



Jekyll Island Authority – Water Department  
Public Water System I.D. No. 1270028

## **2019 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report**

We are pleased to report that your community’s drinking water has met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) during the previous year and in previous years. This 2019 Water Quality Report is inclusive of all contaminants detected in the system’s drinking water supply during the 2019 calendar year unless otherwise noted. We are committed to providing consumers with safe, dependable tap water on a year-round basis and have received numerous awards for outstanding operations.

This is the twenty-third time we have produced this report, and we are proud of the fact that we have never had a permit violation for contaminant levels in the water we supply. The health and safety of your family will always be our top priority.

### **What is the source of your drinking water?**

Jekyll Island’s water source is the Upper Floridan Aquifer and is protected from most of these contaminants because of the depth of the wells (approx. 850 ft.) and the impermeability of the confining layers (various rock strata) above and below it.

Surface water entering the ground through the rock strata at or near “The Fall Line” (Columbus, Macon, and Augusta) feeds and re-charges the Floridan Aquifer water levels. Our water system withdraws water from five Floridan Aquifer wells for our drinking water supply. The raw groundwater is aerated to remove hydrogen sulfide (sulfur taste and odor) and chlorinated for disinfection before being pumped into each of the elevated storage tanks or into the system. Each of these wells is 750- 850 feet deep.

One well is located on the North end of the Island on Major Horton Road. Two more are located a short distance south on Bond Road. The other two wells are located on South Beachview Drive on the South end of the Island.



The two golf-ball and tee shaped water towers #1 & #2 no longer have active wells but are filled from the system with water produced by the other wells and serve as elevated storage during high water demands and fire protection events.

Jekyll Island's Water System is flexible and can be extended to meet future needs. Presently we maintain over 40 miles of water mains on the Island.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 activities. 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that 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 that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).



## Who needs to take special precautions?

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 risks of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DATA TABLES

**MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level:** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available technology (BAT).

**AL: Action Level:** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

N/A: not applicable

ND: not detected

ppb: parts per billion

ug/l: micrograms per liter

ppm: parts per million

mg/l: milligrams per liter

pci/l: pico curies per liter (a measure of radiation)

Analogies that demonstrate how small these concentrations are:

1 ppm or mg/l is equal to 1 penny in \$10,000.00.

1 ppb is equal to 1 penny in \$10,000,000.00.



## WATER QUALITY DATA

The following tables list all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2019. Georgia EPD requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once each year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANT TABLE							
Parameter	MC L	MCL G	Range of Detection	Jekyll Island System	Sample Date	Acceptable	Typical Source of Contamination
Fluoride, mg/l	4	N/A	0.58- 0.60	0.58mg/L	2018	Yes	Naturally Occurring
Sodium, mg/l	*	*	12.0-22.0	0.001	2018	Yes	
Iron, ppb	*	*	NA	57	2018	Yes	
Lead, ppb	15	0	2.5	3.3	2019	Yes	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Water Additive used to control microbes
Copper, ppb	1300	0	64	69	2019	Yes	
Chlorine Residual, mg/l	4	4	1.1 -1.6	0.7-1.0	2019	Yes	
ORGANIC CONTAMINANT TABLE							
Total Trihalomethanes	80	0	25.9- 39.0µg/L	20.1	2019	Yes	By-product of Chlorination
Halo-Acetic Acids	60	N/A	1.4-6.9 µg/L	2.4	2019	Yes	
RADIONUCLIDES							
Beta Photo Emitters	50*	0	ND	N/A	2007	Yes	Naturally Occurring

The MCL for beta particles is 4millirems/year. EPA considers 50 Pci/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

\* No MCL or MCLG established



**Additional information about Lead in drinking water:**

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 Jekyll Island 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 for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

In addition to the above analyses, Jekyll Island’s Water Laboratory collects and analyzes three samples each month from sites equally divided around the island for microbiological contaminants (total Coliform, Fecal Coliform, and/or E.coli. Bacteria). There have been no incidents of contamination of the system water by any of these indicator organisms.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division, through risk assessment and meticulous testing protocol, has granted The Jekyll Island Authority waivers on testing for the chemicals listed below (this means that no harmful levels of these substances were detected as specified in the *Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water*, Rev. 1994):

Cyanide	Chlordane	Heptachlor
Heptachlor Epoxide	Methoxychlor	PCB’s
q-BHC (Lindane)	Endrin	Aldrin
Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	Dieldrin
Asbestos	Dioxin	Alachlor
Aldicarb Sulfone	Aldicarb Sulfoxide	Atrazine
Benzo (A) Pyrene	Carbofuran	Dalapon
Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Adipate	Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)	Dinoseb
Diquat	Di (2- Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	Endothall
Ethylene Dibromide (EDB)	Glyphosate	Lindane
Oxymyl (Vydate)	Pentachlorophenol	Picloram
Simazine 2,4-D	Toxaphene 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	2,3,7,8-TCDD
Arsenic		



### **How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular Jekyll Island Authority Board meetings which are held monthly and are typically the third Monday of each month. Call 912-635-4000 or go to [jekyllisland.com](http://jekyllisland.com) for dates and locations.

We are continuing our commitment to provide you with clean and safe drinking water. Please take the time to read this report and if you have any questions or comments on the contents, please call Alan Thurston at 912-635-4021. We have placed a copy of this report on our web site, [jekyllisland.com](http://jekyllisland.com). A copy of the Jekyll Island Water System Wellhead Protection Plan is also available upon request.

**Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable.  
Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**