



CONTACTS FOR OPERATIONS DEPT.

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WATER QUALITY REPORT 2014

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about from where your water comes, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

Drinking water (tap & bottled) sources include rivers, reservoirs, springs & wells. Water travels land surface or through the ground it dissolving naturally occurring minerals & sometimes radioactive material. It can pick up substances left by animal or human activity. Source water contaminants may include microbial (viruses & bacteria) which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems & wildlife; inorganics-salts & metals occurring naturally or resulting from storm water runoff, wastewater discharges; pesticides & herbicides, which may come from storm water runoff, or residential uses; organic chemical (synthetic & volatile) are by-products of petroleum production, gas stations, storm water runoff & septic systems; radioactive, naturally occurring or resulting from oil & gas production & mining activities.

To ensure safe drinking water, EPA has regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water from public water systems. FDA regulates limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

PWSID#04-65-015

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Public Water Supply (PWS) Section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) conducted assessments for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments was to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source (well or surface water intake) to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs). The results of the assessment are available in SWAP Assessment Reports that include maps, background information and a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate or Lower.

The relative susceptibility rating of each source for Carolina Beach was determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCSs within the assessment area) and the inherent vulnerability rating (i.e., characteristics or existing conditions of the well or watershed and its delineated assessment area.). The assessment findings are summarized in the table to the right:

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Town of Carolina Beach may be viewed on the Web at: <http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap>. Please note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this website may differ from the results that were available at the time this CCR was prepared. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email request to swap@ncmail.net. Please indicate your system name (Town of Carolina Beach), PWSID (04-65-015), and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact Source Water Assessment staff at 919-715-2633. It is important to understand that susceptibility rating of *higher* does not imply poor water quality, only the systems potential to become contaminated by PCS's in the assessment area.

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	Date
Well #7	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #8	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #9	Lower	3/4/05
Well #10	Lower	3/4/05
Well #11	Lower	3/4/05
Well #12	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #13	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #14	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #1	Lower	3/4/05
Well #2	Lower	3/4/05
Well #3	Lower	3/4/05
Well #4	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #5	Moderate	3/4/05
Well #6	Lower	3/4/05

Important Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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 Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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.

Not-Applicable (N/A) * Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.

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 (ug/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L) - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfection 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 microbial contaminants.

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 Drinking Water Hotline (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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)

Source of Drinking Water: Our water is ground water withdrawn from the Castle Hayne and the Pee Dee Aquifers. The Town has 14 wells, two water treatment plants, two, 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tanks, and one, 1,000,000 gallon ground level reservoir.

Water Quality Data Table of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for the particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2014.** The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

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 Town of Carolina Beach 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 the tap for 30 seconds up to two minutes before using the 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>.

Lead & Copper Contaminants January-December 2014 (One Compliance period)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water Low / High	#of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	June-September	0.000/0.885	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppm) (90 th percentile)	June-September	0.000/0.017	0	0	AL=0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

Asbestos Contaminant

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low/High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Asbestos (MFL)	1/02	N	<0.01		7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

Radiological Contaminants 2009

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water AVG.	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	2009	N	0.75 pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon emitters (pCi/l)	2009	N	20.8 pCi/L	0	50	Decal of natural & man-made deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	2013	N	0.3 pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	2009	N	ND	0	20.1	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants December 2013

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	Secondary MCL
Sulfate (ppm)	12/2013	15	ND 15	250

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants January-December 2014 (Four quarters)

Contaminant (units)	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (AVG)	Range Low/High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppm) [Total Trihalomethanes]	N	0.035	0.008/0.112	N/A	0.080	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppm) [Total Haloacetic Acids]	N	0.016	<0.002/0.039	N/A	0.060	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.0	0.2\4.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Inorganic Contaminants December 2014

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low / High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	3/08	N	0.4	ND / 0.4	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron (ppm)	3/08	N	ND / .060	ND / .626	0.0	0.3	Ground water containing natural deposits of soluble iron
Sodium (ppm)	3/08	N	11.4 / 129.0	11.4 / 129.0	N/A	N/A	Ground water containing sodium from natural deposits

Microbiological Contaminants 2014

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	0	0	one positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	N	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste