

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



***Presented By***



PWS ID#: GA2550000



PWS ID#: GA2550036



## Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Griffin currently draws water from the Flint River, Heads Creek Reservoir, and the Still Branch Regional Reservoir. Spalding County Water and Sewerage Facilities Authority (SCWA) (PWSID GA2550036) purchases all its water from the City of Griffin (PWSID GA2550000).

## What Are PFAS?

PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are a group of over 6,000 human-made chemicals that have been manufactured and used in home consumer products such as carpets, clothing, and food-related items.

PFAS are used in many applications because of their unique physical properties, such as resistance to high and low temperatures, resistance to degradation, and nonstick characteristics. Due to the widespread use of PFAS and their persistence in the environment, most people in the United States have been exposed to these compounds. The U.S. EPA has determined there is evidence that continued exposure above specific levels to certain PFAS may cause adverse health effects.

The City of Griffin has tested for PFAS using analytical methods developed by the U.S. EPA and consensus organizations. These chemicals are measured in parts per trillion (ppt). This was required as part of the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). In 2024 the U.S. EPA established maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), along with a Hazard Index for four other chemicals in the PFAS family known as GenX chemicals.

Results for PFOS and PFOA were detected at levels exceeding the U.S. EPA's MCLs for those compounds during the UCMR5 sampling in 2024. The City of Griffin and its engineering partners are performing a study to determine a treatment strategy for removal of these PFAS prior to the compliance deadline of April 26, 2029. If you would like to learn more about PFAS, please visit the U.S. EPA's PFAS page at [epa.gov/pfas](https://epa.gov/pfas).



## Source Water Assessment

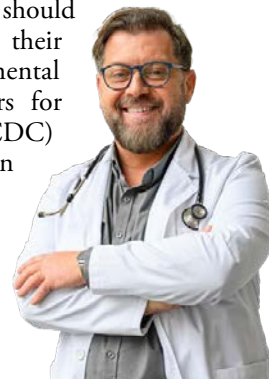
A source water assessment has been completed for our system. The purpose of the assessment is to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source to potential contaminant sources. The report includes background information and a relative susceptibility rating of higher, moderate, or lower. It is important to understand that a higher susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area.



If you would like a copy of our assessment, please feel free to contact our office during regular business hours at the number provided in this report.

## Important Health Information

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. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 or [epa.gov/safewater](https://epa.gov/safewater).



## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Angie Golden of the Water and Wastewater Department at (770) 229-6424.



## Substances That Could Be in Water

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 present in source water include:



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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater 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; and

Radioactive Contaminants, which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. 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, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. City commission meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Griffin Municipal Court Room, One Griffin Center, 100 South Hill Street.

## Think Before You Flush!

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Properly disposing of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of our waterways by disposing responsibly. To find a convenient drop-off location near you, please visit <https://bit.ly/3IeRyXy>.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

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. The City of Griffin 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 it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling 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, or 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 lead in your water and wish to have it tested, contact the Griffin Water Department at (770) 229-6424. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Additionally, you may locate lead tap sampling data as it becomes available for review on Georgia Drinking Water Watch at [gadinkingwater.net](http://gadinkingwater.net). Enter GA2550000 in the Water System No. field for the City of Griffin or GA2550036 for SCWA. Click Search For Water Systems. Select the water system matching the ID provided. Click on Lead And Copper Sample Summary Results on the next page.

The 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) introduced new reporting requirements for drinking water systems that include an annual service line inventory (SLI) and public notifications for any persons served by a known or potential lead service line. The SLI is a requirement under the LCRR to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water. For further information regarding the service line inventory, City of Griffin customers may call (770) 229-6424 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and SCWA customers may call (770) 467-4777 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Why Save Water?

Although 80% of the Earth's surface is water, only 1% is suitable for drinking. The rest is either salt water or is permanently frozen, and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants.

## Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

### MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>Total Organic Carbon</b> (ppm)	2025	No	2.00	1.60-2.38	NA	TT	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Turbidity</b> (NTU)	2025	No	0.26	97%	NA	TT	Soil runoff

### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	2025	No	0.74	ND-1.12	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Nitrate + Nitrite</b> (ppm)	2025	No	0.15	ND-0.30	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

### STAGE 1 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MRDLG	MRDL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>Chlorine (Free)</b> (ppm)	2025	No	1.59	0.63-2.06	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Chlorine Dioxide</b> (ppb)	2025	No	195	ND-720	800	800	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Chlorite</b> (ppm)	2025	No	0.53	ND-0.76	0.8	1	By-product of drinking water disinfection

### STAGE 2 DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb):</b> City of Griffin	2025	No	47.43	26.00-70.30	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>TTHM [total trihalomethanes] (ppb):</b> City of Griffin	2025	No	61.10	30.70-70.40	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb):</b> SCWA	2025	No	46.95	16.40-56.50	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>TTHM [total trihalomethanes] (ppb):</b> SCWA	2025	No	52.08	17.34-55.00	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection



## LEAD AND COPPER (TAP WATER SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED FROM SITES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY)

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	AL EXCEEDANCE (YES/NO)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	RANGE LOW-HIGH	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL / TOTAL SITES	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper (ppm)	2025	No	0.12	ND-0.39	0/30	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead <sup>1</sup> (ppb)	2025	No	1.33	ND-4.00	0/30	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

## SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	SMCLG	SMCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Aluminum (ppm)	2025	No	1.1	NA	NA	0.05-0.2	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from water treatment process

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	YEAR	AVERAGE RESULT	RANGE OF RESULTS	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Iron (ppb)	2025	25.13	16.94-30.83	Naturally occurring
Manganese (ppb)	2025	12.53	8.23-18.39	Naturally occurring
pH (units)	2025	7.32	7.17-7.47	Naturally occurring

<sup>1</sup> To access all individual lead tap sample results for the City of Griffin, customers may call (770) 229-6424 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Spalding County Water Authority customers may call (770) 467-4777 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## About Our Monitoring Violation

Required Public Notice - Total Coliform Failure to Monitor

A drinking water requirement was violated for the SCWA water system (ID GA2550036) during 2025. This violation did not result in a water system emergency; however, the SCWA water customers should be notified of the violation and the corrective actions taken.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period of June 1 to 30, 2025, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for total coliform and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. The City of Griffin performs all sampling for the SCWA system for total coliform monitoring. One of the required monthly samples for total coliform testing was mistakenly taken from an unapproved location. Though the sample from the unapproved location was negative for total coliform contamination, it could not be counted for compliance, which resulted in the monitoring violation from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

The City of Griffin has since revised its standard operating procedures to prevent this sampling error from occurring again. All total coliform sampling for the SCWA water system conducted since this violation has been negative for contamination. Your drinking water is considered safe, and no action is needed at this time.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. In the effort to ensure all those affected receive this notice, this report has been mailed to all customers of the SCWA water system and posted in public spaces. For more information, please contact the City of Griffin Water and Wastewater Department at (770) 229-6424.

## Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

**Herbicide:** Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest 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.

**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.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** A unit of measure for the cloudiness or haziness of water, determined by how much light is scattered by suspended particles when shone through a sample

**Pesticide:** Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

**ppb (parts per billion):** A unit of measure expressing the concentration of a substance in water, equivalent to one microgram per liter (µg/L)

**ppm (parts per million):** A unit of measure expressing the concentration of a substance in water, equivalent to one milligram per liter (mg/L)

**SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level):** These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.