TOWNS COUNTY WATER & SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
WSID#2810007
1224 JACK DAYTON CIRCLE
YOUNG HARRIS GA 30582
OFFICE (706) 896-4372
EMERGENCY (706) 379-3622

2025 WATER QUALITY REPORT

This annual report will provide you with information on the standards and tests set by federal regulations to ensure water quality. It also explains the ways that the Towns County Water Authority makes sure that those standards are met or exceeded.

About Towns County Water Authority: The Towns County Water Authority has been supplying the people of Towns County with quality drinking water for many years. The Towns County Water Authority is overseen by the Towns County Water Board. The Towns County Water Board has monthly meetings that are scheduled for the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM. These meetings take place at 1224 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, GA 30582. Emergency meetings are called by the Towns County Water Board whenever necessary. Emergency staff members of the Towns County Water Authority are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assure consumer interests are met. We currently oversee the needs of approximately 12,498 consumers throughout the county.

Towns County Water Authority Board Members:
Nathan Noblet, Chairman; Jamie Evans, Secretary/Treasurer; Derrick Moody, Chad Houser, and John Cochran; Eddy Corn, Attorney.

Towns County Water Authority Employees: Jennifer Nichols, Manager; Angie McNabb, Assistant Office Manager; Richard Green, Operations manager; Justin Dale, Ryan Green and Neal Moss, Operators.

Required Health Information: To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

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 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 before treatment 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 be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

*__Pesticides and herbicides:__ This may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.

*__Organic chemical contaminants:__ including synthetic and volatile organics, 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:__ This 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottles water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data: Towns County Water Authority purchases its water as a finished product from the City of Hiawassee Water System (Rowe Canup Water Plant). This means that the City of Hiawassee performs all tests required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). In addition to the tests that the City of Hiawassee performs on the water that you drink, the Towns County Water Authority is required to perform additional monthly total coliform bacteria tests, chlorine checks, as well as other tests not required for this report. The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations (January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025).

Drinking Water Source: Our water comes from Lake Chatuge, which is supplied by the Hiawassee and Hightower Rivers and their tributaries. Towns County Water and Sewerage Authority purchases their water from the City of Hiawassee who operates the water treatment plant. The City of Hiawassee's WSID # is 2810000 and consumers can check their water quality data or keep an eye out for any alerts/spills/etc. that the City of Hiawassee may have posted. These can be checked at www.waterdata.com. Towns County Water Authority's water is stored in eleven (11) tanks located throughout the county. These tanks contain a combined total of approximately 1.9 million gallons of water.

System name: Towns County Water and Sewerage Authority
WSID # 2810007 County: Towns
Reporting Period: 2024-2026 for Copper and Lead

ANALYTE	Date	Units	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Low Range	High Range	Major Sources	Violations?
LEAD (1)	2024	ppb	15	0	0	1.6	corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO
COPPER (2)	2024	ppm	1.3	1.3	0	410	corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO

Inorganic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violations?
Chlorine Residual	Daily	ppm	4	4	1.32	1.21-1.6	Water disinfectant	NO
TTHM'S	Quarterly	ppb	80	n/a	19.5	9-25.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
HAA5	Quarterly	ppb	60	n/a	29.8	15.7-37	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO

Microbiological Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources	Violations
Turbidity (3)	Daily	NTU	TT=1	n/a	0.25	Soil Runoff	NO
Turbidity	Daily	NTU	95% samples <0.3	n/a	100%	Soil Runoff	NO

Total Coliform	Monthly	p/a	No more than 5% of monthly samples	0	0		Naturally present in the environment	NO
Total Organic Carbon	2025	ppm	TT	NA	0.883	0-0.883	Naturally present in the environment	NO

Table Key

AL = Action Level

MCL= Maximum Contaminant Level

MRDL= Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MCLG= Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

MRDLG= Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

ppm= parts per million or milligrams per liter(mg/L)

ppb= parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

p/a- presence/absence (microbial)

Water Quality Table Footnotes

(1) ppb of lead reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken

(2) ppb of copper reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken

(3) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator Of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Lead 90th percentile: 1.3 ppb (ug/L) Copper 90th percentile: 400 ppb(ug/L)

Chlorine levels throughout our system ranges from 0.4 - 0.6 mg/l and the annual average is .5 mg/l.
During 2025, Towns County Water & Sewerage Authority had **NO** violations for the reporting year.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune 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 guide lines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. Towns County 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 takin 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 lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Richard Green at Towns County Water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (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 to protect public health. This inventory helps support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensures compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water.

To access the SLI and all individual Lead Tap Sample Results for Towns County Water Authority (WSID #2810007) please contact Richard Green, Water Superintendent, 706-896-4372, townscountywater@gmail.com.

Although a copy of this Water Quality Report will not be mailed to each individual customer, there will be copies available by request at the Towns County Water Authority Office on Jack Dayton Circle as well as available on our website at www.townscountywater.com. Notice of this availability is also posted on your monthly bill.

Community Partnership: Maintaining a safe supply of drinking water requires everyone's vigilant efforts. Here are some ways you can help:

1. Immediately report any problems you experience or witness to the Towns County Water Authority. Our representatives can help determine the source of the problem, such as rust in household pipes or improper disposal of some kind of contaminant. Then they can recommend a course of action or alert the proper personnel to respond to the problem.
1. When enjoying our waterways and the recreational areas around them, properly dispose of all litter, waste materials and contaminants.
2. Avoid disposing of chemicals and waste water in your lawn or yard.
3. Read and follow instructions carefully when treating your lawn and garden with pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals.
4. Practice water conservation measures.

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have which may concern this report. Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com. There will be copies of this report available at the Towns County Water Authority office on 1224 Jack Dayton Circle and it will also be available online at townscountywater.com. For more information or a copy of this report, please contact Richard Green or Jennifer Nichols with the Towns County Water Authority at (706) 896-4372. WSID# 2810007