

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Moore County Public Utilities - Vass

Water System Number: 03-63-045

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 Chris Fuller at 910-947-6315. 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 Board of Commissioners meetings. They are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Second Floor-Historic Courthouse, Courthouse Circle, Carthage, North Carolina.**

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. Moore County Public Utilities Vass 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 storm water 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 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; 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 source that is used by Vass is fully treated surface water purchased from the East Moore Water District. The metered interconnections are located at 555 Main Street and 4631 Union Church Road in Vass, North Carolina. East Moore Water District purchases fully treated surface water from Harnett County, whose source is from the Cape Fear River. For your information, we have included analysis conducted in 2015 by Harnett County in our report.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), 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 Moore County Public Utilities Vass 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)

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Cape Fear River	Higher	July 17, 2015

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Moore County Public Utilities Vass may be viewed on the Web at: www.ncwater.org/pws/swap. 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.

Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

During 2015, Moore County Public Utilities-Vass received one Notice of Violation for failure to monitor for Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) for the quarterly monitoring period beginning April 1, 2015. HAA5 samples were pulled the next two sampling periods as required and taken to a certified lab for analysis. The results of the samples were below the allowable limits for HAA5, as was the first quarter sample taken in 2015.

During 2015, Harnett County received an “Online Turbidimeter failure Notice Violation” for May 2015. The Notice to the Public is attached to the end of this report. Appropriate paperwork was submitted to the State and Harnett County has returned to compliance.

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 table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for the 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, 2015** 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.

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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

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.

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.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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.

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 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.

Turbidity* by Harnett County in 2015

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	N	0.1 NTU	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100 %	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.

Inorganic Contaminants by Harnett County in 2015

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Fluoride (ppm)	1-6-15	N	0.54	N/A		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants by Harnett County in 2015

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range		Secondary MCL
			Low	High	
Sulfate (ppm)	1-6-15	31.5	N/A		250

Lead and Copper Contaminants by Harnett County in 2013

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	8/2013-9/2013	0.098	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	8/2013-9/2013	N/D	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Contaminants by MCPU-Vass in 2015

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	6-2015-7-2015	0.092	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	6/2015-7/2015	<0.003	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Tested by Harnett County in 2015

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA Removal Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	TT	Likely Source of Contamination	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACC#_)
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC)-TREATED	N	1.36	1.13-1.52	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment	

STEP 1 TOC Removal Requirements

Source Water TOC (mg/L)	Source Water Alkalinity mg/L as CaCO3 (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

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants by MCPU-Vass in 2015

Contaminant (units)	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water RAA (Stage 1)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes]	N	.032	.025-.046	N/A	.08	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acids]	N	.023	.012-.033	N/A	.06	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloramines (ppm)	N	2.08	0.3-2.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

The PWS Section requires monitoring for other miscellaneous contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic effects 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.

Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants Harnett County 2015

	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low/High	SMCL
Manganese (ppm)	1-6-2015	0.011	N/A	0.05 mg/L
Sodium (ppm)	1-6-2015	22.89	N/A	N/A
pH	1-6-2015	7.2	N/A	6.5 to 8.5

UCMR Monitoring Harnett County 2014/2015	Sample Date	Result(ppb) Range Low/High	MRL	SMCL
Molybdenium	9-25-14	1.0 ppb	1 ppb	N/A
Strontium	3-24-15	47	0.3	N/A
Vanadium	9-26-14	0.02-0.03	0.2	N/A
Chromium, Hexavalent	3-23-15	0.0	0.03	N/A
Chlorate	3-24-15	290	20	N/A
1,4 Dioxane	1-4-15	4.8 ppb	0.07	N/A
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	9-27-14	0.04 ppb	0.01	N/A
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	9-27-14	0.02 ppb	0.02	N/A

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Violation Awareness Date: July 21, 2015

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period specified in the table below, we did not monitor or test for the contaminants listed and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

CONTAMINANT GROUP**	FACILITY ID NO./ SAMPLE POINT ID	COMPLIANCE PERIOD BEGIN DATE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES/ SAMPLING FREQUENCY	WHEN SAMPLES WERE TAKEN (Returned to Compliance)
<u>(HAA5)- Haloacetic Acids</u>	NC0363045/B02	APRIL 1, 2015	TWO SAMPLES PER QUARTER	August 10, 2015

(HAA5)- Haloacetic Acids - include Monochloroacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dibromoacetic Acid.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do. HAA5 samples were collected and analyzed the following two sampling quarters. The results of the samples were below the allowable limits for HAA5, as was the first quarter sample taken in February of 2015.

What is being done? All HAA5 samples since the violation have been collected, analyzed, and reported as required. Staff will review state websites regarding established monitoring requirements and comply accordingly.

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

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Violation Awareness Date: May 22, 2015

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period specified in the table below, we [did not monitor or test' or 'did not complete all monitoring or testing'] for the contaminants listed and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

CONTAMINANT GROUP**	FACILITY ID NO./ SAMPLE POINT ID	COMPLIANCE PERIOD BEGIN DATE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES/ SAMPLING FREQUENCY	WHEN SAMPLES WERE TAKEN (Returned to Compliance)
WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS	NC0343045	MAY 2, 2015	ONLINE SAMPLING EVERY 15 MINUTES – HAD GONE TO EVERY 4 HOUR AS PER REGULATIONS	May 4, 2015

(WQP) Water Quality Parameters Filter #4 Turbidity – Online Turbidimeter failure

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do. Filter #4 online turbidimeter failed and water plant personnel went to grab sampling every four hours as per regulation. Plants serving over 10,000 customers have five days to get replacement. We acquired the new instrumentation and installed on May 4, 2015, but was greater than five days. The filter #4 grab sampling during instrument failure indicated that there were no turbidity issues with the filter.

What is being done? Harnett County Regional Water Treatment Plant has purchased a spare Hach Filter Trac 660 Turbidimeter and put on shelf for future use in case of instrumentation failure and to forgo having to try and emergency ship the instrument by five days.

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