NCBC Gulfport - 2013 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) 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 Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport receives water from the Graham Ferry aquifer. The Graham Ferry aquifer is part of the Miocene aquifer system that consists of multiple layers of sand separated by beds of clay. A U.S. Geological Survey study of groundwater in Harrison County found that aquifers deeper than 500 feet were artesian. The groundwater from Public Works Department (PWD) Gulfport water supply is pumped from three wells that are well in excess of 700 feet.

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?

The best mechanism to get involved consists of participating in Housing Residence meetings. The most current information about the meetings may be obtained by contacting the Housing Office at (228) 871-2586 or Balfour Beatty Community at (228) 863-0424.

The Consumer Confidence Report will not be mailed to customers, but is posted on the NCBC Environmental webpage. A hard copy of this CCR can be obtain from the center's Environmental Office located in Building 322, room 103 or by emailing a request for copy to kenton.lottinger@navy.mil. The PWD Environmental Division encourages all customers that have concerns or questions to contact them directly at (228) 871-2373.

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.

Additional Information for Lead

NCBC Gulfport periodically tests for lead in your water in accordance with EPA and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) regulatory requirements. Your water's lead level is well below the Action Level (AL) as indicated in the Water Quality Data Table.

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. NCBC Gulfport 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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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.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.1	0.54	1.38	2013	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	7.25	NA		2012	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	6	NA		2012	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.010463	0.005873	0.010463	2011	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.155	0.125	0.155	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.08	0.08	0.08	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	0.02	0.02	0.02	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.

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Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0.982	0.5	0.982	2011	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)	200	200	15	15	15	2011	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	2.5	2.5	2.5	2011	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	2011	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories
Radioactive Contaminants								
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	0.5	0.5	0.5	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.31	0.29	0.31	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
Benzene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
Chlorobenzene (monochlorobenzene) (ppb)	100	100	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
o-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	600	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories

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p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	75	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	7	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	70	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	100	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Dichloromethane (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Styrene (ppb)	100	100	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	70	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	200	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	3	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	0	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	2013	No	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0012	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.2	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Additional Contaminants

In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulations. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water

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Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
Nitrate-Nitrite	10 ppm	0.1 ppm	No	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
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)
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

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