

Middle Georgia College Water Quality Report- 2009  
Georgia Water System ID# 0230003

In 2009, the Middle Georgia College Water System had more than 500 laboratory tests or more than 80 drinking water parameters. We are pleased to inform you that Middle Georgia College had no major violations of the water quality parameters during 2009. In this report, you will see where the water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the Standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Water Drinking Act, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, and the Water Resources Branch. We are committed to provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water for the whole campus. For more information about your water or this report please call Al Jones at (478) 934-3000.

Your water comes from one groundwater well approximately 155 feet deep. The water source is from the Upper Floridian Aquifer and supplies an ample volume of water for our campus. Chlorine is used for disinfection. The water system has a complete loop on campus and if for any reason a building or buildings are needed to be cut off for repair; it will not affect the whole campus. In 2009, the 150,000-gallon water tank was repaired, cleaned and repainted.

The Middle Georgia College Water System has one certified water plant operator - certified by the State of Georgia and the State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts. I attend classes for recertification of my license. I am a member and active in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) by attending workshops, seminars, and conferences. In 2009, I was awarded the Top Operator Award for the Middle Georgia district of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals and my 25 year service pin from the American Water Works Association.

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.

Our Source Water Assessment was completed in 2004. The source specific vulnerability assessments are maintained in the EPD files in Atlanta.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount 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 EPA'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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. Middle Georgia College water system 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 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 for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottle water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

EPD has determined that concentration of certain water quality monitoring parameters does not change frequently within our system; therefore some of the data represented in this report are more than one year old.

### REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

| Contaminant (units)            | MCL | MCLG | Middle Georgia College Water System Results | Range of Detection | Sample Date | Is our water safe and meets standards ? | Typical source of contaminant  |
|--------------------------------|-----|------|---|--------------------|-------------|---|--|
| <b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b> |     |      |   |                    |             |   |  |
|                                |     |      |   |                    |             |   |  |
| Nitrate / Nitrite (ppm)        | 10  | 10   | 2.5   | 2.5                | 04/27/09    | Yes                                     | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits. |

**Organic Contaminants**

| <b>Contaminant: (units)</b>         | <b>MCL</b> | <b>MCLG</b> | <b>Middle Georgia College Water System Results</b> | <b>Range of Detection</b> | <b>Sample Date</b> | <b>Is our water safe and meets standards?</b> | <b>Typical source of contaminant</b>      |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| Chlorine (ppm)                      | 4          | 4           | 1.15   | .5 - 3.0                  | 2009               | Yes   | Water additive used to control microbes   |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)       | 60         | n/a         | nd   |                           | 12/07/09           | Yes   | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 100/80     | n/a         | 13   | 11-13                     | 12/07/09           | Yes   | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

### Lead and Copper Monitoring Results

| <b>Parameters (units)</b> | <b>Action Level</b> | <b>MCLG</b> | <b>Middle Georgia College Water System Results</b> | <b># of samples sites found above the Action Level</b> | <b>Sample Date</b> | <b>Is our water safe and meets standards?</b> | <b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>  |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--|--|--------------------|---|---|
| Copper (ppb)              | AL= 1300            | 1300        | 730  | 0  | 8/6/07             | Yes   | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives. |
| Lead (ppb)                | AL = 15             | 15          | 10   | 0  | 8/6/07             | Yes   | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.                                 |

**Terms & Abbreviations used above:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** “ *The highest level of 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 (MCLG):** “ *The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG allows for a margin of safety.* ”

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

**Parts per Billion (ppb):** *One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in 10 million dollars.*

**Parts per Million (ppm):** *One part per million is equivalent to one minute in 2 years or one penny in 10 thousand dollars.*

**n/a:** not applicable; **nd:** not detectable at testing limit; **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter; **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter; **<:** Less than