City of Auburn Water Quality Report – 2024

The following Water Quality Report provides the residents of Auburn with information on their water system, using data from the Barrow County Water and Sewerage Authority, the Gwinnett County Water Authority, and local testing conducted within and around the city. The report covers Auburn's water system performance for **the calendar year 2024 (January 1 – December 31).**

During this period, the **City of Auburn sourced 97.3% of its drinking water** from the **Barrow County Water and Sewerage Authority (BCWSA),** while the **remaining 2.7%** was purchased as needed from the **Gwinnett County Water Authority**.

For questions about the information in this report, please contact Auburn Public Works at **(770) 963-4002, ext. 223.**

Water System Identification

- **City of Auburn**
- **Water System ID:** #013000

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	Frequency	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources	Violations
Fluoride	Daily	PPM	4.0	4.0	0.80 PPM (Avg.)	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive for strong teeth	No
Turbidity	Daily	NTU	0.3	0.3 (95% of samples)	0.05 NTU (Avg.)	Soil runoff	No
Chlorine	Daily	PPM	4.0	4.0	0.65 PPM (Avg.)	Disinfectant added to water	No

Organic Contaminants

Contaminant	Frequency	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources	Violations
Total Trihalomethanes	Quarterly	PPB	80	50.4	0	By-product of chlorine disinfection	Yes
Total Haloacetic Acids	Quarterly	PPB	60	36	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Year	Units	AL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources	Violations
Lead	2022	PPB	15	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Copper	2022	PPB	1300	1300	26	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits	No

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	Frequency	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources	Violations
Total Coliform Bacteria	Monthly	Presence/Absence	5% of monthly samples	0	0	Naturally present in the environment	No

Definitions

- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)** – The level at which no known or expected health risks occur.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements.
- **NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units)** – Measures water clarity; high turbidity can reduce disinfectant effectiveness.
- **PPM (Parts Per Million)** – Equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/L).
- **PPB (Parts Per Billion)** – Equivalent to micrograms per liter (µg/L).

The Barrow County Water System is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during the past year. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that utilities issue an annual "Consumer Confidence" report to its customers. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent.

Barrow County Water System is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water. We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting our drinking water.

The Barrow County Board of Commissioners meets each month on the second and fourth Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the Commission Meeting Room located on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse, 30 North Broad Street in Winder, GA.

Any comments are welcomed; please contact our office at 770-307-3014.

Water Source: Barrow County purchased all of its drinking water from the Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority. The water supply sources for the Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority are Bear Creek and the Middle Oconee River.

How to Read this Table:

The chart in this report provides representative analytical results of water samples, collected in 2024 unless otherwise noted from the Barrow County Water System. Please note the following definitions:

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which triggers treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.

Inorganic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violations?
Lead[1]		ppb	AL=15	0			Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural	
Barrow County	2022	ppb			0	0-1.7	deposits	NO
Copper[2]		ppb	AL=1300	1300			Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural	
Barrow County	2022	ppb			59	2.6-140	deposits	NO
Chlorine Residual							Water disinfectant	
Barrow County	Monthly	ppm	4	4	0.96	0.77-1.39		NO
Bear Creek	Daily	ppm			1.59	0.9-2.1		NO
Fluoride							Erosion of natural deposits, water additive that promotes	
Bear Creek	Daily	ppm	4	4	0.74	0.68-0.84	strong teeth	NO

Organic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violations?
TTHM's			80	n/a				
Barrow County	Quarterly	ppb			41.75	17-59	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Bear Creek	Quarterly	ppb			21	10.9-31.9		NO
HAA5			60	n/a			By-product of	
Barrow County	Quarterly	ppb			34.125	15-33	drinking water	NO
Bear Creek	Quarterly	ppb			17.3	0.9-24.6	chlorination	NO

Microbiological Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected		Major Sources	Violations?
Turbidity[3]			TT=1	n/a				
Bear Creek	Daily	NTU			0.03	0.02-0.09	Soil Runoff	NO
Turbidity		NTU	95% samples	n/a				
Bear Creek	Daily	NTU	<0.3		100%	n/a	Soil Runoff	NO
Total Coliform		p/a		0				

Barrow County	p/a	No more than 5% of monthly samples	0	n/a	Naturally present in the environment	NO
Bear Creek	p/a		0	n/a		NO
Total Organic Carbon					Naturally present in the environment	