



## What is a **CCR**, and why is it important?

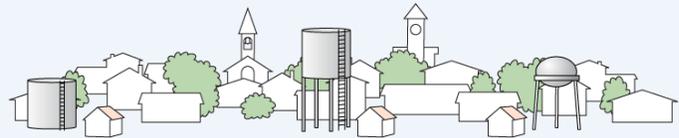
"In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act, adding a requirement that water systems deliver a brief annual water quality report to their customers. The **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)** is a brief annual water quality report from community water systems to its customers. The purpose of the CCR is to summarize water quality data that your water system already collects to comply with regulations and inform consumers about their drinking water. The CCR includes information on source water, levels of any detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water regulations (including monitoring requirements), plus some educational information. A CCR tells people where their water comes from and what the system is doing to deliver safe drinking water to their communities. It also tells them what contaminants, if any, are in their drinking water and how these contaminants could affect their health." (GA EPD CCR Guidance and Preparation Manual)

Cherokee County Water and Sewerage Authority (CCWSA) publishes a CCR for two water systems. Located in the North West Corner of Cherokee County, The Salacoa Area Water System serves approximately 250 customers. This system is separate from the more extensive system because of where it sits geographically. The larger system serves about 180,000 customers who live outside any city limits in Cherokee County except the City of Holly Springs.

The CCR is an excellent tool for understanding what is in your drinking water. You will find the essential information in the tables. The CCR explains the water quality data table, which provides definitions of acronyms that are important to understand the table's results. Some contaminants are measured in ppm (parts per million) and others in ppb (parts per billion). The measurement ppm is larger than ppb by 1000. For example, one drop of ink in one of the largest tanker trucks used to haul gasoline would be an ink concentration of 1 ppb compared to four drops of ink in one 55-gallon barrel of water that would produce an ink concentration of 1 ppm. The tables provide the average, range, and significant sources of the containment. Additional containments tested are not reported on the CCR include Arsenic, Selenium, Mercury, Aluminum, and Antimony, because they were not detected in the water. Every regulated contaminant detected in the water, even the slightest trace is listed on the CCR.

A good comparison for analyzing the results is to look at the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)/Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) and comparing that to the average/result and the range. For example, the Nitrate/Nitrite MCL/MRDG is 10 ppm – if the average/result is 0.34 ppm, that is significantly less than the allowed amount. Other contaminants have an Action Limit (AL), such as Copper and Lead. The same concept applies when looking at the results. If the results are considerably less than the AL, that is a good sign. Another easy way to analyze the results is to look at the violation column. If the water system has had any violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act, it will be indicated.

CCWSA's 2021 CCRs are available and can be found under the Our Water tab – Consumer Confidence Report or Salacoa Water System Consumer Confidence Report at [ccwsa.com](http://ccwsa.com). Previous years CCRs are available as well. If you have questions about CCR contact Lori Forrester by phone – at 770-479-1813 Ext. 1176 or email – [lori.forrester@ccwsa.com](mailto:lori.forrester@ccwsa.com).



**\*Just as a reminder, if you have a particular topic or question you would like us to address, please send it to [ccwsaea@gmail.com](mailto:ccwsaea@gmail.com).**