2026 WATER QUALITY REPORT
City of Commerce, Georgia

PWSID#: 1570001
Commerce Administrative Complex, 110 State Street Commerce, GA 30529 (706) 335-3164

Prepared in Accordance With:
The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
National Primary Drinking Water Regulation
40 CFR Parts 141 and 142

Is my water safe?
The City of Commerce is pleased to report that your community's drinking water met or exceeded all safety and quality standards set by the State of Georgia and EPA during the previous year **(2025)** This Water Quality Report is intended to inform our customers of where their drinking water comes from, how its treated, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our employees are committed to providing you with safe, dependable tap water on a year-round basis and are proud to provide the enclosed information.

Where does my water come from?
The City of Commerce obtains its raw water from the 325-acre Bob Waters Reservoir in Banks County, supplied by the Grove Creek watershed. A Reservoir Management Plan and Watershed Protection Plan are in place to safeguard this source by establishing stream and shoreline buffer zones, regulating impervious surface limits within the watershed, and managing permitted recreational activities.

A source water assessment plan (SWAP) has been completed which identified potential sources of surface water pollution that may pose a threat to the water supply within the Grove Creek Watershed. According to the GA EPD ranking methodology, this assessment determined that the watershed's susceptibility to pollution as MEDIUM. To obtain a copy of the SWAP, contact **Josh Allison @ (706) 335-3164.**

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How is this water treated?

Raw water drawn from the reservoir is conveyed to the Water Treatment Plant on Water Plant Road, where it undergoes primary coagulation to promote floc formation and sedimentation. Upon entering the treatment process, a coagulant is introduced to facilitate the aggregation and settling of suspended solids. The clarified water is subsequently passed through dual-media filtration consisting of anthracite and sand, which removes remaining particulates such as natural organic matter, clay, silt, iron, manganese, and microbial constituents.

Post-filtration, corrosion control and water conditioning chemicals are applied: phosphate is added to reduce distribution-system corrosivity, lime is used to regulate pH levels, and fluoride is incorporated to support dental health. Final disinfection is achieved through chlorination to ensure microbiological safety prior to distribution.

Contaminants and Health Risks Found in Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of 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. Additional information can be obtained over the Internet from:

http://www.epa.gov/ow
http://www.dnr.state.ga.us/epd
http://www.awwa.org
http://www.amwa-water.org

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 other health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological 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 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 the following:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, 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 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 that 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.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected through monitoring and testing during the calendar year of 2023. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants on a daily basis and others monthly, yearly, or less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Terms and Abbreviations Used In Table

- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** *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.*
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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 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.
- **AL (Action Level)**: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Parts per million (ppm):** ***or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)*** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb):** ***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.

- **Treatment Technique (TT*):*** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Turbidity Units (NTU)**: Measure of the clarity of water.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Detected Substance	Units	MCLG	MCL	Result (a)	Range Detected	Violations	Probable Source
Regulated Contaminants							
Turbidity (b)	NTUs	N/A	TT = 0.3	Yearly avg. (100%)	.01 - .29	NO	Soil runoff.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	Ratio	N/A	TT ≤ 2.0	1.77 (d)	0.96 – 1.41 (e)	NO	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper (f) 2025	ppb	1.3	1.3	0.189 (g)	0 (h)	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (f) 2025	ppb	0	15	1.2 (g)	0 (h)	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.9 (i)	0.921 - 0.921 (j)	NO	Water additive that promotes strong teeth

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Regulated Contaminants							
	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Violation	
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	2.11 (i)	0.50 - 2.11	NO	Added to water for disinfection.
Trihalomethanes (THMs) Stage 2	ppb	N/A	80	61.0 (i)	26.5 – 91.0	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) Stage 2	ppb	N/A	60	42.11 (i)	24.2 – 55.6	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants							
	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Violation	Likely source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.013	0.013-0.013	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes: Discharge from metal refineries: Erosion of Natural deposits

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Chromium	ppm	100	100	0.35	0.35-0.35	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills: erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	<0.0200	<0.0200-<0.0200	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	0	10	0.39	0.39-0.39	No	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Thallium	ppb	0.5	2	0.19	0.19-0.19	No	Discharge from electronics, glass and leaching from ore-processing sites: Frug factories

Coliform Bacteria	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violations	Likely Source of Contamination
	0	0	0	0	0	0	Naturally present in the environment.

2025 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information

For GA1570001 Commerce Water System

Lead : *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.* ***Commerce*** *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* ***John Kight, Project Manager 706-335-6330 (Water System Contact Information).*** *Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at* ***intps://www.epa.govIsafewater/lead.***

Lead and Copper Range Data.

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Analyte	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Range		Units	Violation
				Low	High		
Lead	6/15/25	0	15	0.00	2.5	ppb	NO
Copper	6/15/25	1300	1300	7.0	249	ppb	NO

To access all individual Lead Tap Sample results for GA1570001 Commerce: Commerce Administrative Complex, 110 State Street, Commerce, Ga. 30529

(a) Values represent highest single measurement unless otherwise noted.
(b) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
(c) Lowest % of monthly samples meeting turbidity limits.
(d) Average of monthly averages.
(e) Range detected in mg/l.
(f) Water from the treatment plant does not contain lead or copper, however under EPA test protocol; water is tested at the tap. Tap tests reveal whether lead or copper is corroding from the piping system and contaminating the water supply. Phosphate, a corrosion inhibitor, is added prior to distribution.
(g) 90^{th} percentile.
(h) Number of sites exceeding AL.
(i) Annual average.
(j) Monthly Average.

Lead

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 Commerce 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 (800-426-4791) or at ***http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead***.

Service Line Inventory

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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 GA1570001 City of Commerce (Water System) Please contact: Commerce Administrative Complex, 110 State Street, Commerce, Ga 30529

Opportunities for public participation

The City of Commerce holds its City Council meetings on the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00 PM at the Commerce Civic Center located at 110 State Street.

For more information

For more information regarding this report or to receive an individual copy, please contact **John Kight** at the Commerce Water Treatment Plant at (706) 335-6330. Copies may be seen at **Commerce Administrative Complex, 110 State Street**, **Commerce Library** 1344 Broad Street or at: ***www.commercega.org***
Individual copies of this report will not be mailed to each consumer.