

2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Town of Four Oaks

Water System Number: 03-51-035

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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 Barry Stanley at 919-963-3112. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday evening of each month at 7:00pm at Town Hall.**

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 Four Oaks 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 this system is purchased from Johnston County East (40-51-018) which uses the Neuse River as its source. Johnston County also purchases bulk water from the Town of Smithfield (03-51-010) which uses the Neuse River as its source, and from Harnett Regional Water (03-43-045) which uses the Cape Fear River as its source.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), 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 Four Oaks 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)

Water Provider	Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Johnston County East	Neuse River	Higher	September 2020
Johnston County West	Neuse River	Higher	September 2020
Town of Smithfield	Neuse River	Higher	September 2020

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Four Oaks may be viewed on the Web at: <https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600> 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.

Help Protect Your Source Water.

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. We have implemented the following source water protection actions: You can help protect your community’s drinking water source(s) in several ways: (examples: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center, volunteer in your community to participate in group efforts to protect your source, etc.).

Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

During 2022, or during any compliance period that ended in 2022, we received a MCL LRRRA violation that covered the time period of 9/28/22 & 12/14/22. We have flushed our lines more frequently to assure this does not happen again.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information about this violation, please contact the responsible person listed in the first paragraph of this report.

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.
- **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.
- **Running Annual Average (RAA)** – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **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.

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, 2022.** 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.

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90 th Percentile)	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	6/18/20	N/D	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	6/18/20	N/D	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	0.54 ppm	0.32-3.9 ppm	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

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 Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2022	Y			N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location (B01)			81.0 ppb	35.1-142.6 ppb			
Location (B02)			134.4 ppb	56.3-134.4 ppb			
HAA5 (ppb)	2022	N			N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location (B01)			36.0 ppb	20.0-54.0 ppb			
Location (B02)			39.0 ppb	28.0-39 ppb			

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.

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Johnston County EAST

Water System Number: 03-51-018

Stage 2 Disinfectant Byproduct Compliance- Based on Locational Running Average (LRAA) 2022								
Disinfection Byproduct	Units	MCLG	MCL	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	Year Sampled	MCL/ Violation (Yes / No)	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM	ppb	N/A	80	73		2022	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B01					31 - 79			
B02					36 - 117			
B03					50 - 116			
B04					10 - 156			
HAA5	ppb	N/A	60	26		2022	No	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
B01					14 - 46			
B02					17 - 37			
B03					16 - 40			
B04					3 - 35			

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.

For HAA5: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased chance of getting cancer.

Inorganic Contaminants 2022								
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Fluoride (ppm)	April 2022	N	0.30	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Pregnant women, infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contaminant	Units	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
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Copper (90 th percentile)	ppm	July 2020	0.113	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (90 th percentile)	ppb	July 2020	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Turbidity* 2022		Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCL G	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Contaminant (units)						
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement		N	0.112 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits		N	100 %	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are ≤ 0.3 NTU	

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

Disinfectant Residuals Summary							
Contaminant (units)	Year	MRDL Violation	Your Water	Range	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2022	N	1.33	0.34 – 2.8	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Depending on the TOC in our source water, the system MUST have a certain % removal of TOC or must achieve alternative compliance criteria. If we do not achieve that % removal, there is an alternative % removal. If we fail to meet the alternative % removal, we are in violation of a Treatment Technique. (2022)							
Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Yes/No	Your Water (RAA Removal Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACC#__)
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC)-TREATED	No	1.26	1.07 – 1.39	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment	Step 1

Step 1 TOC Removal Requirements (%)			
Source Water TOC (mg/L)	Source Water Alkalinity Mg/L as CaCO ₃ (in percentages)		
	0 – 60	> 60 – 120	> 120
> 2.0 – 4.0	35.0	25.0	15.0
> 4.0 – 8.0	45.0	35.0	25.0
> 8.0	50.0	40.0	30.0

Water Characteristics Contaminants: The PWS section requires monitoring of other misc contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, and or color) in drinking water. The contaminants with SMCLs normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	<i>Range</i> Low High	Secondary MCL
Sodium (ppm)	April 2022	41.7	N/A	N/A
pH	April 2022	7.4	N/A	6.5 to 8.5

Johnston County West
Water System Number: 03-51-070

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance – Based on Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) 2022

Disinfection Byproduct	Units	MCLG	MCL	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	Year Sampled	MCL Violation (Yes / No)	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM	ppb	N/A	80	38		2022	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B01					26 - 48			
B02					25 - 58			
B03					30 - 59			
B04					20 - 53			
B05					20 - 51			
B06					21 - 48			
B07					16 - 53			
B08					8 - 31			
HAA5	ppb	N/A	60	23		2022	No	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
B01					7 - 28			
B02					9 - 25			
B03					11 - 46			
B04					8 - 32			
B05					7 - 31			
B06					8 - 24			
B07					11 - 21			
B08					4 - 13			

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.

For HAA5: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased chance of getting cancer

Disinfectant Residuals Summary 2022

Contaminant(units)	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation	Your Water	Range	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2022	N	0.55	0.06 – 3.42	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Chloramines (ppm)	2022	N	2.7	0.0 – 3.96			Water additive used to control microbes

Inorganic Contaminants 2022							
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	March 2022	N	0.25	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Turbidity* 2022		Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Contaminant (units)						
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement		N	0.105 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits		N	100 %	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are \leq 0.3 NTU	

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

Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOC) Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides 2022							
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Simazine (ppb)	2022	N	0.055	0.0 – 0.22	4	4	Herbicide runoff
Atrazine (ppb)	2022	N	0.072	0.0-0.29	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Pregnant women, infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).							
Contaminant	Units	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination

Copper (90 th percentile)	ppm	July 2021	0.141	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (90 th percentile)	ppb	July 2021	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Depending on the TOC in our source water, the system MUST have a certain % removal of TOC or must achieve alternative compliance criteria. If we do not achieve that % removal, there is an alternative % removal. If we fail to meet the alternative % removal, we are in violation of a Treatment Technique. (2022)

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Yes/No	Your Water (RAA Removal Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACC#___)
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC)-TREATED	No	1.29	1.13 – 1.37	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment	Step 1

Water Characteristics Contaminants: The PWS section requires monitoring of other misc contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, and or color) in drinking water. The contaminants with SMCLs normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	Secondary MCL
Sodium (ppm)	March 2022	40.4	N/A	N/A
Sulfate (ppm)	March 2022	19.1	N/A	250 mg/l
pH	March 2022	6.9	N/A	6.5 to 8.5

Step 1 TOC Removal Requirements (%)

Source Water TOC (mg/L)	Source Water Alkalinity Mg/L as CaCO ₃ (in percentages)		
	0 – 60	> 60 – 120	> 120
> 2.0 – 4.0	35.0	25.0	15.0
> 4.0 – 8.0	45.0	35.0	25.0
> 8.0	50.0	40.0	30.0