



# 2020 WATER QUALITY REPORT

South Carolina Public Water System No. 2810001

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of the regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. We are pleased to report that there were no violations of the drinking water results during the 2020 reporting year.

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

The City of Camden serves approximately 16,000 people an average of 2 million gallons of water per day (MGD). Surface water is drawn from Lake Wateree and pumped to the water treatment facility, which has a treatment capacity of 6 MGD. To ensure your water meets health requirements, the City uses sampling and testing methodologies approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). The raw water is treated to remove solid material and suspended particles, then disinfected and fluoridated. Samples are collected daily by certified water plant personnel; results are reported to the SCDHEC monthly. Results of those tests for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 are reported on the tables contained within this report.

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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 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. The EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 some 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 tanks, 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, and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and residential use.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- 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 Camden 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 drinking 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Please call 803.425.6045 for assistance with this 2020 Water Quality Report.**

Please note for the following tables:

\* Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some sample results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

\*\* The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements, unless a violation is noted in the violation section.

+ Lead and Copper - Sampled in 2020

TT (Treatment Technique) – An assessment of treatment is required when a certain level is exceeded.

## 2020 WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	22.00 ppb	12.61-33.20 ppb	No goal for total	60 ppb	N	By-product of Drinking Water Disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	34.00 ppb	20.93-50.50 ppb	No goal for total	80 ppb	N	By-product of Drinking Water Disinfection
Flouride	0.50 ppm	0.47-0.47 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate measured as Nitrogen	0.51 ppm	0.51-0.51 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)**	52.09% Removal 37.5% Required	41.7-67.7% Removal Range	N/A	TT	N	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	0.09 NTU	100% <0.3 NTU	N/A	0.5 NTU <sup>TT</sup>	N	Soil runoff

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	MRDLG	MRDL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2.00 ppm	2.00->2.00 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	N	Water additives used to control microbes
Picloram	0.073 ppb	0.073-0.073 ppb	MCLG=500	MCL=500	N	Naturally occurring and/or runoff

Bacteria	MCGL	Total Coliform Positive Samples	E. coli MCL	Total number of positive E. coli or Fecal Coliform samples	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Bacteria	0	1	0	0	N	Naturally present in environment, foods, and intestines of people and animals

Substance	MCLG	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# of Sites over AL	Violation	Likely cause of contamination
Copper <sup>+</sup>	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.039 ppm	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead <sup>+</sup>	0 ppb	15 ppb	3.10 ppb	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Unregulated Contaminants*			
Substance	Average of Results Measured	Minimum of Results Measured	Maximum of Results Measured
HAA5	14.75 ppb	13.91 ppb	16.954 ppb
HAA6BR	4.85 ppb	4.351 ppb	5.671 ppb
HAA9	19.45 ppb	18.261 ppb	22.321 ppb

## How to Interpret Certain Factors in the above Tables

EPA requires that certain results be reported in “ppm” and some in “ppb”. It is important to look not only at the number, but also the unit of measure.

### Definitions of abbreviations used in this report:

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - 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.

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.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - 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

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - 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.

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water. A “ppb” is 1000 times smaller than a “ppm”. *“One ppb is like one sheet in a roll of toilet paper stretching from New York to London.” - Zane Satterfield, PE, NESC Scientist*

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit – a measurement of scattered light or turbidity.

N/A: not applicable.

RAA: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

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

ALG: Action Level Goal - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

90<sup>th</sup> Percentile – a value for a set of data in which 90 percent of the data falls within that range

Unregulated contaminants – certain unregulated compounds that EPA selects to monitor to evaluate if they should be regulated

**If you have questions about this report or water quality in general, the City of Camden Water Plant Supervisor is available between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM at (803) 432-0009.**