



2025 Water Quality Report

May 2026

YOUR DRINKING WATER

The City of Winder (WSID# GA130002) is pleased to report that our community's drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and Environmental Protection Agency during 2025.

This Water Quality Report provides our customers with detailed accounts of all the monitoring and testing results gathered from water quality testing during 2025. We are committed to providing you with safe, dependable tap water on a year round basis and are proud to provide the enclosed information.

WHAT IS YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE?

Water sources for the City of Winder include the Mulberry River and Fort Yargo Lake. The City has developed a Water Protection Plan to protect these water sources. The City stores water from the Mulberry River at the Laurel Lane Reservoir and at the Water Plant Reservoir. Under normal condition, these water sources are generally adequate to meet the City's water demand.

During drought periods, the City supplements its water production by purchasing water from Barrow County. The water source for Barrow County is the Bear Creek Water Plant, which treats water from the Bear Creek Reservoir and the Middle Oconee River.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONTAMINANTS

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).

Biological: may come from human, agricultural or wildlife sources.

Inorganic: can be naturally occurring, from urban storm water runoff, from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, or from farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides: may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemicals: can be by-products of industrial or domestic processes, storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Materials: can be naturally occurring or be the result of mining or other processes.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.

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Utilities Operations Director
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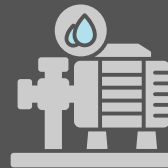
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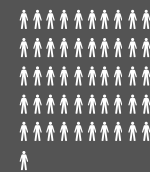
CITYOFWINDER.COM

WINDER WATER SYSTEM FACTS



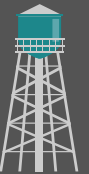
3 PUMP STATIONS

SERVES
51,000
CUSTOMERS



8 STORAGE TANKS

6 ELEVATED
2 GROUND



STORING
8.25 MILLION
GALLONS OF WATER

412 MILES OF
WATER MAINS



Water Treatment Plant Operations

The City of Winder contracts with Inframark, Inc., an Azuria Company, for the operation, maintenance, and management of its Water Treatment Facilities. The Highway 53 Water Treatment Plant is operated 24 hours per day for 365 days per year. Inframark, Inc. employs a staff of five Class I Operators (the highest certification that can be achieved), and one Class II Operator and an additional state-certified Lab Analyst. Should you have any questions regarding the information in this brochure, please contact any of the individuals listed at left for assistance.

DRINKING WATER TEST RESULTS

Regulated Substance Tested & Detected	Unit	Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Winder Amount Detected	Barrow County Amount Detected(1)	Is the water safe?	Probable Source
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	139 (2025)	140	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	ppb	0	15	0.52 (2025)	0.87	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Flouride	ppm	2	4	0.78 (Avg) 0.62 - 1.06	0.74 (Avg) 0.25 - 0.93	YES	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Turbidity	NTU	N/A	TT = 0.3	0.07 (Avg) 0.05 - 0.08	0.03 (Avg) 0.02 - 0.12	YES	Soil runoff
Chlorine	ppm	4.0	4.0	2.03 (Avg) 1.62 - 2.26	0.97 (Avg) 0.40 - 1.56	YES	Water disinfectant
Trihalomethanes, Total (THMs)	ppb	N/A	80	43.45 (Avg) 21 - 66	54.75 (Avg) 16 - 84	YES	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	ppb	N/A	60	30.67 (Avg) 23.53 - 37.80	25.75 (Avg) 13 - 35.3	YES	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	N/A	TT = N/A	1.15 (Avg) 1.00 - 1.24	1.61 (Avg) 1.3 - 2.4	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform (2)	%	0	< 5% Positive	0	0	YES	Bacteria naturally present in the environment; Used as an indicator for other harmful bacteria.
Barium	ppm	N/A	2	0.019	N/A	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Chromium	ppb	N/A	100	0.49	N/A	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Nitrate	ppm	N/A	10	0.743	N/A	YES	Naturally present in the environment

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

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level or Maximum Allowed - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water by EPA

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no expected or known risk to health

ml Milliliter - One thousandth of a liter

N/A Not applicable

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units

ppm Parts per Million - 1 part per 1,000,000

ppb Parts per Billion - 1 part per 1,000,000,000

RAA Running Annual Average

TT Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

Turbidity The measure of the cloudiness of water - A good indicator of water quality and effectiveness of filtration

< Less than

> Greater than

The City of Winder supplements it's water production by purchasing water from Barrow County during the year.

¹ Of all samples taken and tested for total coliform (bacteria), all tests came back negative, indicating that no bacteria were detected in your water.

² The presence of these contaminants (substances) 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you are interested in reviewing a copy of Winder's Source Water Assessment Plan, please call 770-867-7978.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

NOTICE TO IMMUNE-COMPROMISED PEOPLE

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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and EPA 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 1-800-426-4791.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

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. City of Winder Utilities Department 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 formulas, 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

The Service Line Inventory is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions 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. The City of Winder has completed our inventory and identified "NO" lead pipes within our distribution system. However, during this discovery process we did identify some 870 customers who have galvanized lines either on the City side or customer side of the water meter. We are in the process of replacing these lines as a precautionary measure to reduce corrosion and buildup within your lines. If you're one of the 870 customers identified, you have been notified and will continue to be reminded annually by November until your lines have been replaced.



PROTECTING & CONSERVING WATER

HOW DOES CITY OF WINDER PROTECT WATER QUALITY?

- We ensure federal and state water quality standards are met.
- We produce and distribute more than 1.5 billion gallons of drinking water per year.
- We maintain one water production plant, and two wastewater treatment plants.
- We perform nearly 20,000 water quality tests each year as part of the drinking water production and distribution process.
- We provide water conservation programs and education.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- Minimize your pesticide and fertilizer usage and follow directions for use and disposal to prevent chemicals from getting into streams and rivers.
- Do not pour fats, oils, grease, or hazardous waste down the drain, onto the ground, or into storm drains to prevent sewer system backups and environmental pollution.
- Pick up pet waste to prevent rainwater from picking up bacteria and carrying it to our surface waters.
- Ensure that only rain goes down the storm drain.
- Never flush anything besides human waste and toilet paper down the toilet.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Conserving water at home is good for the environment and can save you money on your water bill! Try these money-saving tips:

- Turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth or shave.
- Catch the initial cold water from your shower or sink in a bucket and use it to water plants.
- Run the dishwasher or clothes washer only when you have a full load.
- Routinely check your faucets and toilets for leaks.
- Use a broom to clean walkways and driveways instead of a hose.
- Water plants early in the morning to reduce evaporation.
- Use auto shut-off nozzles on your hose.
- Install rain barrels to collect rainwater.

WHY ARE CONTAMINANTS IN WATER?

As rainfall travels over or through the ground, it picks up naturally occurring minerals and other substances that may be on or in the ground left by humans or wildlife. Drinking water — both tap and bottled — is supplied by rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. City of Winder's tap water comes from the Mulberry River and Lake at Fort Yargo. Contaminants could include viruses, bacteria, salts, metals, pesticides, herbicides, and more. City of Winder's filter plant follows a strict disinfection process that results in the removal of at least 99.9% of contaminants. 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 at **1-800-426-4791**.

In 2010 the City of Winder was designated as the 19th WaterFirst Community in the state of Georgia. At that time, we were the 19th out of some 700 municipalities and governments across Georgia to receive WaterFirst Designation. We have been completing environmental monitoring and public education regarding our water resources since 2000.

The City demonstrated a commitment to water stewardship by achieving excellence in eight major components of the WaterFirst Program. The components are:

- Watershed Assessment;
- Stormwater Master Planning;
- Water Supply Planning;
- Water Supply Protection;
- Water Conservation;
- Wastewater Treatment Systems and Management;
- Residual Biosolids; and
- Water Reclamation and Reuse.

