Water is a precious resource in Georgia and its neighboring states. Growing populations and ongoing, drought are squeezing our water resources dry, causing natural habitat degradation and impacting our everyday use of water. We have no choice but to pay more attention to how we are using water, and how we may be wasting it. We must bridge the gap between our understanding of how important water is to our survival and what we can do to ensure that we have adequate supply of clean water for years to come.

Ways To Conserve Our Water Resources

THE TOILET: Check for leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. Consider purchasing a Low Flow Toilet.

THE SHOWER: Replace your showerhead with a ultra low-flow version, saving up to 2.5 gallons per minute. Take shorter showers, turn off the water, soap and scrub, then turn the water on to rinse.

THE KITCHEN: Don't use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run to get a cool glass of water. Fully load automatic dishwashers, they use the same amount of water no matter how much is in them. When washing dishes by hand don't let the water run while washing.

WATERING THE LAWN: Don't over water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every 5 to 7 days in the summer. Water lawns during early morning hours when temperatures and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces losses from evaporation. Don't water the street, driveway or sidewalks. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs and not the paved areas. Don't leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your garden hose can pour our 600 gallons or more in only a few hours. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn the water off.

LAWN CARE: Raise your lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than closely-clipped lawns.

LANDSCAPING: Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water. Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees.

MAINTENANCE: Verify that your home is leak free, because many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

CITY OF GRIFFIN WATER RESTRICTIONS

The City of Griffin issues out water ban notices based on the current drought conditions. Please pay attention to your local news , newspapers and radio announcements for the current level of the restrictions.

THERE ARE FOUR LEVELS OF RESTRICTIONS FOR OUTDOOR WATER USE:

NON-DROUGHT PERIODS:

EVEN NUMBER Street Addresses:			ODD NUMBER Street Addresses:		
MON	WED	SAT	TUE	THU	SUN

LEVEL ONE:

Water between **12:00 am - 10:00 am & 4:00 pm - 12:00 am only,** on your designated days.

LEVEL TWO:

Water between **12:00 am - 10:00 am only,** on your designated days.

LEVEL THREE:

Water between **12:00 am - 10:00 am only;**

EVEN number addresses: **SATURDAY only**
ODD number addresses: **SUNDAY only**

LEVEL FOUR:

NO OUTDOOR WATER IS ALLOWED

Griffin
Growing, TOGETHER

Public Works & Utilities Department
(770) 229-6603
www.cityofgriffin.com

The City of Griffin follows the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter 391-3-30 Guidelines on Water Restrictions.

QUESTIONS? For questions concerning this publication you can contact the City of Griffin Water & Wastewater Department at (770) 229-6603. For more information about the City of Griffin please visit our website at: **www.cityofgriffin.com .**

The City of Griffin is a Member of:

Georgia Association of Water Professionals 1932

American Water Works Association

EPA WaterSense PARTNER

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WATER QUALITY

REPORT 2015

TOP QUALITY DRINKING WATER
TOP QUALITY SERVICE

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	MCL	MCLG	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	190	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	ppb	15	15	3.9	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.54	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Turbidity	ntu	TT	TT	0.06	No	Erosion of natural deposit
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	na	TT	TT	1.14	No	Soil runoff
Nitrate (ppm)	ppm	10	10	0.24	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform	%	5%	5%	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTANT BY PRODUCTS (SUBSTANCE)	**UNITS**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED**	**VIOLATION**	**TYPICAL SOURCE**
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	2.07	No	Used in the disinfectant process
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0.8	NA	0.02	No	By-Produced of water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (THM)	mg/L	0.08	NA	0.019	No	By-Produced of water chlorination
Halo acetic Acid (HAA5)	mg/L	0.06	NA	0.019	No	By-Produced of water chlorination
Chlorite	mg/L	1	NA	0.51	No	By-Produced of water chlorination
Cryptosporidium	oocysts/L	0	NA	ND	No	Naturally present in the environment

MCL MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. NA Not Applicable

ND: Not Detected

PPM: Parts per million-one part substance per million parts water TT Treatment Technique: Requires process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

All data based on testing from January 1 - December 31, 2014.

HEATH INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune 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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800) 426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from material and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Griffin 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.gove/safewater/lead.

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 and from human activity.

- Microbial contaminants are 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 water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oils 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 chemicals 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.

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

IS MY WATER SAFE?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and State of Georgia drinking water standards. Your local water system vigilantly safeguards its water supplies. We have safeguards such as alarms and cameras at each plant to ensure your water is safe to drink.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The City of Griffin gets it's water from the Flint River, Heads Creek Reservoir and Still Branch Reservoir. Permitted by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (#2550000 & #2550036).

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

You can help by practicing water conservation and using the resource wisely. Additionally you are encourage to assist in the stream clean ups held in your local community. Everyone should conserve and protect this finite source.

1. Get involved in the City of Griffin Watershed Council
2. Volunteer with the annual stream clean up hosted by the City of Griffin's Storm water department (770) 229-6423
3. Report any environmental concerns with our 24 hour Environmental hotline (770) 229-6625