



Georgetown County Water and Sewer District

"5-Time Winner of Best Tasting Water in South Carolina!"

2022 Water Quality Report



Georgetown County Water & Sewer District (GCWSD) PWS

Waccamaw Neck SC 2220010

Garden City Point SC 2220011

Plantersville SC 2220004

Carvers Bay SC 2220013

Wedgefield SC 2220006

Red Hill SC 2220007

Kilsock SC 2220002

Consumer Confidence Report CY2022

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 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/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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

- GCWSD Waccamaw Neck SWTP obtains its water from the Waccamaw River near Pawleys Island.
- GCWSD Garden City Point purchases water through a master meter from Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority which obtains its water from the Waccamaw River's Bull Creek.
- GCWSD Kilsock (East Zone) purchases water through a master meter from the City of Georgetown which obtains its water from the IP Canal.
- GCWSD's other water systems are supplied by groundwater sources.

Source water assessment and its availability

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 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. 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.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature. Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information. Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides.

- Pick up after your pets.
- If you use a septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed organization and volunteer to help. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water provider.

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 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 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.

Georgetown County Water & Sewer District works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap and performs required operations and maintenance of its water infrastructure. We respectfully ask that all our customers do their part to help us protect our valuable water sources. For any questions regarding GCWSD's Water Systems, please contact Customer Service at (843) 546-8408.



Georgetown County Water and Sewer District

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2022 Water Quality Report



GCWSD is proud to report that the drinking water supplied to our customers throughout the 2022 calendar year was healthy, safe, high quality, and exceeded state and federal health and safety standards. This report provides a detailed analysis of your drinking water based on the GCWSD's most recent sampling results for nearly 100 substances and elements regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act. All drinking water, bottled water included, may be reasonably expected to contain at least minor traces of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health hazard.

If you have any questions after reviewing the report, please contact the GCWSD Customer Service Department at 843-546-8408.

2022 WATER QUALITY SAMPLING RESULTS - SURFACE WATER SYSTEMS

WACCAMAW NECK

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED	SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	1	0.65 - 1.0	No	Runoff from fertilizer use	2022	COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.088	0 of 30 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2021
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	24	24	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022	LEAD (PPB)	15	3.9	0 of 30 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2021
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON	min removal 45-50%	min removal 45-50%	64.8% - 79.6%	64.8% - 79.6%	No	Leaching from vegetation	2022							
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 52	15.9 - 91.9	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
TURBIDITY (NTU)	TT	<0.3 for 95%	0.13	< 0.3 for 100%	No	Soil run-off	2022							
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 19	8.7 - 36.6	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
CHLORAMINES (PPM)	4	4	3.0	2.0 - 3.0	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022							
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	0.84	0.08 - 0.84	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022							

GARDEN CITY POINT

(Purchased Water from Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority)

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED	SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	0.48	0 - 0.48	No	Runoff from fertilizer use	2022	COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.092	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	0.67	0.67	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022	LEAD (PPB)	15	0.39	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 30	15 - 46	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
TURBIDITY (NTU)	TT	<0.3 for 95%	0.1	< 0.3 for 100%	No	Soil run-off	2022							
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 28	5 - 44	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
CHLORAMINES (PPM)	4	4	2.3	2.0 - 2.3	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022							
CHLOROBENZENE (PPM)	100	100	0.53	0.53	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops	2022							
METOLACHLOR (PPM)	n/a	n/a	0.01	0.01	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops	2022							
DICAMBA (PPB)	n/a	n/a	0.13	0.13	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops	2021							
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	20	20	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022							

2022 WATER QUALITY SAMPLING RESULTS - GROUND WATER SYSTEMS

PLANTERSVILLE

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED	SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	0.65	0.65	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021	COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.1	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	2	2	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022	LEAD (PPB)	15	2.8	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 42	29 - 56	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 10	7 - 14	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
COLIFORM BACTERIA	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	0	No	Naturally present in environment	2022							
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	160	160	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2017							

CARVERS BAY*

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED	SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	3.3	3.1 - 3.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022	COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.053	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	230	230	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2019	LEAD (PPB)	15	0.46	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	2	2	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022							
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80	LRAA: 66	50 - 90	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60	LRAA: 21	12 - 27	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	0.035	0 - 0.035	No	By-product of water disinfection	2021							
COMBINED RADIUM 226/228(pCi/L)	0	5	0.025	0 - 0.25	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021							

WEDGEFIELD

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED	SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	0.78	0.78	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021	COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.14	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	2.7	1.9 - 2.7	No	Additive used to control microbes	2021	LEAD (PPB)	15	2.6	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	190	190	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021							
COLIFORM BACTERIA	0	1 positive monthly sample	1 positive sample	0 - 1 (0 positive for E.Coli or Fecal Coliform)	No	Naturally present in environment	2022							
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80	LRAA: 40	39 - 40	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60	LRAA: 7	7	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022							

REDHILL*															
SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED		SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	2.4	2.4 - 2.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022		COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.24	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2020
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	3	2 - 3	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022		LEAD (PPB)	15	2.9	0 of 10 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2020
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	190	190	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2019								
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80	LRAA: 57	56 - 57	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60	LRAA: 34	33 - 35	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
COLIFORM BACTERIA	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	0	No	Naturally present in environment	2022								

KILSOCK *															
SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED		SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	1.5	0 - 1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2022		COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.16	0 of 20 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	2	1 - 2	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022		LEAD (PPB)	15	1.8	0 of 20 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 66	42 - 96	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 11	5 - 19	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	0.5	0 - 0.5	No	Runoff from fertilizer use	2022								
PENTACHLOROPHENOL (PPB)	0	1	0.047	0 - 0.047	No	Discharge from wood preserving factories	2022								
PICLORAM (PPB)	500	500	0.12	0 - 0.12	No	Herbicide Runoff	2022								
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	280	180 - 280	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2017								
COLIFORM BACTERIA	0	1 positive monthly sample	1 positive sample	0 - 1 (0 positive for E.Coli or Fecal Coliform)	No	Naturally present in environment	2022								
BETA/ PHOTON EMITTERS (pCi/L) (MCL = 4 mrem/yr) **	0	50	6	6	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	2019								

KILSOCK (EAST ZONE)

GCWSD purchases surface water from the City of Georgetown to supply water to customers in the Kilssock East Zone, along Hwy 17 south of Georgetown.

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED		SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	1	0 - 0.69	No	Runoff from fertilizer use	2022		COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.15	0 of 20 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 16	16	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022		LEAD (PPB)	15	3.2	0 of 20 sites	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2022
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	240	240	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021								
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	1.1	1.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2021								
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 37	37	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
COMBINED RADIUM 226/228(pCi/L)	0	5	2.2 RAA	2.2 RAA	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2017								
GROSS ALPHA EXCLUDING RADON AND URANIUM (pCi/L)	0	15	2.2 RAA	2.2 RAA	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2017								
PICLORAM (PPB)	500	500	0.041	0 - 0.041	No	Herbicide Runoff	2022								
SELENIUM (PPB)	50	50	2.4	2.4	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion from natural deposits; Discharge from mines	2022								
BETA/ PHOTON EMITTERS (pCi/L) (MCL = 4 mrem/yr) **	0	50	5.03	0 - 5.03	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	2022								
DALAPON (PPM)	0.2	0.2	0.0018	0.0018	No	Runoff of herbicide from crops	2022								

KILSOCK (COUNTY LINE RD.)

GCWSD purchases ground water from the Williamsburg Co. to supply water to customers in the Kilssock Zone, along County Line Rd.

SUBSTANCE(Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST SAMPLE LEVEL	RANGE	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED		SUBSTANCE	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	# OF SITES OVER AL	VIOLATION	POSSIBLE SOURCE	YR SAMPLED
FLUORIDE (PPM)	4	4	1.7	1.4 - 1.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2020		COPPER (PPM)	1.3	0.14	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2021
CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	1.2	1.0 - 1.2	No	Additive used to control microbes	2022		LEAD (PPB)	15	1.2	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	2021
NITRATE (PPM)	10	10	0.03	0 - 0.03	No	Runoff from fertilizer use	2020								
SODIUM (PPM)	n/a	n/a	160	100 - 160	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2020								
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	n/a	80 LRAA	LRAA: 54	22 - 94	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
HALOACETIC ACIDS (PPB)	n/a	60 LRAA	LRAA: 7	3 - 10	No	By-product of water disinfection	2022								
COMBINED RADIUM 226/228(pCi/L)	0	5	0.14	0.14	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2019								
BETA/ PHOTON EMITTERS (pCi/L) (MCL = 4 mrem/yr) **	n/a	50	6.51	4.7 - 6.5	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	2019								
GROSS ALPHA EXCLUDING RADON AND URANIUM (pCi/L)	0	15	0.45	0.45	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2019								

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS WATER QUALITY 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. **MCL** - Maximum Containment 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. **mrem/year** - millirems per year: A measure of radiation absorbed by the body. **PPM** - Parts per Million: The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000, or one minute in two years. **PPB** - Parts per Billion: The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000 or one minute in 2,000 years. **pCi/L** - Picocuries Per Liter: The measure of radioactivity in water. **ug/L** - Micrograms Per Liter: The equivalent to PPB. **NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Units: A measure of the clarity in water. **90th Percentile**: Of all samples analyzed, 90 percent were at or below this detection level. **RAA** - Running Annual Average. **LRAA** - Locational Running Annual Average: The RAA of one individual sample site. **AL** - Action Level: The concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. **TT** - Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. **ND** - None Detected. **n/a** - Not Available. **WTP** - Water Treatment Plant

GUIDE TO ASTERISKS IN SAMPLING TABLES

The Carvers Bay, Red Hill, and Kilssock water systems exceeded the secondary standard for fluoride in samples taken during 2020. Fluoride occurs naturally in some areas and is present in varying concentrations in the source water. This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 mg/L of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). Dental fluorosis in its moderate or severe forms may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums. Children under the age of nine should be provided with alternate sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining or pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of products containing fluoride. Older children and adults may safely drink the water. Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/l of fluoride (US EPA's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/l of fluoride, but we are required to notify you when we discover that fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 mg/l because of this cosmetic dental problem. For more information, please call Michael Yip, Operations Director of Georgetown County Water and Sewer District at 843-237-9727. To learn more about available water treatment units to remove fluoride from drinking water, you may call NSF International at 1-877-8-NSF-HELP. ** The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta/ photon emitters.

ABOUT 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 GCWSD 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791), or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The public is invited to attend any of the monthly Board of Directors' meetings scheduled for the second Thursday of each month at 6:00pm at the Pawleys Island Administrative office at 456 Clearwater Drive, and at the Georgetown Administrative office at 445 Highmarket Street during the months of March, June, September and December. Please visit our website for additional information at www.gcwsd.com.