



PipeLines

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www.sipsd.com

SCDHEC Water System #0720001

What's in the Pipe? As the merciless Lowcountry summer closes its sweltering grip onto island folk, we most often find respite in the purity and perfection of the water that sustains us. In many ways it's a shame we so often take it for granted: losing as little as 2% of your body's water content can significantly impair your physical performance. Mild dehydration (a fluid loss of 1-3%) can impair energy, mood and brain performance. Drinking water can help reduce the frequency and severity of headaches. It also significantly aids digestion. Increased water intake decreases the risk of kidney stones. The more water you drink, the more weight you can lose. And here's a big one: you can significantly reduce hangovers if you drink a glass of water between drinks, and at least one big glass before going to bed. Here's to your good health in *The Pipe*:

All This Of Course... depends on the purity of our water, which is why we're happy to say our **Annual Water Quality Testing** is just completed, bringing results that once again show your water remains among the purest in the nation. By now all loyal readers of PipeLines know that the Environmental Protection Agency requires all public water utilities to inform their customers about water quality. Your utility is certainly no exception, so please read on:

The Source of our Water... is groundwater drawn from the Floridan and Cretaceous Aquifers. Your utility's Source Water Assessment Plan is available at www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/docs/beaufortswp/0720001r.pdf. If you do not have Internet access please contact SIPSD at 843-785-6224 to make arrangements to review this document.

The Sources of Drinking Water (Both Tap Water and Bottled Water)... includes 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 various 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;
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose 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 1-800-426-4791.

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.

Looking at the Numbers... the report on the next side was generated via a variety of highly sophisticated lab tests for the monitoring period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. These tests were done to detect a variety of water constituents and then compared against federally mandated maximum levels. The regulatory agencies allow some contaminants to be monitored less frequently than once a year. The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing. Data from previous monitoring periods are noted.

What Does It All Mean? As indicated by the data, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. Note that we have learned through our monitoring and testing that while some constituents have been detected, the EPA has determined that your water is perfectly safe at these levels.

Health and Water... You should also know that some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals such as people with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have had organ transplants, those 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, as well as more information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the [Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline). If you have any questions concerning this report or your water utility in general, please contact the District Lab at 843-671-3866.

Importante... Este informe contiene informacion sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Your Commissioners Meet... 8 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the SIPSD offices, 2 Genesta Street. The public is cordially invited and most welcome to attend.

See You Next Time... No issue of PipeLines, especially our summer issue, would be complete without a water conservation tip. This time of year is no different from those past: limit your irrigation system; in fact, keep it off until the really hot weather comes, then use it sparingly. Fix any leaks. Save water whenever you can. We're always interested in your comments, so please write: *Pipelines*, c/o South Island Public Service District, Post Office Box 5148, Hilton Head Island, SC 29938.

Call us first....if you have a sewer issue, we may help diagnose the problem. Call our maintenance department @ 843-785-6224.

Regulated Contaminants								
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2020	1.00	1.00-1.00	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2020	11.0	0.0-18.86	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)*	2020	34.0	0.0-50.11	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride	2017	0.72	0.46-0.72	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2019	1.3	1.3	0.14	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead	2019	0	15	3.10	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

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

Definitions: The above tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Action Level Goal (ALG): 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.

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

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant in drinking water 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 Disinfectant 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.

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

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

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ug/L: Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water.

If you would like to receive the complete list of contaminants that were monitored, please contact the District Lab at 843-671-3866.

South Island Public Service District
Post Office Box 5148
Hilton Head Island, SC 29938

