

# WHITEMARSH ESTATES WATER SYSTEM, INC.

## 2020 CONSUMER WATER QUALITY REPORT

JANUARY 2020 – DECEMBER 2020

(PWS#0510094)

**Whitemarsh Estates Water System, Inc. is proud to report that the water provided for our customers meets or exceeds established water-quality standards.**

This annual water quality report shows the source of our water, lists the results of our testing and contains important information about water and health. We will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about our water. We are happy to show you how we have surpassed water quality standards.

Whitemarsh Estates Water Co.'s business hours are from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday. The telephone number is (912) 233-3254. In case of emergencies after hours, please call the answering service at the above business office phone number.

### **WATER CONSERVATION:**

1. Outdoor watering schedule: The Environmental Protection Division of the GA Dept. of Natural Resources has adopted Rules for Outdoor Water Use, Chapter 391-3-30. The Rules provide for non-drought and drought outdoor water use, statewide. The outdoor water use schedule during non-drought periods is as follows (391-3-30-.03) "(1) Outdoor water use other than exempted activities shall occur only as follows: (a) Odd-numbered addresses: outdoor water use is allowed on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday; (b) Even-numbered addresses: outdoor water use is allowed on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday."
2. For outdoor water use schedule during times of declared drought, see attached EPD Rules, or call (404)657-7430.
3. A rate structure may be adopted in your subdivision that encourages conservation through measured usage.
4. The installation of shallow wells for outside watering is permitted, provided that it is not in any way connected to the water service which extends between the water main and the customer's home. Water from a shallow well is not of a drinkable quality and can pose a health hazard. The installation of any shallow well must be approved by the water company in order to prevent cross-connections which are prohibited by law.

### **Water Quality: Issues and Results:**

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 materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants – such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewerage 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

wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants – including synthetic and volatile organics (SOC, VOC), which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems. A waiver has been issued Whitemarsh Estates Water for asbestos, cyanide and dioxin, because studies show our water is not vulnerable to these chemicals.
- Radioactive contaminants – 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. However, Whitemarsh has received waiver for most SOC's.

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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 Water Drinking hotline at (800)426-4791.

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### **Storm Preparedness Guidelines:**

- A. Dialysis: The utility asks that any facility/household that runs a dialysis unit to please call the office and give your address.
- B. Evacuation: The utility may or may not shut down the water system 6-10 hours after the time the local Emergency Management Agency has called for evacuation. For exact information regarding shut down times and other pertinent information, please consult the Utility Website: [www.consolidatedutilities.com](http://www.consolidatedutilities.com).

### **WATER SOURCE:**

Whitemarsh Estates Water System operates the well located on Penrose Drive. The well is about 300 feet deep and gets water from the Floridian Aquifer. The water is then disinfected for your health and protection by using chlorine gas.

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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy; persons who have undergone organ transplants; people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorder; 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 at (800)426-4791.

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**Lead Specific Information:**

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious problems for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Whitemarsh 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>.

**Preventative Maintenance: Water meter boxes cannot support road vehicles. Please do not drive over the water meter boxes. THE COST OF REPAIR WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE CUSTOMER!!!**

**Explanation of the Water-quality Results Data Table:**

The tables below show the results of our water-quality laboratory analyses, definitions of terms used in reporting data and an explanatory key to units of measurement used in reporting. Every regulated contaminant detected even in the minutest traces is listed in the tables. The table column labels contain the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected (System Results), the annual system wide range of detection, the date and the violation status. Finally, table footnotes provide information on the usual sources of such contamination and other explanatory aids.

**DRINKING WATER ANALYSIS – Regulated Substances**

**Detected Inorganic Compounds:**

| Substance Tested and Detected | MCL | MCLG | System Results | Range of Detection | Date | Violation? Yes/No |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|----------------|--------------------|------|-------------------|
| Fluoride (ppm)*               | 4.0 | 4.0  | .39            | N/A                | 2017 | No                |
| Chlorine (ppm) Disinfectant   | 4.0 | 4.0  | 0.8            | 0.80 – 1.2         | 2020 | No                |

Probable Source: \*Erosion of Natural Deposits /\*\*Natural, domestic, industrial runoff.

| Parameter    | Action Level | MCLG | System Results | # of sample sites Found above Action Level | Violation Yes/No | Sample Date |
|--------------|--------------|------|----------------|--|------------------|-------------|
| Lead (ppb)   | 15           | 0    | 5.0            | 0  | No               | 2020        |
| Copper (ppb) | 1300         | 1300 | 41.5           | 0  | No               | 2020        |

\*Typical Source of Contaminants: Corrosion of household plumbing. Lead and copper are the only 2 substances monitored at the customer’s tap.

**Detected Volatile Organic Compounds:**

| Parameter                         | MCL    | MCLG   | System Results | Range of detection | Violation Yes/No | Date |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|------|
| TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) ppb* | 100/80 | N/A    | 2.5            | 0 – 2.5            | No               | 2019 |
| **Total Xylenes ppb*              | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.54           | 0.0 – 0.54         | No               | 2020 |

Typical Source of Contaminants: \*Disinfectant by product  
 \*\* Chemical Discharge (Surface Water sources)

**DEFINITIONS:**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| MCL                         | Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. If the chemical in question exceeds the MCL the water system is in VIOLATION of safe drinking water standards.   |
| MCLG                        | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.   |
| ppm                         | Parts per million: A ppm is a unit of measurement of the concentration of a chemical. One part per million is equivalent to one minute in two years or one penny in ten thousand dollars.   |
| ppb                         | Parts per billion: A ppb is a unit of measurement of the concentration of a chemical. One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in two thousand years or one penny in ten million dollars.   |
| AL                          | Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.   |
| 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile | The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile is 90% of the highest sample which the system took. Again, the 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile is equal to 90 percent of the highest reading of the chemical in question taken within a water system. If the 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile reading exceeds the AL of that chemical, then the water system is in violation of safe drinking water standards. |

Water Quality Table Footnotes: Although we ran many tests, only the listed substances were found. They are all below the MCL required.

Unregulated Contaminants: Whitemarsh Estates Water System, Inc. was not tested for Radon.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION: The source water assessment plan gives information about the well(s) and identifies potential sources of pollution. The source water assessment plan has been completed and a copy can be obtained by calling the business office at (912) 233-3254.

For additional information about the quality of your drinking water, please call Kim Abbott at (912) 233-3254.