

2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Town of Walnut Cove

Water System Number: 02-85-015

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 your source(s) of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant 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. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. **If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Mr. Bobby Miller at (336) 591-4809.**

What EPA Wants You to Know

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

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 Walnut Cove 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>.

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 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 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; and 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The water that is used by Walnut Cove comes from six ground water wells in and around the area. We also have a back-up connection with Stokes County Water Authority for use in emergency conditions and/or during drought situations.

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 the Town of Walnut Cove 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 below:

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs)

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Well # 1	Higher	March 2007
Well #2	Higher	March 2007
Well #3	Higher	March 2007
Well # 4	Higher	March 2007
Well #5	Moderate	March 2007
Well #6	Higher	March 2007
Well #7	Higher	March 2007

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the Town of Walnut Cove may be viewed on the Web at: www.ncwater.org/pws/swap. Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this web site may differ from the results that were available at the time this CCR was prepared. If you are unable to access your SWAP report on the web, you may mail a written request for a printed copy to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email requests to swap@ncdenr.gov. Please indicate your system name, number, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at 919-707-9098.

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of “higher” does not imply poor water quality, only the system’s potential to become contaminated by PCSs in the assessment area.

Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form

Water System Name: Walnut Cove

Water System No.: 02 - 85 - 012 Report Year: 2016 Population Served: 1406

The Community Water System (CWS) named above hereby confirms that all provisions under 40 CFR parts 141 and 142 requiring the development of, distribution of, and notification of a consumer confidence report have been executed. Further, the CWS certifies the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the primacy agency by their NC certified laboratory. In addition, if this report is being used to meet Tier 3 Public Notification requirements, as denoted by the checked box below, the CWS certifies that public notification has been provided to its consumers in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 141.204(d).

Certified by: Name: [Signature] Title: [Signature]
Signature: [Signature] Phone #: [Signature]
Delivery Achieved Date: [Signature] Date Reported to State: [Signature]

X The CCR includes text which provides mandated Public Notice for a monitoring violation (check box, if yes)

Check all methods used for distribution (see instructions on back for delivery requirements and methods):

- Paper copy to all
X Notification of Availability of Paper Copy (other than in the CCR itself)
Notification Method Water Bill (i.e. US Mail, door hanger)
X Notification of CCR URL URL:
Notification Method Water Bill (i.e. on bill, bill stuffer, separate mailing, email)
Direct email delivery of CCR (attached? or embedded?)
Newspaper (attach copy) What Paper? Date Published:
"Good faith" efforts (in addition to the above required methods) were used to reach non-bill paying consumers such as industry employees, apartment tenants, etc. Extra efforts included the following methods:
X posting the CCR on the Internet at URL:
mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area
advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement)
publication of the CCR in local newspaper (attach copy)
X posting the CCR in public places such as: Town Hall
delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers
delivery to community organizations such as: (attach list if needed)

Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for each 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, 2016.** The EPA and the State allow 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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

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.

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 (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.

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.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters under the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

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.

Tables of Detected Contaminants

Microbiological Contaminants in the Distribution System - For systems that collect *less than 40* samples per month

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	ND	0	1 positive sample / month*	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (presence or absence)	N	ND	0	Note: If either an original routine sample and/or its repeat sample(s) are fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive, a Tier I violation exists.	Human and animal fecal waste

* If a system collecting fewer than 40 samples per month has two or more positive samples in one month, the system has a MCL violation

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Barium (ppm)	5/24/2011	N	0.27	ND	0.27	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	5/24/2016	N	0.33	.18	.64	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppb)	5/23/2011	N	2.7	ND	2.7	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	11/21/2016	N	2.13	1.3	3.7	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Asbestos Contaminant

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Total Asbestos (MFL)	6/17/2014	N	ND	NA		7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	SMCL
Iron (ppm)	12/8/2015	1.2	ND- 1.2	0.3 mg/l
Manganese (ppm)	3/22/2016	.011	ND-.011	0.05 mg/l
pH	5/24/2016	7.5	7.3 - 8.5	6.5 to 8.5

Volatile Organic Chemical (VOC) Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5/24/2016	N	.0023	ND - .0059	0	5	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners	
Toluene (ppm)	10/11/2016	N	.0007	ND - .0007	1	1	Discharge from petroleum factories	

Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOC) Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Dit(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	5/24/2016	N	.0022	ND -	.0022	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	9/10/2015	27	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	9/10/2015	.0085	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance - Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
BO1 TTHM (ppb)	2016	N	38	8 -	82	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
BO1 HAA5 (ppb)	2016	N	6	4 -	9	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
BO2 TTHM (ppb)	2016	N	22	1 -	12	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
BO2 HAA5 (ppb)	2016	N	7	ND -	5	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range		MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Chlorine (ppm)	2016	N	.46	.2 -	1.12	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

For TTHM: *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.*

Radon

Our system monitored for Radon and found levels of .08 – 3.66 pCi/L.

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. (You should pursue radon removal for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).