

Summary of Specific Water Quality Criteria for Georgia's Waters – March 2020

Parameter	Specific Criteria		Water Use Classifications						Specified Lakes <sup>1</sup>	
			Drinking Water	Recreation	Fishing	Wild River	Scenic River	Coastal Fishing		
DO	No Change from Natural					X	X			
	Trout Streams   Daily Avg of 6.0 mg/L, Not < 5.0 mg/L		X	X	X					
	Warm Water Species   Daily Avg of 5.0 mg/L, Not < 4.0 mg/L		X	X	X				X	
	Daily Avg of 5.0 mg/L, Not < 4.0 mg/L. If natural DO is less than these values, then 0.1 mg/L deficit from natural condition is allowable.							X		
pH	No change from Natural					X	X			
	6.0-8.5		X	X	X			X		
	6.0-9.5								X	
Temperature	No change from Natural					X	X			
	Not to exceed 90°F		X	X	X			X	X	
	Primary Trout Streams   No increase >0°F		X	X	X					
	Secondary Trout Streams   No increase >2°F		X	X	X					
	Warm Water Species - Freshwater   No increase >5°F above intake temp		X	X	X				X	
	Warm Water Species - Estuarine   No increase >1.5°F above intake temp			X	X			X		
Bacteria	No change from Natural					X	X			
	Freshwater: 30-day geometric mean   126 CFU/100 mL of E. coli 30-day STV   410 CFU /100 mL of E. coli			X					X	
	Estuarine: 30-day geometric mean   35 CFU/100 mL of enterococci 30-day STV   130 CFU/100 mL of enterococci			X						
	Freshwater	May - Oct.	30-day geometric mean   200 count/100 mL of fecal coliform Non-human, lakes/reservoirs   300 counts/100 mL fecal coliform Non-human, rivers/streams   500 counts/100 mL fecal coliform	X		X				
		Nov. - April	30-day geometric mean   1000 counts/100 mL of fecal coliform Max   4000 counts/100 mL of fecal coliform							
	Freshwater <sup>2</sup>	May - Oct.	30-day geometric mean   126 counts/100 mL of E. coli 30-day STV   410 counts/100mL of E. coli Non-human, lakes/reservoirs   189 counts/100 mL of E. coli Non-human, rivers/streams   315 counts/100 mL of E. coli	X		X				
		Nov. - April	30-day geometric mean   630 counts/100 mL of E. coli 30-day STV   2050 counts/100mL of E. coli							
	Estuarine	May - Oct.	30-day geometric mean   200 count/100 mL of fecal coliform Non-human, lakes/reservoirs   300 counts/100 mL fecal coliform Non-human, rivers/streams   500 counts/100 mL fecal coliform			X		X		
		Nov. - April	30-day geometric mean   1000 counts/100 mL of fecal coliform Max   4000 counts/100 mL of fecal coliform							
	Estuarine <sup>2</sup>	May - Oct.	30-day geometric mean   35 counts/100 mL of enterococci 30-day STV   130 counts/100mL of enterococci Non-human, lakes/reservoirs   53 counts/100 mL of enterococci Non-human, rivers/streams   88 counts/100 mL of enterococci			X		X		
		Nov. - April	30-day geometric mean   175 counts/100 mL of enterococci 30-day STV   650 counts/100mL of enterococci							

<sup>1</sup> Specific Lake Criteria can be found in GA Rule [391-3-6-.03](#), paragraph 17.

<sup>2</sup> Criteria do not apply until approved by USEPA. The most recent approved version of Georgia's water quality standards can be found on the GAEPD [water quality standards webpage](#).