# City of Raleigh 2018

# Consumer Confidence

# Report

## Our Water, Our Future

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a summary of last year's water quality. Included are details about your sources of water, 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 and we strive to continually improve water treatment and delivery processes. We are committed to ensuring the high quality of your water and to providing you with this information. If you wish to learn more about this report or request a paper copy, please contact Edward Buchan at edward.buchan@raleighnc.gov or (919) 996-3471.

## YOUR UTILITY BY THE NUMBERS

SERVING SINCE 1887

## ~600K RESIDENTS SERVED

The Public Utilities Department provides water services to our growing service area that includes Raleigh, Knightdale, Garner, Zebulon, Wake Forest, Wendell and Rolesville



## AVERAGE DAILY WATER DEMAND



~2,500

The Public Utilities Department also maintains over 70,000 valves, 21,000 fire hydrants and 26 elevated storage tanks

## 51.87 MILLION GALLONS/DAY

Our average daily demand is the same today as it was in 2007 thanks to water conservation efforts





BILLION GALLONS

## ADDITIONAL SOURCE WATER CAPACITY



Raleigh was able to significantly increase the amount of water available for drinking water at Falls Lake, providing an adequate supply through 2045

### TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR UTILITY

Visit http://www.raleighnc.gov/services/content/Depart ments/Articles/PublicUtilities.html or follow us on Twitter @SustainableRAL

## YOUR SOURCE WATER

## Water Sources

Falls Lake & Lake Benson



## Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

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 contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, organic chemical contaminants and radiological contaminants. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 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 City of Raleigh 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:

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating
Falls Lake	Higher
Lake Benson	Higher



## Your Water Quality

## WHAT THE 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. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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).

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.

## GET THE LEAD OUT!

City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department maintains an active program to minimize the risk of lead exposure through its drinking water supply. Operations staff carefully monitor and adjust pH levels of water to a specific range that reduces the corrosive nature of the water, and corrosion inhibitor is added in our water treatment process to create and maintain a protective film on pipes that reduces the release of metals, such as lead, from household plumbing. The US EPA Lead and Copper Rule compliance is based on the 90th percentile of samples collected during each monitoring period from homes built in the target period between 1982 and 1985 or homes served by lead service lines. The City of Raleigh system is below the action level for lead and below the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for copper and is in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. The City of Raleigh has always been in compliance with the EPA Lead and Copper Rule. The City is currently on reduced monitoring for lead and copper and is required to monitor for lead and copper every three years. Based on the population served, the City is required to monitor at least 50 homes for lead and copper during the compliance year.

#### CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER? Sources of **LEAD** in Drinking Water Faucets: Fixtures Copper Pipe with Galvanized Pipe: Lead Solder: Solder made or installed before 1986 Lead particles can contained high lead levels water, causing Lead Service Line: The service Lead Goose Necks line is the pipe that runs from

the water main to the home's internal plumbing. Lead service lines can be a major source of lead contamination in water

MAIN WATER LIN

WATER

inside your home may contain lead

attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking elevated lead levels

Goose necks and pigtails are shorter pipes that connect the lead service line to the main

We currently have 110 homes listed in our Lead and Copper Compliance Monitoring Plan. In addition to our compliance monitoring; the City has a Volunteer Lead and Copper Sampling Program. This allows our customers to have their water tested anytime for lead and copper by our laboratory staff at no cost to the customer. City of Raleigh water utility customers may request a free kit to test for lead in their drinking water, by calling: 919-996-4H20 (4420) or by email: watersamples@raleighnc.gov

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 Raleigh is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in domestic 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: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

## Water Quality Data

Laboratory staff from The City of Raleigh's Water Treatment Division perform an exceptional level of testing to ensure your drinking water is safe. The drinking water laboratories are certified and approved by the State of North Carolina and the USEPA to perform water quality analysis. In 2018, staff chemists, microbiologist and technicians at the drinking water laboratory collected, tested and analyzed Raleigh's drinking water between 6,000 and 7,000 times a month for many substances such as trace metals, petroleum products, pesticides and bacteria. During 2016, the City of Raleigh was in compliance with all national Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

## **E.M. Johnson Plant**

#### **MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Like Source of Contamination
E. Coli (presence or absence)	Ν	0	0	(Note: If either an original routine sample and/ or its repeat samples(s) are <i>E. coli positive, a Tier</i> 1 violation exists)	

#### TURBIDITY

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Tech- nique (TT) Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Like Source of Contamination		
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single tur- bidity measurement	N	0.15	Turbidity > 1 NTU			
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100%	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measure- ments are ≤ 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff		

\*Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

The Tubidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

#### **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Like Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	1/9/2018	N	0.71	N/A	4		Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

#### LEAD AND COPPER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Like Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	2016	0.04	0	1.3	$\Delta I = 1 + 1$	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	2016	<3	1	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

## **E.M. Johnson Plant**

#### **RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Like Source of Contamination
Combined radium (pCi/L)	1/23/2017	Ν	1	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

#### **DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA Remov- al Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low-High	MCLG	π	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACC#)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC) - TREATED	Ν	1.45	1.16 - 1.60	N/A	Π	Step 1	Naturally present in the environment

#### **UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS UCMR4**

Contaminant (units)	Year Sampled	Sampling Point Type	Your Water Avg	Range Low High	Additional Information
Manganese, ug/l	2018	EP	1.14	0.730 - 1.78	Naturally occuring element; commercially available in combination with other elements and minerals; used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries and fireworks; drinking water and wastewater treatment chemical; essen- tail nutrient
HAA6 Br, ug/L	2018	DS	4.77	2.95 - 22.2	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA9, ug/L	2018	DS	19.9	6.02 - 44.9	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted. NOTE: EP = Entry Point to the distribution system; DS = Distribution System

#### **Disinfectant Residuals Summary**

Disinfectant	Year Sampled	MRDL Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	2018	Ν	2.6	0.04 - 3.80	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

#### Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance

Monitoring	Year Sampled	MCL Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Typical Source
TTHM (ppb)	2018	Z	43.1 (highest LRAA at Site B11)	10.8 - 72.0	NA	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2018	Z	31.4 (highest LRAA at Site B11)	6.80 - 44.9	NA	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

#### WATER CHARACTERISTICS CONTAMINANTS

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Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	Secondary MCL
Sodium (ppm)	1/9/2018	33.0	N/A	N/A
Sulfate (ppm)	1/9/2018	47.9	N/A	250
рН, SU	2018	8.44	8.40 - 8.50	6.5 to 8.5
Alkalinity (ppm)	2018	26.1	21.1 - 31.7	N/A
Hardness (ppm)	2018	23.8	18.7 - 25.7	N/A

### **Dempsey E. Benton Plant**

#### TURBIDITY

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Contaminant (units)	Treatment Tech- nique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Like Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	N	0.29	Turbidity > 1 NTU	
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100%	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measure- ments are ≤ 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff

\*Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

The Tubidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

#### **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Viola- tion Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Like Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	1/9/2018	N	0.74	N/A	4		Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

#### DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA Re- moval Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACC#)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC)-TREATED	Ν	1.55	1.29 - 1.79	N/A	тт	Step 1	Naturally present in the environment

#### WATER CHARACTERISTICS CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	Secondary MCL
Sodium (ppm)	1/9/2018	28.1	NA	N/A
Sulfate (ppm)	1/9/2018	37.4	N/A	250
pH, SU	2018	8.41	8.34 - 8.52	6.5 to 8.5
Alkalinity, ppm	2018	27.3	23.1 - 32.7	N/A
Hardness, ppm	2018	21.8	18.2 - 25.2	N/A

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted. NOTE: EP = Entry Point to the distribution system; DS = Distribution System

No Detected contaminants were found in the drinking water of EP3 during the UCMR4 study.

## **Glossary of Terms**

**ACTION LEVEL (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**CHLORAMINATION:** the process of adding ammonia to drinking water which already has chlorine added as a disinfectant. The ammonia combines with the existing chlorine which is called free chlorine to create chloramines.

**CRYPTOSPORIDIUM:** Cryptosporidium is a microorganism that can cause intestinal illness. The City of Raleigh voluntarily tests for Cryptosporidium and DID NOT detect Cryptosporidium in its water in 2016.

**HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAS):** A group of chemicals known as disinfection byproducts. These form when a disinfectant reacts with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter in the water.

**MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTION LEVEL GOAL (MRDLG):** The "Level" (MRDLG) 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" (MRDL) of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL):** The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking

**MTBE:** The City of Raleigh also tested for Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) and found it to be below the detection limit of 5 ppb for MTBE. At this time no limit for MTBE has been established, however the EPA is considering a limit of 30 ppb.

**NOT-APPLICABLE (N/A):** Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular Rule.

**NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNIT (NTU):** Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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:** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**PICOCURIES PER LITER (PCI/L):** Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**RADON:** Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found naturally occurring throughout the U.S. EPA expects to issue a Radon Rule, which will set a standard for Radon in drinking water. The City of Raleigh tested for Radon in its finished water and found it to be <100 pCi/L. There is no current MCL for Radon. However, the EPA is considering a MCL of 300 pCi/L.

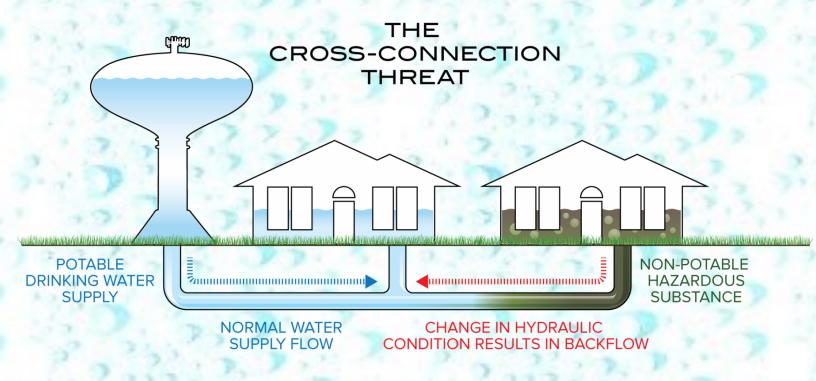
**TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMS):** A group of chemicals known as disinfection byproducts. These form when a disinfectant reacts with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter in the water.

**TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT):** A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the presence of a contaminant in drinking water.

### **Need To Know Information**

#### **Backflow Prevention Assemblies**

Backflow prevention assemblies protect the potable water supply by allowing water in only one direction to prevent potential backsiphonage of pollutants or contaminants from entering the public water supply. All commercial connections including domestic, fire and lawn irrigation are required to have a backflow assembly installed and tested annually. Every residential irrigation system is required to have a backflow assembly installed and tested every three years. The Public Utilities Department will be contacting customers with backflow assemblies to help ensure these devices are properly tested. If you would like to know more about backflow prevention, please call (**919**) **996-2747**.



#### Want to Know More? Take a Tour!

If you are interested in learning more about water treatment, or you have a class which could benefit from seeing how water is treated firsthand (generally high school or college level students are recommended), the City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department offers tours of our Dempsey E. Benton water treatment plant located in Garner, NC. To submit a tour request form, go to www.raleighnc.gov and search for "water treatment plant tour" or call **(919) 996-3471** to get more information.

#### See a Water Problem?

Please call the City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department to report an unusual taste or odor with your tap water, a water main break or sanitary sewer backup or overflow. To report a main break or sewer backup/overflow, please call **(919) 996-3245**. Thank you for your help!