

City of Helen Water System

2024 Water-Quality Report

Water System ID # GA 3110001



The City of Helen 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 City of Helen 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 City Council meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am at City Hall. Any comments are welcomed; please contact us at The City of Helen – 25 Alpenrosen Strasse – Helen, GA 30545 or (706) 878-2733.

Water Source

The City of Helen’s water system is supplied by a system of six ground water wells. The City also maintains a connection to the White County Water Authority’s system. The water from the wells is treated with chlorine, fluoride and orthophosphate before entering the system. The City completed a Wellhead Protection Plan with EPD. A copy of this report can be obtained at City Hall.

How to Read This Table

The chart in this report provides representative analytical results of water samples, collected in 2024 (unless otherwise indicated) from the City of Helen’s water system. 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.

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

Contaminant	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected (Highest)	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Volatile Organic Contaminant THMs	City of Helen	Quarterly	80	0	59.8	1.7-71.8	Byproduct of disinfection	NO
	White County Water	Quarterly	80	0	53.25	25.6-92		NO
HAA5s	City of Helen	Quarterly	60	0	33.85	1.5-39.7	Byproduct of disinfection	NO
	White County Water	Quarterly	60	0	28.65	17-44.3		NO
Inorganic Contaminants	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Copper ¹	City of Helen	2024	AL=1,300	1,300	160	5.7-300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	NO
	White County Water	2022	AL = 1,300	1,300	34	2.3-340		
Lead ²	City of Helen	2024	AL=15	0	1.2	0-1.2		NO
	White County Water	2022	AL=15	0	0	0-1.7		
Fluoride	City of Helen	Daily	4	4	0.69	0.57-0.82	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive	NO
	White County Water	Daily	4	4	0.8	0.15-1.1		NO
Nitrate	City of Helen	2024	10	10	0.12	0-0.44	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Chlorine Residual	City of Helen	Daily	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.49	1.19-1.75	Water disinfectant	NO
	White County Water	Daily	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.49	0.01-2.54		NO
Microbiological Contaminants	Date	Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Turbidity	White County Water	Continuous	TT = 1 NTU	N/A	0.01-0.29	100% of samples <0.3 NTU	Soil runoff	NO
Total Organic Carbon	Date	Units			Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?

White County Water	2024	TT	TOC <2.0	N/A	<2	0.7-1.2	Naturally present in Environment	NO
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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.

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)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
pCi/L = picocuries per liter

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.

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).

2024 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information For (GA3110001) Water System

Lead in Drinking Water

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 Helen 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. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Jack Morgan at 706-878-2733. 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>.

To access all individual Lead Tap Sample results for the City of Helen, please contact Matthew Speed at mspeed@eminc.biz Lead Service Line Inventory

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 the City of Helen, please contact Jack Morgan at 706-878-2733.



National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

If you have any questions please contact the City of Helen's Public Works Director, Jack Morgan at (706) 878-2733. Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com. A copy of this Water Quality Report is available at City Hall. This report contains water quality information from the City of Helen's water system (WSID 3110001).

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