

TOCCOA FALLS COLLEGE
WATER QUALITY REPORT
JUNE 2024



TOCCOA FALLS COLLEGE
107 KINCAID DR./MSC 866
TOCCOA FALLS, GA. 30598

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DRINKING WATER QUALITY
REPORT FOR THE YEAR
2023

During the calendar year 2023, there were 484 laboratory tests for 17 drinking water parameters completed on TFC's drinking water. There were 2 violations of water quality standards this year. In this report you will find information about the sources of your water, what it contains and how it compares to the standards set by state and federal regulatory agencies. For more information about your drinking water or this report, call

Phil Gilbert at: 706-297-1719

Maintenance at: 706-914-8698

Safe Drinking Water Hotline

1-800-426-4791

Sources of Water

Toccoa Falls College's drinking water comes from 2 wells approximately 400 feet deep. The water source is from a crystalline rock aquifer located at the following locations on campus.

- Wells #1 & #4 are located just off of Jerico Lane above Gate Cottage.

These wells serve the whole TFC campus.

We also have a connection to the City of Toccoa for emergencies.

Our sources of water have restricted access to protect them from contamination.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (Ga. EPD) has reviewed the data necessary to determine the susceptibility of our wells to contamination. They have found them to be in a medium to high potential risk of contamination.

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is available for public review at the TFC Maintenance Department from 8 AM to 5PM, Monday thru Friday.

Treatment

Treatment provided at each well consists of chlorine disinfection. The chlorine disinfection kills any microbiological contamination that might be present in the water. Chlorine residuals (levels) are checked every day of the year. The daily check gives us an indication of the effectiveness of the disinfection process. Every month samples are taken from the distribution system and sent to the Ga. EPD water laboratory for microbiological testing. Other testing is done on an annual or biannual basis.

Your input and suggestions are welcome. Call the TFC Maintenance Department at 706-914-8698.

Please help us conserve water by reporting leaking faucets, toilets, pipes etc. to the above telephone number. We continue to flush the distribution system once per month to reduce the incidence of colored water. In the event of an emergency we are able to purchase water from the City of Toccoa.

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 water that poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling to EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Some 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, as well as 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 at

(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 natural 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 the following:

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 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 use.

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 insure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount 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.

Water Quality Data

The following table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2023 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water imposes a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data included in this table is from testing done from January 1, 2023 thru December 31, 2023. The Environmental Protection Division 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.

Terms and abbreviations that you will need to know to read the table below:

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 level of 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 microbiological 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. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.”

Action Level (AL): “The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.”

n/a: not applicable.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter.

ppb: parts per billion.

ppm: parts per million.

WSID#: water system identification number.

ND: not detected

‡Toccoa Falls College is currently working to implement a treatment plan for the lead issue. This will entail a new treatment building and adding treatment that will put a coating inside the distribution piping to keep any lead in building plumbing from leaching into the drinking water.

WSID #2570011						
DETECTED REGULATED SUBSTANCES (JANUARY-DECEMBER 2023)						
SUBSTANCE TESTED AND DETECTED	UNIT	MCLG	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	VIOLATION	PROBABLE SOURCE
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS						
CHLORINE	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	0.14-2.30	NO	Water additives used to control microbes
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	ppb	n/a	100	ND	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HALOACETIC ACIDS	ppb	n/a	60	ND	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS						
ALPHA EMITTERS*	pCi/L	0	15	5.97	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED RADIUM*	pCi/L	0	5	<1	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
LEAD	ppb	0	15 AL	0-66.0	YES**	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
COPPER	ppb	1300	1300 AL	30-670	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

*These results are from previous years.

The Georgia Environmental Division has issued a Chemical Monitoring Waiver Certificate effective January 1, 2023—December 31, 2025, for the following contaminants: Alachlor, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Atrazine, Benzo (A) Pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di (2-Ethylhexyl)Adipate, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), Dinoseb, Diquat, Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate, Endothall, Endrin, Ethylene Dibromide (EDB), Glyphosphate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxmyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Simazine; 2,4-D; Toxaphene; 2,4,5-TP (Silvex); 2,3,7,8—TCDD (Dioxin). Also: Asbestos, Cyanide. Baseline monitoring demonstrates that the system’s drinking water complies with the chemical monitoring standards of the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water for asbestos, cyanide and Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs), listed above.

**“Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span or learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.”

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. Toccoa Falls College is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been setting 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>.