

2024 Water Quality Report

Valley Public Service Authority

System #: SC0220012

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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/Centers for Disease Control (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).

Where does my water come from?

Our water is produced from six (6) Valley Public Service Authority wells located in the Middendorf Aquifer and purchased from Beech Island Water District.

Source water assessment

Our raw water sources are most susceptible to contamination from runoff or environmental conditions.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 that 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.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Calvin Smith at 803-593-2053. You may attend our regularly scheduled board meetings, which are held on the first Monday of each month, except July and September meetings, which are held on the second Monday of the month. Board meetings begin at 6:00 pm at the VPSA Office - 442 Pine Street Warrenton, SC 29851.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Service Line Inventory Availability

As required by the EPA pursuant to the Lead and Copper Rule, VPSA has completed a Service Line Inventory to identify water service line materials and initiate the replacement of any lead service lines. VPSA has no lead service lines on the utility side, however customers' service lines from the meter to the home are not controlled by VPSA. We have made an effort to identify service line materials on the customer side, but there is still a significant amount of unknowns, which we will continue to work towards identifying. If you would like to view a copy of VPSA's Service Line Inventory, please call the office at 803-593-2053 and we will make a copy available to you.

Additional Health Information for Lead

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. Valley Public Service Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipe for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact VPSA at 803-593-2053. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Additional Information for Unregulated Contaminants (PFAS)

Our water system has been sampled pursuant to the EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) for a series of unregulated contaminants identified as Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. There were no PFAS or lithium detected in our water. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact our office at 803-593-2053 or 442 Pine Street, Warrenton, SC 29851.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

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Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.0	1.0	1.0	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	NA	60	3.0	0	3.0	2024	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	13.02	0	13.02	2024	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm) VPSA discontinued Fluoride treatment on 08/01/2021	4	4	1.3	0.9	1.3	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	2.0	0.21	1.80	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.32	1.56	2.32	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)*	0	4* mrem/yr	4.8	0	4.8	2022	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits *EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be a level of concern for beta particles
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	2.76	0.184	2.76	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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(Continued)

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	Range		Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
				Low	High				
Lead and Copper									
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.49	0.033	1	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.70	0.12	10	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
mrem/yr	mrem/yr: millirems per year (a measure of radiation dose)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	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	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Valley Public Service Authority had no violations in 2024.

For more information please contact:

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