

Town of Homer Water System

2023 Water-Quality Report

Water System ID 0110000



The Town of Homer Water System is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during the past year. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that utilities issue an annual “Consumer Confidence” report to customers. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. The Town of Homer Water System is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water. We encourage public interest and participation in our community’s decisions affecting our drinking water. Regularly scheduled council meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Homer Town Hall. Comments are welcomed; please contact us at The Town of Homer – 943 Historic Homer Highway – Homer, GA 30547 or (706) 677-3510.

Water Source

The Town of Homer water system is supplied by ground water from one Town well, source #106. Water is also purchased from the Banks County Water System which obtains water from the Mountain Creek Reservoir.

The Town of Homer completed a well head protection plan. Copies of this plan are available at Town Hall.

How to Read This Table

The chart in this report provides representative analytical results of water samples, collected in 2023 from the Town of Homer water system and the Banks County water system unless noted otherwise. Please note the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 Residual Disinfectant Level of MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal of MCRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Regulatory Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which triggers treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.

Volatile Organic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected (Highest)	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Total Trihalomethane, TTHM								
Town of Homer	Quarterly	ppb	80	n/a	59.67	41.4-65.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
Banks County	Quarterly	ppb	80	n/a	41.7	12.7-33.3		NO
Haloacetic Acid, HAA5								
Town of Homer	Quarterly	ppb	60	n/a	37	21.7-41	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
Banks County	Quarterly	ppb	60	n/a	31.65	14.7-30		NO
Total Organic Carbon								
Banks County	Monthly	Ratio	N/A	TT </=2.0	0.96	0.8-1.1	Naturally present in the environment	NO
Inorganic Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Nitrate/Nitrite								
Town of Homer	2022	ppm	10	10	0.31	n/a	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits	NO
Banks County	2023	ppm	10	10	0.13	0.0-0.26		NO
Lead¹								
Town of Homer	2023	ppb	AL=15	0	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Banks County	2022	ppb	AL=15	0	0	0		NO
Copper²								
Town of Homer	2023	ppb	AL=1300	1300	31	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Banks County	2022	ppb	AL=1300	1300	100	0		NO

Chlorine Residual								
Town of Homer	Monthly	ppm	MRDL =4	MRDLG =4	1.03	0.59-1.45	Water disinfectant	NO
Banks County	Monthly	ppm	MRDL =4	MRDLG =4	1.83	1.7-1.97		NO
Fluoride								
Banks County	Monthly	ppm	4	4	0.79	0.71-0.88	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	NO

Microbiological	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Value	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Total Coliform Bacteria								
Town of Homer	Monthly	#/100 mL	1	0	0	n/a	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.	NO
Banks County	Monthly		1	0	0	n/a		NO
Turbidity³								
Banks County	Continuous	NTU	TT	n/a	0.22	n/a	Soil runoff	NO
Turbidity								
Banks County	Continuous	NTU	95% samples <0.3	n/a	100%	n/a	Soil runoff	NO
Radiological Contaminants	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Value	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Alpha Emitters								
Town of Homer	2022	pCi/L	15	0	18.4	11.11-28.6	Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Combined Radium								
Town of Homer	2022	pCi/L	5	0	3.3	2.94-3.96	Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Uranium								
Town of Homer	2022	pCi/L	20	0	15.3	9.55-18.49	Erosion of natural deposits	NO

Water-Quality Table Footnotes

1 ppb of copper is reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken.
2 ppb of lead is reported as the 90th percentile of samples taken.
3 Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness in water and is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Table Key

- AL = Action Level, the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l) one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- NTU = nephelometric units, measure of the clarity of water
- TT = treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

Required Additional Health Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount 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. 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's 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 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 include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) 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.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- (E) 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

* Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 Town of Homer 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 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.gov/safewater/lead>.



National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

If you have any questions please call Carol Ayers with the Homer Town Hall at (706) 677-3510. Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com. Although a copy of this Water Quality Report will not be mailed to each individual customer, there will be copies available at Town Hall. This report contains water quality information from the Town of Homer water system (WSID 0110000).

Este informe contiene information muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.