

TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

This report prepared by TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH, public water system I.D. No. 04-71-020 on April 16, 2014, is a snapshot that covers the period of January 1st through December 31st 2013

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is groundwater drawn from wells located on our property. Our wells draw from the Pee Dee Aquifer.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Kurt Polzer with the Town of Topsail Beach at (910) 328-5841. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

In order to ensure your water is safe to drink, TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH, routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State regulations. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2013 and the last test results of contaminants that were not due to be tested in 2013.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- Not-Applicable (N/A)* – Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.
- Non-Detects (ND)* – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- 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* – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- Action Level – (AL)* the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which must be followed.
- Maximum Contaminant Level* – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* – The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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 Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)* – The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's 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 disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants
- Treatment Technique (TT)* – A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Low (L)* – Lowest Level of contaminant detected. .
- High (H)* – Highest level of contaminant detected.
- Average (Avg.)* – Average Level of contaminant detected for all samples.

TEST RESULTS						PWS ID# 04-71-020
TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH						
Microbiological Contaminants – Sampled Monthly 2012						
Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL		Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	0	0	one positive monthly sample		Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	N	0	0	(Note: The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive)		Human and animal fecal waste
Radiological Contaminants Last sampled October 2005						
Alpha Emitters	N	ND	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of Natural deposit
Beta/Phton Emitters	N	5.9	pCi/L	0	50*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Radium 226	N	ND	pCi/L	0	3	Erosion of Natural deposit
Radium 228	N	ND	pCi/L	0	2	Erosion of Natural deposit
Uranium	N	ND	pCi/L	0	20.1	Erosion of Natural deposit
* Note: The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.						

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants Last Sampled October 2013						
Copper	No	90 th % = 0.344 H = 0.961 L = ND	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	90 th % = < 3 H = 7 L = ND	ppb	15	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Inorganic Contaminants Sampled June 2013						
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	AVG = ND H = ND L = ND	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection By-Products Contaminants Last Sampled July 2012						
Contaminant	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (AVG)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes]	No	Avg. = 4	2 6	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acid]	No	Avg. = 2	ND 2	NA	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Disinfectant Sampled Monthly 2013						
Chlorine (ppm)	No	0.74	0.2 1.9	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

Secondary Contaminants, required by the NC Public Water Supply Section, are substances that affect the taste, odor, and/or color of drinking water. These aesthetic contaminants normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Secondary Contaminants Last Sampled September 2013				
Contaminant	Level Detected	Units of Measurement	Range Low/High	Secondary MCL
Sodium	57.5	ppm	40.8 74.2	N/A
pH	8.01	units	8.00 8.03	6.5 to 8.5

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Fluoride (ppm)	9/18/13	N	0.10	0.1	0.1	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Thallium (ppb)	9/18/13	N	1	1	1	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

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 chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the water poses a health risk. 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 systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protections for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hot Line at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the describes health effect.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 result 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 Town of Topsail Beach 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:

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Town of Topsail Beach may be viewed on the Web at: <http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap>. Please 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. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email request to swap@ncmail.net. Please indicate your system name, PWSID, 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 919-715-2633.

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of “higher” does not imply poor water quality, only the systems potential to become contaminated by PCS’s in the assessment area.

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Well # 1A	Lower	March 15, 2010
Well # 2A	Lower	March 15, 2010
Well # 4	Lower	March 15, 2010

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. Town of Topsail Beach 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>.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding

We at TOWN OF TOPSAIL BEACH work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.