

What can I do to conserve water?

There are many things you can do to conserve water. Running your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full can save up to 1,000 gallons a month. Watering your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler will help minimize evaporation. Shortening your shower by a minute or two can save up to 150 gallons per month. Turning off the water while you are brushing your teeth can save up to 25 gallons per month. Also, take time to review your water bill on a regular basis as this can help you quickly realize if there are leaks in your system.

How much water do I use during a typical shower?

Based on the age of your house and your showerheads, anywhere from 20 to 40 gallons of water can be used during a typical shower.

Tap vs. Bottled, Rethinking What You Are Drinking

When choosing the water you want to drink, it is often easy to be convinced that bottled water is healthier for you than tap water, but in truth is it? The answer, thanks to a study by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is not always. First, approximately 25 percent of bottled water is – in reality – bottled tap water. Additionally, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates bottled water; however, their testing standards are not as rigorous as the ones required by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for tap water.

Moreover, FDA oversight does not apply to water that is packaged and sold within the same state. According to the NRDC's report, this leaves approximately 60-70 percent of bottled water, including the contents of watercooler jugs, free of FDA regulation.



HOLLY
SPRINGS
North Carolina

P.O. Box 8
Holly Springs, NC 27540

Community Participation
You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Holly Springs Town Council meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Meetings, which are open to the public, are held in the Council Chambers upstairs in Holly Springs Town Hall at 128 S. Main Street.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (919) 577-1090 – para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.



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2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The test results table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2017. In the table you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Definitions

- **Action Level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Action Level Goal (ALG)** – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Avg.** – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.
- **Locational running annual average (LRAA)** – is the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – 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. Secondary MCLs are unenforceable guidelines for aesthetic quality of water.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – 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 Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – 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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – 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.
- **MRL** – minimum reporting level defined by EPA
- **mrem** – millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
- **NA** – not applicable.
- **N** – no
- **ND** – not detected.
- **TT** – treatment technique
- **NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
- **Parts per billion (ppb)** – micrograms per liter (µg/L) or one ounce in 7,800,000 gallons of water.
- **Parts per million (ppm)** – milligrams per liter (mg/L) or one ounce in 7,800 gallons of water.
- **SU** – standard unit

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Microbiological Contaminants

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Town of Holly Springs Your Water	Harnett County Your Water	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	2017	Greater than 5% requires Level 1 Assessment	0	2.5%*	4.4%	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	2017	0 ¹	0	0	0	No	Human and animal fecal waste

¹ 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.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.

Turbidity²

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Town of Holly Springs Amount Detected	Harnett County Amount Detected	TT Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) – Highest single turbidity measurement	2017	Turbidity >1 NTU	N/A	0.08 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (NTU) – Lowest monthly % of samples meeting turbidity limits	2017	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are <0.3 NTU	N/A	100%	No	

² Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)³

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	Town of Holly Springs				Harnett County		Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	Compliance Method
		MCL	MCLG	Your Water	Range of Monthly Removal Ratio	Your Water	Range of Monthly Removal Ratio			
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio)	2017	TT	NA	NA	NA	1.29	1.10-1.50	No	Naturally present in the environment	Step 1

³ Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effect. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection by-products. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. By-products of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THM) and haloacetic acids (HAA), which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Inorganic Contaminants

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Date Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Town of Holly Springs		Harnett County		Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
				Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Amount Detected	Range Low-High		
Fluoride (ppm)	1/4/17	4	4	NA	NA	0.64	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Substance (Unit of Measure)	AL	MCLG	Town of Holly Springs			Harnett County			Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
			Year Sampled	Your Water	# of sites found above AL	Year Sampled	Your Water	# of sites found above AL		
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	1.3	1.3	2017	0.0579	0	2016	0.155	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	1.5	0	2017	ND	1	2016	ND	NA	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Town of Holly Springs		Harnett County		Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
				Highest LRAA	Range Low - High	Highest LRAA	Range Low - High		
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM] (ppb)	2017	80	NA	51	19 - 68	55.9	12.5 - 88.3	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2017	60	NA	17	1 - 29	17.7	9.7 - 23.8	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Average	Range Low - High	Average	Range Low - High	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	2017	[4]	[4]	2.37	0.2 - 3.4	2.85	1.03 - 3.99	No	Water additive to control microbes
Monochloramines (ppm)	2017	[4]	[4]	2.41	1.09 - 4.36	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (free) (ppm)	2017	[4]	[4]	1.25*	0.07 - 1.89	1.68*	0.76 - 3.29	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2017	800	800	NA	NA	35	0 - 331	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm) (Distribution)	2017	1	0.8	NA	NA	0.263	0.14 - 0.30	No	By-product of chlorine dioxide

* Only month of March.

Unregulated Secondary Contaminants⁴

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	Secondary MCL	Town of Holly Springs		Harnett County		Likely Source of Contamination
			Amount Detected	Range (Low-High)	Amount Detected	Range (Low-High)	
Ammonia (free) (ppm)	2017	NA	0.12	0 - 1.13	N/A	N/A	Disinfection treatment
pH	2017	6.5 to 8.5	8.5	6.0 - 8.5	7.0	N/A	Acidity of water
Sodium (ppm)	2017	NA	N/A	N/A	34.6	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2017	250	N/A	N/A	45.4	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits

⁴ 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.

Unregulated Secondary Contaminants

Analyte ID#	Analyte	Method	MRL	Town of Holly Springs		Harnett County		Analyzed Date
				Result	Preparation Date	Preparation Date	Result	
1020	Chromium (ppb)	200.8	0.2	<0.2	2/3/14	2/5/14	NA	NA
1081	Cobalt (ppb)	200.8	1.0	<1.0	2/3/14	2/5/14	NA	NA
1084	Molybdenum (ppb)	200.8	1.0	<1.0	2/3/14	2/5/14	NA	NA
1051	Strontium (ppb)	200.8	0.3	51	2/3/14	3/24/15	46.5	3/25/15
1088	Vanadium (ppb)	200.8	0.2	<0.2	2/3/14	2/5/14	0.3	6/16/15
1080	Chromium, Hexavalent (ppb)	218.7	0.03	0.05	NA	NA	0.035	3/23/15 and 3/25/15
1007	Chlorate (ppb)	300.1	20	310	NA	NA	255	3/24/15
2049	1,4 Dioxane (ppb)	522	0.07	1.9	2/7/14	1/14/15 and 3/27/15	3.65	1/14/15 and 3/27/15
2802	Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (ppb)	537	0.01	<0.01	1/31/14	2/1/14	0.02	6/16/14