

# Annual Water Quality Report Dahlonega Water System

WSID #: GA1870000  
465 Riley Road  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706-864-6133

This report includes data collected between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025

The City of Dahlonega Water Works (WSID#: GA1870000) is pleased to report that your community's drinking water met all quality standards set by the State of Georgia and EPA during the previous year. This 2025 Water Quality Report provides our customers with detailed accounts of all the monitoring and testing results gathered from water quality testing during the previous year. Our employees are committed to providing you with safe, dependable tap water on a year-round basis and are proud to provide this information. For more information about your water or this report, please contact the Dahlonega Water Plant at 706-864-3591.

Your water comes from the Yahoola Creek Reservoir which is fed by Yahoola Creek and Ward Creek. The City of Dahlonega Water Works uses membrane technology to remove solids (greater than 0.1 microns), organics and certain metals that are dissolved in the surface water. After filtration, the water goes through fluoridation and disinfection by using sodium hypochlorite. Once the water is in the City's Distribution System, additional testing is performed to ensure water remains safe and of the highest quality.

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2025 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, 2025-December 31, 2025.

### Terms & Abbreviations used below:

- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.
- Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.
- n/a:** not applicable
- nd:** not detectable at testing limit
- ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter and corresponds to 1 penny in \$10,000.
- ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter and corresponds to 1 penny in \$10,000,000.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** a measure of very small particulate matter in drinking water.
- Treatment technique (TT):** a required treatment technique or process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Microbiological Contaminants Table							
Parameter (units)	MCL	MCLG	Dahlonega Water System Results	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
*Turbidity (NTU)	TT=0.3NTU	n/a	0.09 NTU (MAXIMUM)	n/a	2025	NO	soil runoff
	TT= % of sample <0.3 NTU		100%	n/a		NO	

\* Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. Monitoring the turbidity is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Inorganic Contaminants Table							
Parameter (units)	MCL	MCLG	Dahlonega Water System Results	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.86	.72 – .98	2025	NO	water additive that promotes strong teeth
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0 MRDL	4.0 MRDLG	1.26	.70 – 1.72	2025	NO	water additive
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.12	.004 – .160	2025	NO	corrosion of household plumbing system
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	0	1	nd – 29	2025	NO	corrosion of household plumbing system
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	0.30	0.30	2025	NO	runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and copper: 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value of samples collected from the most recent round of sampling.

Lead and copper testing is required every 3 years, access to all sample results for the City of Dahlonega GA1870000 are available at: <https://gadinkingwater.net/DWWPUB/>

Organic Contaminants Table							
Parameter (units)	MCL	MCLG	Dahlonega Water System Results	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio)	TT	n/a	1.20	1.08 – 1.31	2025	NO	naturally present
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	>80	n/a	24.95	15.8 – 40.27	2025	NO	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	>60	n/a	37.05	26.7 – 44.8	2025	NO	by-product of drinking water chlorination

## Water Restrictions

Please be aware that the City of Dahlonega is currently under a **non-drought outdoor watering schedule**. This schedule allows all types of outdoor water use, but limits landscape watering only before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m. daily. This is done to limit evaporation during the warmest part of the day. Many types of outdoor water use are allowed under this schedule. If the State changes our drought level response in our area, our customers will be notified through the proper channels. Water conservation resources can be found on the Georgia Department of Natural Resources web site (<https://epd.georgia.gov/water-conservation>).

## Source Water Assessment

The City of Dahlonega Water Works and the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission (GMRC) have completed an assessment of potential for pollution of surface drinking water supply sources. The results of this assessment gave a rating of **high** and can be found on file at the City of Dahlonega Water Treatment Facility, 1929 Morrison Moore Parkway, East, Dahlonega, GA 30533 upon request.

A source water assessment is a study and report, unique to each water system that provides basic information about the water used to provide drinking water. The Source Water Assessments:

- Identify the area of land that contributes the raw water used for drinking water,
- Identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies, and
- Provide an understanding of the drinking water supply's susceptibility to contamination.

This information can help communities understand the potential for contamination of their drinking water supplies and can be used to prioritize the need for protecting drinking water sources.

## 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 800-426-4791.

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

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 materials. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

\* 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 Dahlonega 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 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 City of Dahlonega Water Treatment Plant 706-864-3591. 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 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.

To access the SLI for City of Dahlonega, GA 1870000, follow the link located at this web address:

<https://dahlonega-ga.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=1d0456ee6ff842be9b822ea43120c216>

\*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 results from urban storm water 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, 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 that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which 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, which provide the same protection for the public's health.

## Participation

Your water system is an active participant in the community. Our employees are involved in many civic organizations and are pleased to offer information and speakers to the community on water protection, water treatment, as well as provide tours of our facilities.

Your City Council meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Your participation or comments are welcome at these meetings.