

**City of Blakely Water Treatment**  
**P.O. Box 350**  
**Blakely, Georgia 39823**

Phone (229)-723-6444  
Permit # 0990000

**Consumer Confidence Report 2022**

The City of Blakely is committed to providing water customers with a safe supply of drinking water and is therefore providing this consumer confidence report. As with last year's consumer confidence report, the City of Blakely has continued to meet all of the state and federal standards required by law. This report will hopefully make you the customer, more aware of the water you drink and enjoy.

The City of Blakely water system consists of three ground water wells and two elevated holding tanks. The wells are labeled as 3, 4, and 5. The City of Blakely wells draw water from the Claiborne, Clayton, and Cretaceous aquifers; these aquifers are branches of the Floridian aquifer.

Well 3 is located on Howell St. and is capable of pumping 500,000 gallons per day. This well was re-worked back in 2010. It is now operating efficiently.

Well 4 is located off highway 39 behind Manry-Jordon-Hodges funeral home, and is capable of pumping 1 million gallons per day. Tank 2 is adjacent to well 4 and has a million-gallon capacity. Well 4 was reconditioned in 2018 and is operating efficiently. Tank 2 was cleaned in April 2018.

Well 5 is located on highway 62-bypass beside the vault company, and can also pump over 1 million gallons per day. Well 5 is the primary well for the City of Blakely and supplies Tank 1 behind City Hall, which has 250,000-gallon capacity. This tank was cleaned and inspected in March 2022. This well was reconditioned in the fall of 2011. It is operating efficiently.

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

**Contaminants That May Be Present in Water:**

- 1 MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come

from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

- 2 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 and farming.
- 3 PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- 4 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 tank systems.
- 5 RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**Total Coliform MCL Violations:**

The City had one positive Coliform result during the 2021 calendar year. This was the result of an error on my part. I accidentally touched the sterile bottle top against a dirty bag which resulted in a positive test. The re-test came back negative.

The state EPD and Federal Drinking Water Standards allow no more than 5% of the sample to be Coliform positive, if 40 or more samples are submitted each month. If fewer than 40 samples are submitted each month, no more than one sample may be Coliform positive.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency sets drinking water standards and has determined that the presence of Coliform bacteria is a possible health concern. Coliform bacteria are common in the environment and are generally not harmful. The presence of Coliform bacteria in drinking water is generally the result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes which distribute water. They indicate the water may be contaminated with organisms that can cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, possible jaundice and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms are not just associated with the disease-causing organisms in drinking water but may also be caused by a few factors other than your drinking water. The EPA has set an enforceable drinking water standard for Coliform bacteria to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Under this standard, no more the 5% of the samples collected during the month can contain Coliform bacteria, except that systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month that have one Coliform positive sample per month are not violating the standard. Drinking water which meets this standard is usually not associated with a health risk from disease causing bacteria and should be considered safe.

## **Lead and Copper:**

The City of Blakely also participated in the Lead and Copper study in 2022, and the results were very good. The Lead and Copper Rule was established by the US EPA, and the water samples are taken from 20 households and tested for levels of lead and copper. 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 City of Blakely 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 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>. The City of Blakely is pleased to report that the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile level for lead is .99 ug/l and the highest recorded level from any household tested is 3.0 ug/l (parts per billion). The US EPA action level is 15 ug/l, therefore none of the 20 households tested had any danger from lead.

The same is true for the results from the copper side of the study. The US EPA has set an action level at 1300ug/l (parts per billion) and the highest copper reading was at 100 ug/l. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile result for the 20 households was 74.9 ug/l, which put the City of Blakely well below the EPA threshold action level.

The City of Blakely adds the chemicals Chlorine and Fluoride for the treatment of the water. The water operators monitor the residual of these chemicals to ensure a quality water source. The state also monitors the cities fluoride and the most recent result taken 3/17/22 was 1.2 mg/l, with the state optimum level being 1.5 mg/l. The most recent chlorine sample had a residual of 1.53 mg/l, with the state minimum being .2 mg/l.

Adam Askew is the Water Treatment Department Supervisor and is always available for questions or comments from the City of Blakely Water customers. All questions or comments can be made at the lab (723-6444) or City Hall (723-3677) during the hours of 8:00 am- 5:00 pm Monday- Friday. Copies of the water quality report for 2022 are available at city hall upon your request.