old.

Violations

In 2024, all required monitoring for contaminants was performed and no allowable levels of these contaminants were exceeded. In addition, **no violations** were received from GA Environmental Protection Division and the water system was in compliance with applicable testing and reporting requirements.

Water Quality Test Results

Lead & Copper

Contaminant	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	90th Percentile	# of Sites over AL	Range Low High	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2022	1.3	1.3	0.165	0	0.032—0.19	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2022	0	15	2.5	0	0—3.5	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-products

Contaminant	Collected Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2024	1.0	0.058-2.11	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

PFAS Testing

Utilities, Inc. of Georgia continues efforts to conduct statewide drinking water testing for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). These man-made compounds are used in the manufacturing of products resistant to water, grease or stains including firefighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, paints, adhesives and insecticides. PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air and is likely present in the blood of humans and animals all over the world. On April 10, 2024, the EPA approved new sampling requirements and drinking water limits for six PFAS including PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and GenX Chemicals. We are completing PFAS sampling ahead of the 2027 initial monitoring deadline and will take appropriate action to meet new regulations as needed.

Our focus will remain, as always, on supplying our customers with quality, reliable water service.

To view PFAS results, visit our website at www.UIGeorgia.com and click Water Quality Reports under Water Safety. For more information visit https//www.epa.gov/pfas.

Contaminant	Sample Date	Range of Detect	Average	EPA MCLG	EPA MCL
PFOA	1/24	N/A	ND	0	4.0
PFOS	1/24	N/A	ND	0	4.0
PFBS*	1/24	ND—0.95	0.48		
PFHxA	1/24	2.6—2.8	2.7		
PFHxS*	1/24	N/A	ND	10	10
PFNA*	1/24	N/A	ND	10	10
PFPeA	1/24	3.8—3.9	3.85		
HFPO-DA (GenX)*	1/24	N/A	ND	10	10
Hazard Index*	1/24	N/A	N/A	1 (unitless)	1 (unitless)

Terms and Abbreviations:

- **GenX** – Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA)
- **Hazard Index** – PFAS mixtures containing at least two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS use a Hazard Index MCL to account for the combined and co-occurring levels of these PFAS in drinking water.
- **ND (No Detect)** - No detection means the constituent is not detectable at the minimum reporting limit.
- **Ng/L** – Nanograms per liter (ng/L) which equals Parts per trillion (ppt) – One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.
- **PFBS** – Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid
- **PFHxA** – Perfluorohexanoic Acid
- **PFHxS** – Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid
- **PFNA** – Perfluorononanoic Acid
- **PFOA** – Perfluorooctanoic Acid
- **PFOS** – Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid
- **PFPeA** – Perfluoropentanoic Acid