

The City of Florence Has Never Violated Drinking Water Standards for Lead.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. A high level of lead in drinking water can cause health problems, particularly in children. That's why DHEC works to ensure that public water systems adhere to drinking water quality standards and regulations. Lead is rarely in drinking water when it leaves the treatment plant; however it can seep into the water from old plumbing along the way



Where Your Water Comes From

The City of Florence relies on groundwater as its primary supply source. Groundwater is obtained from deepwells drilled into the Middendorf and Black Creek aquifers. The City provides drinking water for approximately 80,368 people, including 28,981 residences and more than 3,166 businesses. Approximately 68 percent of Florence's water is provided by the groundwater well system. The City of Florence also operates the Pee Dee River Regional Surface Water Plant. This plant, which utilizes the Pee Dee River as its source provides approximately 32 percent of Florence's water supply. "Clean water is the most essential resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. Water is life and clean water is synonymous to good health," said Drew Griffin, the City of Florence City Manager.

Florence City Council

Florence City Council governs the policies, funding and management of the City Utility Department. City Council meets the second Monday each month in Council Chambers at the City Center. The City Center is located at 324 West Evans St. in Florence, S.C. Customers and the public are encouraged to attend these meetings.

If You Have Special Health Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to substances in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly individuals and infants can be particularly at risk due to infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provide guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological substances. Further information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

About This Report

This report is designed to inform customers about water quality and to increase customer understanding of drinking water and how it is treated. The technical language, terms, descriptions, definitions, precautionary statements and scientific data contained in this report were prescribed by federal authorities and laws. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) validated the sampling results listed.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. For more information about this report please contact Michael Hemingway at (843) 665-3236

What's In Your Drinking Water

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may contain at least minor traces of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

A source water assessment report has been prepared for the City of Florence water system. The report may be reviewed by contacting Malcolm Cook at (843) 665-3236.

2016 Water Quality Report

The City of Florence is once again proud to report that the drinking water supplied to citizens and customers throughout the 2016 calendar year was of the highest quality and surpassed all health and safety standards.

The 2016 Water Quality Report includes information for the Town of Timmonsville as it is now part of the City's water system. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The Report provides laboratory data to document that the City's water supply exceeds every regulatory standard for drinking water in all of the areas currently served by the City. The City remains firmly committed to providing reasonably-priced, high-quality drinking water for all of its customers."

To ensure the City's drinking water constantly meets or exceeds the standards set forth in the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the City of Florence routinely collects sampling data for nearly 100 elements and substances that may be present in public drinking water supplies from both organic and man-made sources. The sampling data collected by the City of Florence is scientifically analyzed and confirmed by SCDHEC.

The most recent sampling data collected and analyzed for the Florence Water Systems for the period Jan. 1, 2016, through Dec. 31, 2016, shows that the City's drinking water contains only a few of the elements and substances covered by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The sampling data is presented in a table included in this report..



2016

City of Florence

Water Quality Report

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Fluoride

Fluoride is a naturally occurring element that helps prevent tooth decay. Therefore, a small amount of fluoride is added during the water treatment process, as recommended by the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association.

Table Definitions

HAA5 Haloacetic Acids

TTHM Total Trihalomethanes

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs provide a margin of safety.

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level. 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.

ND Non-Detected. No measurable level of a substance or contaminant detected.

PPB Parts Per Billion. The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000 or one minute in 2,000 years.

90th Percentile Of all samples analyzed, 90 percent were at or below the detection level.

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

DBPR Disinfectant Byproduct Rule

PPM Parts Per Million. The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000 or one minute in two years.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. Highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. Level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. Units of measure to indicate water clarity.

TT Treatment Technique. Required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

LRAA Locational Running Annual Average.

2016 Water Quality Sampling Results

The following table shows actual sampling results for substances detected in the Florence and Timmonsville water systems for the period Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016, compared with state and federal health and safety standards for those substances.

| Contaminant | Violation | Level Detected | Measurement Unit | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---|------------------|------|--------|--|
| Fluoride | No | .61 | PPM | 4 | 4 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Lead (2015 Data) | No | 90th Percentile 0.0 ND-0.013 (range) | PPM | 1.3 | AL=1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (2015) (Florence data) | No | 90th Percentile 0.32 ND - 0.48 (Range) | PPM | 1.3 | AL=1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Sodium | No | 27.0 | PPM | | | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate/Nitrite | No | ND – 0.72 (Range) | PPM | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| HAA5* Stage 2 DBPR | No | Max LRAA : 22.0 ND - 38.2 (Range) | PPB PPB | 0 | 60 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM* Stage 2 DBPR | No | Max LRAA : 48.0 ND - 92.0 (Range) | PPB PPB | 0 | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

* Compliance is based on LRAA, not on individual samples

Pee Dee River Surface Water Plant Data

| Contaminant | Violation | Highest Single Sample | Measurement Unit | Lowest Monthly Percentage Meeting Standard |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| Turbidity | No | 0.30 | NTU | 100% |

Additional Surface Water Plant Data

| Contaminant | Violation | Level Detected | Measurement Unit | MRDLG | MRDL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------|---|
| Chlorine | No | RAA: 0.75 0.55-0.79 (Range) | PPM | 4 | 4 | Treatment Technique |
| Total Organic Carbon | No | .70— 2.50 (Range) | PPM | | | Decay of naturally occurring organic matter |
| TOC Removal | No | RAA Ratio: 1.71 | Dimensionless | RAA Ratio Standard>1.0 | | Treatment Technique |