

# Water Quality Report

System Number: 2620003

We are pleased to present to you this Annual Water Quality Report which indicates that your drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

This report is designed to inform our customers about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe, economical and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

Our water is provided through four production wells drilled over 600 feet deep into the Black Creek Aquifer. Aquifer is the name given to underground soil or rock through which ground water can easily move. We also have a connection with Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority to be used in emergency situations. Water from these wells are treated with chlorine to destroy any bacteria or microorganisms in the water and to prevent any recurrence within the distribution system. Wells are monitored daily to insure security and to maintain proper equipment operation.

SC DHEC has completed a groundwater susceptibility assessment for Bucksport Water System, No. 262003. This report is available on the internet at the following web site, [www.scdhec.net/water/html/srcwtr.html](http://www.scdhec.net/water/html/srcwtr.html), or you may obtain a copy by calling Keith Collins at (843) 248-3195.

## Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for Bucksport Water System

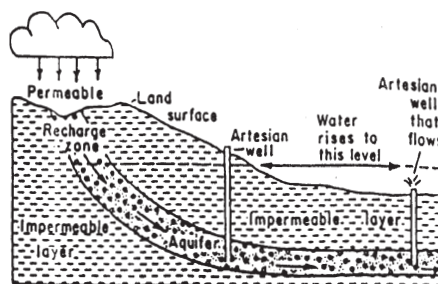
Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standards. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Bucksport Water System at 843-248-3195 or 2809 4th Ave Conway SC 29527

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, may come from agricultural, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals can come from industrial processes, gas stations, stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production along with mining activities.

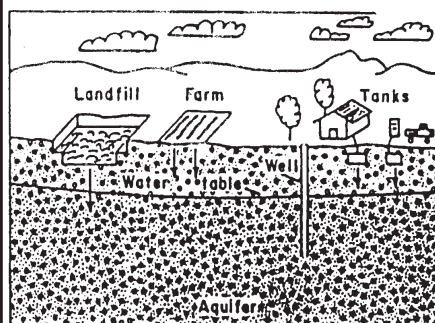
If groundwater supplying the wells becomes contaminated, it may be impossible to eliminate the contaminations so the well can be used for drinking water. We, at Bucksport Water System, continue to work with SC DHEC, Horry County Council and Waccamaw Regional Planning to develop a Wellhead Protection Program to help prevent contamination of the drinking water serving our area.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or

man made. Groundwater is vulnerable to contamination from many types of land uses and activities. As water travels over land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals and radioactive substances.



• Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural/livestock operations and wildlife.

# What's NOT in the Water

**Viruses • Giardia Lambia • Legionella**  
**Antimony Arsenic, Sample 12-94**  
**Barium • Beryllium • Cadmium**  
**chromium • Cyanide • Lead • Mercury**  
**Nitrite (as Nitrogen) • Selenium**  
**Thallium i 2,4-D • 2,4,5-TP (Silver)**  
**Alachlor • Atrazine • Benzo(a)pyrene (PAHs)**  
**• Carbofuran • Chlordane**  
**Dalapon • Dibromocholoropropane**  
**Di(Pethylhexyl) adipate • Di(2-ethylhexyl)**  
**• phtalates**  
**Dibromochloro propane • Dinoseb**  
**Diquat • Endothall Endrin • Ethylene**  
**dibromide • Glyphosate • Heptachlor**  
**Heptachlor epoxide**  
**Hexachlorobenzene • Hexachlorocyclo**  
**pentadiene • Lindane • Methoxychlor**  
**Oxamyl (Vydate) • PCBs (Polychlorinated**  
**biphenyls) • Pentachlorophenol Picloram •**  
**Simazine • Toxaphene Benzene**  
**• Carbon tetrachloride**  
**Chlorobenzene • O-Dichlorobenzene**  
**P-Dichlorobenzene**  
**1,2-Dichloroethane**  
**1, 1-Dichloroethylene**  
**cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene**  
**trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene**  
**Dichloromethane • I, 2Dichloropropane**  
**1, 2-Dichloroethylene**  
**trans-1;2-Dichloropropane**  
**Ethylbenzene • Styrene**  
**Tetrachloro-e-thylene • 1,2,4-**  
**Trichlorobenzene • 1,1,1 Trichloroethane •**  
**1,1,2-Trichloroethane**  
**Trichloroethylene Toluene**  
**• Vinyl Chloride**  
**• Nitrate**

# What is in the Water

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2016 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2016. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminates less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Constituent (Unit of Measure)	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant	Year Sampled
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	*2.0	4.0 (range 2.9-4.0)	No	Erosion of Natural deposits.	2016
Trihalomethanes TTHM (ppb)	N/A	80	74 (range 24-74)	No	By product of water disinfection process	2016
Halocetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60	61 (range 17-61)	No	By product of water disinfection process	2016
Nitrate	10	10	.04 (range .02-.04)	No	Run off from fertilizer, leaching from septic tank and erosion of natural deposits	2016
Substance	Action Level	90th percentile	Highest Level Detected	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminates	Year Sampled
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.019	0.28(.016-.28)	No	Corrosion of household plumbing erosion of natural deposits.	2015
Lead (ppb)	15	0 mg/L	68 (range 0-68)	No	Corrosion of household plumbing erosion of natural deposits.	2015
Substance	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest Quarterly Average	Range	Typical Source	Year Sampled
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.91	.53 - .91	Water Additive to Control Microbes	2015

\*Bucksport Water System blends water with Grand Strand Water and Sewer at one well location to see a complete copy of Grand Strand Water and Sewer CCR please go to [http://www.gswsa.com/gswsa\\_public\\_site/pdfs/GSWSA\\_water\\_quality\\_report.pdf](http://www.gswsa.com/gswsa_public_site/pdfs/GSWSA_water_quality_report.pdf)

\*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4ppm. However, our state has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

\*\*SEE FLUORIDE EXCEEDANCE NOTICE

\*\* TTHM and HAA5 violations are based on a four quarter running average\*\*

\*\* There was 1 site out of 30 sites tested that showed a lead level above the MCL.

The site was retested and the results were less than 0.01 which is defined by DHEC as none detectable.

Based on these findings the consensus is that the first sample taken was contaminated and resulted in a false high reading.\*\*

## Definitions You Should Know

The table above shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2016. You will find many terms and abbreviations in this table that you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - Highest level of disinfection allowed in Drinking Water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - 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 contamination.

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Non Detects (ND)** - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present, or below measurable quantities.

**Parts Per Million (ppm)** - The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000.

**Parts Per Billion (ppb)** - The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000.

**Nanograms Per Liter (nanograms/l)** - The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L)** - A per liter measure of the radioactivity in water.

**RAA** - Running Annual Average

## For More Information

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Keith Collins at 248-3195. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, you may attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Director's Meetings held on the last Monday of each month, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Business Office, 2809 Fourth Avenue, Conway, SC. We, at Bucksport Water, 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 health of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Copies of this report may be picked up at the Business Office of Bucksport Water, 2809 Fourth Avenue, Conway, SC.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels, As you can see by the table to the left, our system uncovered some problems this year. Testing for the last four quarters has determined that Fluoride levels have exceeded the MCL established by the state, however they are within EPA guidelines. We continue to work with SCDHEC to monitor this problem. Some people who drink water containing Fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease including pain and tenderness to the bones. Children may get mottled teeth. To understand the possible health effects for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a life time to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

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. Bucksport Water System 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 drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.


Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune 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 from health care providers about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines or 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).

# Professor Faucet's

## WATER QUIZ!

**Q. Professor Faucet, how do I know the water in my house is safe to drink?**

A. Public drinking water is tested against state and federal drinking water standards. If your water fails a test, your water company will let you know. To insure that your tap water is safe, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the State Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) have established strict standards for all drinking water and prescribes regulations which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.



Most of the tests to detect these contaminants are conducted by SC DHEC. In addition, Bucksport Water System routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws.

## Fluoride Exceedance Notice

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might effect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/l) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by Bucksport water system has a fluoride concentration range of 2.6 to 3.6 and an average of 3.3 mg/l.

Dental fluorosis in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/l of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/l of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2mg/l because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For more information please call Keith Collins of Bucksport Water System at 248-3195. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-877-8-NSF-HELP.