



## 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. More information about contaminants, as well as their potential health effects, can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

A source water assessment report has been prepared for the City of Florence water system. The report may be reviewed at the City of Florence Utility Department office by contacting Forrest Whittington, department manager, at (843) 665-3236.

In 2007, the City of Florence again detected only a very small number of the nearly 100 substances and elements regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act in its drinking water supplies.

## Lead

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 Florence 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 two 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Fluoride

Fluoride is a naturally occurring element produced by geologic deposits in groundwater supplies that helps prevent tooth decay. Because naturally occurring levels of fluoride are low in the City's source waters, a small amount is added during the treatment process as recommended by the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association.

## Your Drinking Water

Continuing to provide high-quality drinking water is a top priority for the City of Florence. With its dedication to providing superior drinking water service, the City of Florence can assure its customers that their drinking water is safe, healthy and of the highest quality. This report is designed not only to inform customers about water quality and the City of Florence's commitment, but also as a tool to increase customer understanding of drinking water and how it is treated.

## 2007 WATER QUALITY SAMPLING RESULTS

The following table shows actual sampling results for substances detected in the City of Florence's water system for the period January 1 to December 31, 2007, 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	0.13-1.50 (Range)	PPM	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (2006 Data)	No	90th Percentile 2.7 ND - 7.9 (Range)	PPB	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2006 Data)	No	90th Percentile 0.017 ND - 0.033 (Range)	PPM	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Barium	No	ND - 0.058 (Range)	PPM	2	2	Discharge from drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	No	ND - 0.54 (Range)	PPM	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)*	No	RAA: 4.8 ND - 20 (Range)	PPB	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)*	No	RAA: 17.0 ND - 113.4 (Range)	PPB	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	No	ND - 0.69 (Range)	PPB	6	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

\* Compliance is based on RAA, 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	0.24	NTU	100%

## ADDITIONAL SURFACE WATER PLANT DATA

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION	LEVEL DETECTED	MEASUREMENT UNIT	MRDLG	MRDL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chlorine	No	RAA: 0.54 0.45-0.63 (Range)	PPM	4.0	4.0	TT
TOC (Total Organic Carbon) In Treated Water	No	0.62 - 1.5 (Range)	PPM			Decay of naturally occurring organic matter
TOC Removal	No	RAA Ratio: 1.91	Dimensionless	RAA Ratio Standard > 1.0		

### How to read this table

The following definitions are designed to help you understand the data and information presented in the accompanying tables.

<b>MCLG:</b> 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.	<b>PPM:</b> Parts Per Million. The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000 or one minute in two years.
<b>MCL:</b> 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.	<b>MRDL:</b> 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.
<b>ND:</b> Non-Detected. No measurable level of a substance or contaminant detected.	<b>MRDLG:</b> 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.
<b>PPB:</b> Parts Per Billion. The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000 or one minute in 2,000 years.	<b>NTU:</b> Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. Units of measure to indicate water clarity.
<b>90th Percentile:</b> Of all samples analyzed, 90 percent were at or below the detection level.	<b>TT:</b> Treatment Technique. Required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
<b>AL:</b> Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.	<b>RAA:</b> Running annual average.