

**City of Quitman**  
**2023 Water Quality Report**  
Georgia Water System ID #: GA0270002

**Name of Water System Contact:**  
City Hall

**Contact Phone Number:**  
229-263-4166

**Summary of Water Quality Information**

The **City of Quitman** drinking water system is owned by the city and operated by **ESG Operations LLC**. The facility office is located at 100 W. Screven Street in Quitman, Georgia. If there are ever any comments or inquiries to be made, please feel free to visit or contact City Hall during regular working hours.

Included in this report is information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The **City of Quitman** is committed to providing your community with clean, safe, and reliable drinking water. For more information about your water or this report, please call City Hall. Consumers are also invited to attend the City Council meetings scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. **This report will not be mailed to individual consumers but is available at City Hall, upon request.**

Your water comes from three (3) community *groundwater* wells; well 101 and well 102 are located on West Forsyth Street and well 103 is at Forsyth and Seymore Street, in Quitman, Georgia. The wells derive water from the *Upper Floridan Aquifer* which provides ample volumes of water for this community. In the event of an emergency where one of these wells could not be used, the city would rely on the remaining two wells to provide for the community's needs until the equipment is repaired, or an alternate source can be found. These properties are protected from activities which could potentially cause contamination of this water source. Necessary treatment is performed at well sites including the removal of contaminants and chlorine disinfection.

The **City of Quitman** Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) was updated in 2014. This is a report that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (GA DNR EPD) identifies any type(s) of pollution to which your water supply could be vulnerable and includes information regarding potential sources of contamination in your watershed. The WHPP has established a fifteen (15) foot radius control zone and a one hundred (100) foot radius management zone around all the wells. Currently, there are no potential pollution sources within the control zone for wells 101 and 103. An above ground diesel storage tank is the only potential pollution source within the control zone for well 102. Potential pollution sources in the management zone for all three wells include access and secondary roads, electrical transformers, utility poles, sewer lines, and storm water runoff. Additionally, well 101 may also be affected by an above ground storage tank and vehicle parking areas. Well 103 may have possible pollution contamination from an above ground storage tank that lies within its management zone. **The WHPP is available to you upon request at City Hall but will not be mailed to all consumers.**

The **City of Quitman** water system is tested for more than eighty (80) drinking water parameters on a periodic basis determined by the GA DNR EPD Drinking Water Program and/or the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Sampling/testing schedules are based on initial contaminant level assessments and can be changed if deemed appropriate. Waivers may be issued for the analysis of any of the mentioned compounds if studies show that the distributed drinking water in this area is not vulnerable to contamination from these chemicals. Generally, samples are collected from within the **City of Quitman** for the analysis of lead, copper, inorganic, volatile organic, and synthetic organic compounds, once in a three (3) year period, whereas TTHMs, HAA5s, and nitrates are sampled once a year. Testing is also performed to detect the bacteriological content monthly. Radiological analyses are conducted every six (6) years for well 101 and well 103 and every nine (9) years for well 102.

During 2023, the **City of Quitman** water system was sampled for the analyses of the following parameters: bacteriology, nitrate-nitrites, TTHMs, and HAA5s. **All detected contaminants are delineated in the accompanying chart. Any constituents not listed in the chart had results less than the detection limits and/or MCLs. We are pleased to inform you that the City of Quitman had NO violations of drinking water standards during 2023.**

During the 2021 lead and copper analyses, twenty (20) representative locations were sampled throughout your community and analyzed. Even though the **City of Quitman** had no violations, lead and copper were found at detectable levels during analyses, and in one of the twenty sites, results indicated the concentration was above the action level limits for lead and copper.

Lead and copper are metals naturally found throughout the environment in soil and water. These metals can also be found in lead, copper, or brass household plumbing pipes and fixtures. Even consumer products such as paints, pottery, and pewter can contain lead and/or copper. Corrosion or deterioration of lead or copper-based materials, as well as erosion of natural deposits can release these metals into the 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 **City of Quitman** 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>.

**Additionally, the following measures may also be taken to minimize exposure to lead and/or copper:**

- Use cold water for drinking or cooking.
- Do not cook with or consume water from the hot water faucet.
- Do not use hot water for making baby formula.
- Use only “lead free” solder, fluxes and materials in new household plumbing and repairs.

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 (SDW) Hotline at 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 SDW Hotline.**

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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, sometimes, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. **Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:**

- **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 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, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 must provide the same protection for public health.

The *City of Quitman* strives to maintain the highest standards of performance and quality possible. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, improvements that benefit the community must be made. Please help keep these costs as low as possible by utilizing good water conservation practices.

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** “The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.”

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** “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.”

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** Reasonable goals for drinking water quality. Exceeding SMCL’s may adversely affect odor or appearance, but there is no known risk to human health.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** “A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.”

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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 microbiological contaminants.”

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** “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.”

**TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes):** One or more of the organic compounds Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, and/or Bromoform.

**HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids):** One or more of the organic compounds Monochloroacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, and Dibromoacetic Acid.

**City of Quitman**  
**2023 Water Quality Data**  
**WSID: GA0270002**

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that have been detected in your drinking water. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The data presented in this table is from testing done during the year noted. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) require monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Parameters, values, and/or sources may vary. Please note that the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) requires sample collection for 30 chemical contaminants between 2023 and 2025 using analytical methods developed by the EPA and consensus organizations. This action provides the agency and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the national occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water. Quitman's first of two UCMR 5 sampling events was completed in February 2024. The second sampling event will occur in July 2024. Analytical results are publicly available through the UCMR 5 Data Finder, the UCMR Occurrence Data webpage at [Occurrence Data from the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule | US EPA](#), and the PFAS Analytic Tools.

**DETECTED INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Parameter	Units	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	City of Quitman Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	1.18	0.70 to 1.85	2023	No	Water additive used for control of microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4 [2]	4	0.61	0.20 to 1.03	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive
Nitrate [as Nitrogen]	ppm	10	10	0.51	0.31 to 0.63	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

**DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Quitman Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5	ppb	60	**	ND	N/A	2023	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs	ppb	80	**	2.3	2.3	2023	No	By product of drinking water disinfection

**OTHER DETECTED UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Parameter	Units	MCL [SMCL]	MCLG	City of Quitman Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	**	**	3.1	2.6 to 3.1	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits

**LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING RESULTS**

Parameter	Units	Action Level	MCLG	City of Quitman 90th Percentile	# of sample sites above AL	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	ppb	15	0	1.4	1 of 20	2021	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.46	1 of 20	2021	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

**MICROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING RESULTS**

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Quitman Number of Positive Samples	Positive Sample Date (Month)	Sample Year	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform	Present/ Absent	1*	0	1	May	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli		0	0	0	N/A	2023	No	Human and animal fecal waste

**RADIONUCLIDES TABLE**

Parameter	Units	MCL	MCLG	City of Quitman Water System Results	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	pCi/L	15	0	ND	N/A	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium 226/228	pCi/L	5	0	ND	N/A	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits

**\*Total Coliform Rule MCL= 1 positive sample for systems that collect <40 samples a month      \*\* No established MCL, SMCL or MCLG**

**N/A:** Not applicable to this contaminate    **ppb (ug/L):** parts per billion or micrograms per liter    **ppm (mg/L):** parts per million or milligrams per liter    **pCi:** picocuries per liter, a measurement of radiation.

**ND (Not Detected):** By regulation, this substance or group of substances was tested for in our finished tap water; however, none was detected at the testing limit.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminate which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.