

Cairo Annual Water Report - 2021
Cairo Public Works Department
243 1st Avenue SW, Cairo, GA

We are pleased to report to you that the drinking water supplied by Cairo Public Works Department is safe. Included in this report is information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our water department is committed to providing clean, safe and reliable drinking water for all of us. For more information about your water or this report, please call Darin Todd, Public Works Director/Water Plant Operator at 377-6028.

Drinking Water Source

Your water comes from three municipal groundwater wells approximately 500 feet deep. This water source is commonly called the Upper Floridian Aquifer and provides ample volumes of water for our community. These wells are located at MacIvor Drive NE, 26th Street NE and also at the Cairo Airport within property owned and operated by the City. This property is protected from activities that could potentially cause contamination of this water source.

Treatment Process

We perform treatment for the water removed from each of these wells prior to its distribution to our customers. This treatment includes filtration, aeration, disinfections, and fluoridation. Aeration is performed to remove dissolved hydrogen sulfide gas, a naturally occurring compound which can give ground water a highly offensive “rotten egg” odor if not removed by aeration. The water is disinfected by addition of chlorine to make the water biologically safe. Fluoride is added to help prevent dental cavities.

City Council Meetings

Your City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall. Your participation and comments on all aspects of City government, including water system operation, are welcome at these meetings.

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

Arsenic in Drinking Water

Arsenic is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It is odorless and tasteless. It enters drinking water supplies from natural deposits in the earth or from agricultural and industrial practices. Some people who drink water containing arsenic well in excess of the MCL for many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The major sources of arsenic in drinking water are erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; and runoff from glass & electronics production wastes.

Lead in Drinking Water

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. The water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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>.

Health Information

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

Some people 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, 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 and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 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 included in source water before we treat it include the following:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that 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 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.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The tables list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2020.

Terms and Abbreviations Used Below:

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.

MCL - *Maximum Contaminant Level.* The 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.

AL - *Action Level.* The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

NA - *Not Applicable.*

ppm - *Parts per million* or milligrams per liter. Corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or 1 penny in 10 thousand dollars.

ppb - *Parts per billion* or micrograms per liter. Corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years or 1 penny in 10 million dollars.

(a) - Results reported to EPD as the 90th percentile level of 20 samples analyzed during 2018. Water leaving treatment facilities does not contain lead or cooper. However, water sampled under EDA protocol from a residential tap may contain lead or cooper from corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Additional Information Sources

WEBSITES with information about water quality:

- <http://www.epa.gov/ow>
- <http://www.awwa.org>
- <http://www.dnr.state.ga.us/epd>
- <http://www.amwa-water.org>

*Este informe contiene información muy importante.
Tradúscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.*

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS				
Detected Inorganic Contaminant Table				
PARAMETER	MCL	MCLG	CAIRO WATER SYSTEM RESULTS	RANGE OF DETECTION
Flouride (ppm)	4	4	Avg. 88	N/A
Sample Date	Violation Yes or No		Typical Source of Contaminate	Arsenic Level Running Annual Avg.
2020			Water additive that promotes strong teeth.	Non-Detected (PPB)
Detected Microbiological Contaminant Table				
Total Coliform (%)	No more than 1 positive sample	0	Number of positive samples	0
N/A	N/A	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potential bacteria may be present.		
PARAMETER	AL	MCLG	CAIRO REPORTED SAMPLE	
Copper (ppb)	1,300	1,300	2018: 240ppb	
Lead (ppb)	15	0	2018: 1.0ppb	
NUMBER OF SITES FOUND ABOVE THE ACTION LIMIT		TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT		
NONE		Corrosion of household plumbing systems		
NONE		Corrosion of household plumbing systems		
NONE		Corrosion of household plumbing systems		