



WATER QUALITY REPORT 2025



INTRODUCTION

Dalton Utilities' 2025 Water Quality Report is designed to inform you about your drinking water. Information is included to give the sources of the drinking water, to explain the steps we take to ensure the quality of the water, and to show the results of year-round water monitoring.

In order to ensure that tap water is compliant to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems and requires significant testing for these contaminants. Bottled water is regulated by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) who establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water but does not require the same amount of testing for contaminants as required for tap water. Consequently, the tap water you receive from Dalton Utilities has met much more stringent testing requirements than the bottled water you purchase at a much higher price.

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. Fluoride, for example, is added to the water to help promote good dental health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting their website at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water-information.

This report contains water system data collected January 1 - December 31, 2025. WS ID# GA 3130000





UNDERSTANDING DRINKING WATER SOURCES

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER:

- Microbial - such as viruses and bacteria which may come from septic systems, sewage treatment plants, agricultural and/or livestock operations or wildlife sources.
- Inorganic - such as salts and metals, can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides may come from agricultural operations, stormwater runoff and residential use.
- Organic chemicals - including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems, as well as products like pharmaceuticals, hormones, cleaning supplies and other household products.
- Radioactive materials - can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those 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/Center for Disease Control 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 (800) 426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safewater.

WATER SOURCES WE RELY ON



Dalton Utilities uses both surface and groundwater in our system. Our most recent Source Water Assessment found the susceptibility of Dalton Utilities' drinking water sources to be LOW. Water sources are rated on their susceptibility to pollution, such as proximity to major roadways, railways and agricultural runoff.

DALTON UTILITIES' DRINKING WATER IS PRODUCED FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCES:

- Surface water from the Conasauga River located in the Dawnville community, and groundwater from Freeman Springs, located in West Whitfield County, were all rated as having LOW susceptibility to pollution.
- Dalton Utilities purchased water from Eastside Utilities and Catoosa Utilities. To obtain copies/information on water quality reports and/or source water assessments conducted by these water providers, please contact them directly.

[EASTSIDE UTILITIES 2025 CCR](#)

[CATOOSA UTILITIES 2025 CCR](#)

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY INFORMATION

REQUIRED LEAD INFORMATION:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Dalton Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about the lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Dalton Utilities. Information on lead in drinking water, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

***Refer to Lead and Copper Range and Data Table on page 8 for the lead compliance tap sampling data**

SERVICE LINE INVENTORY INFORMATION:

To meet EPA and Georgia EPD inventory requirements under the 1991 Lead and Copper Rule, Dalton Utilities completed a comprehensive Lead Service Line Inventory in October 2024. This inventory identified the material composition of service lines on both the utility-owned and customer-owned portions of the water service connection. We are pleased to report that no lead service lines were found within our system.

To view the full inventory, please visit the following link: <https://ga-epd.120water-ptd.com/>

2025 CALENDAR YEAR

Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants - All Water Sources

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL (Highest Allowed)	Highest Monthly Average	Range of Levels Detected	Does It Meet Standard?	Probable Sources
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria %	0	Presence of bacteria in <5% of monthly sample	<1%	ND	Yes	Naturally present in the environment; human and animal waste
Inorganic Contaminants						
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.4	0.04 - 2.2	Yes	Added to water as a disinfectant
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.86	0.52 - 0.86	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate/Nitrite(ppm)	10	10	0.47	ND - 0.47	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	N/A	TT	2.32	ND - 2.32	Yes	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL (Highest Allowed)	Highest Monthly Average	Range of Levels Detected	Does It Meet Standard?	Probable Sources
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT % of samples <0.3 NTU = 99%	0.14	0.03 - 0.54	Yes	Soil runoff and erosion
Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOC)						
Total Haloacetic Acids (THAAs) (ppb)	N/A	60	39.9	ND - 55.2	Yes	By-product of disinfection by chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	N/A	80	64	ND - 109.3	Yes	By-product of disinfection by chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants						
Lead and Copper Range Data						
*Lead and Copper at Tap	MCLG	MCL (Highest Allowed)	90 th Percentile Results	# Sites Above the AL	Does It Meet Standard?	Probable Sources
Copper (ppb)	1,300	AL=1,300	72	0 of 30	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	0	0 of 30	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

***2025 results. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division only requires Dalton Utilities to monitor lead and copper levels every 3 years.**

****All lead and copper samples taken from Dalton Utilities' distribution system met EPA standards.**

Table of Detected Unregulated Contaminants - All Water Sources						
Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL (Highest Allowed)	Highest Monthly Average	Range of Levels Detected	Does It Meet Standard?	Probable Sources
Inorganic Contaminants						
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	61.0	10.0 - 61.0	N/A	Naturally present in the environment, by product of water treatment process
Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOC)						
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	3	ND - 3	N/A	Byproduct of disinfection by chlorination
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	0.57	ND - 0.57	N/A	Byproduct of disinfection by chlorination
Chloroform (ppb)	N/A	N/A	9.00	ND - 9.0	N/A	Naturally present in the environment; manufactured for various uses
Synthetic Chemicals						
Perfluorobutane sulfonate (PFBS) (ppt)	N/A	N/A	34.0	13.5 - 34.0	N/A	Manufactured for various uses; not naturally found in the environment
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (ppt)	N/A	N/A	5.6	ND - 5.6	N/A	Manufactured for various uses; not naturally found in the environment
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ppt)	N/A	N/A	8.4	ND - 8.4	N/A	Manufactured for various uses; not naturally found in the environment
Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) (ppt)	N/A	N/A	8.4	ND - 8.4	N/A	Manufactured for various uses; not naturally found in the environment
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (ppt)	N/A	N/A	7.5	ND - 7.5	N/A	Manufactured for various uses; not naturally found in the environment

***PFAS regulations established by EPA become enforceable in 2029. Current results are reported for informational purposes.**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of synthetic chemicals used in industrial and consumer products. Some PFAS have been detected in this water system. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has established drinking water standards for certain PFAS. While some detected levels exceed these standards, compliance is not required until 2029. Dalton Utilities is continuing to monitor and evaluate PFAS in the water supply.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency: Federal agency

EPD - Environmental Protection Division: State agency

MCL - Maximum contaminant level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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.

MRDL - Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG - Maximum residual disinfectant level goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

ND - Nondetect

NS - No Sample

NTU - Nephelometric turbidity units: a measure of turbidity or cloudiness of water.

PPB - Parts per billion

PPM - Parts per million

PPT - Parts per trillion

THAA - Total Haloacetic Acids: A by-product of disinfection by chlorination.

TT - Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. In some cases, the EPA has determined that requiring a certain treatment technique, such as requiring filtration for controlling dangerous organisms, is more effective than setting an MCL.

TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes: A by-product of disinfection by chlorination.

Waiver: State permission not to monitor for a particular parameter for a specified period, based on chemical analytical results and a vulnerability assessment, prepared by the EPD, demonstrating that the water systems' distributed water contains none of the substance(s) being tested for, or the substance is at a concentration less than the detection limit specified by the state rule.

AWARD-WINNING OPERATIONS

GAWP (Georgia Association of Water Professionals) is Georgia's largest professional water and wastewater organization with more than 5,000 members involved in every aspect of water management and protection. Plants that Dalton Utilities nominates for GAWP awards, when eligible, undergo rigorous onsite inspections, which include a detailed review of permit performance, operational efficiency, and professional certification of employees. At Dalton Utilities, we are dedicated to delivering the highest quality utility services possible. Below is a list of some of the awards that we have received.

- GAWP (Georgia Association of Water Professionals) Platinum & Gold Awards for excellence in plant operations for all Dalton Utilities' water treatment plants (1999-2025)
- GAWP Best-Operated Water Plant of the Year - Freeman Springs Water Treatment Plant (2003, 2005, 2007, 2017 & 2019)
- GAWP Top Op Award - Water (2008 - 2014, 2017, 2019 & 2023)
- GAWP Water Distribution System of the Year (2004, 2006, 2008 & 2014)

CONTACT US

Customer Service Phone Number: 706-278-1313

24-hour Emergency Line: 706-278-1313

Water Conservation Hotline: 706-529-1251

Website: www.dutil.com

Commission Meetings

The Board of Commissioners of the Water, Light and Sinking Fund, the governing body of Dalton Utilities, meets the third Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The meetings are open to the public and are located at Dalton Utilities, 1200 V.D. Parrott Jr. Parkway, Dalton, GA 30721.

Questions about this report?

Please call Lacey Hammontree at 706-278-1313 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.