

**CRAVEN COUNTY WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2014**  
**Craven County Water Department PWSID #04-25-055**  
**2830 Neuse Blvd., New Bern, NC 28562 (252)636-6615**

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### **Your water is safe to drink**

Craven County Water & Sewer's top priority is to provide the people of Craven County a safe and reliable supply of water. In accordance with requirements of The Safe Drinking Water Act amendments of 1996 we are pleased to send you our Annual Water Quality Report. The information and test results show the high quality of your drinking water. Craven County water meets all of the stringent test requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the North Carolina Public Water Supply Section of the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources.

### **Where does the water come from?**

Craven County's water supply is groundwater that comes from five deep wells that draw water from the Black Creek Aquifer. Located in the northwest portion of the county just south of NC 55, the wells are named for easy identification. We also added five additional wells that draw water from the Pee Dee aquifer. Each well is equipped with a pump to bring water into a well house. Here chlorine is added before the water goes into the main lines and smaller pipes that make up the distribution system.

### **How to get more information**

If you have any questions about this report or your water, please contact the Customer Service Office of Craven County Water & Sewer at (252) 636-6615. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about your water utility, and we want to invite you to attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings of our Board of Commissioners. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. The 1st monthly meeting begins at 7:00 PM; the meeting on the 3rd Monday begins at 8:30 AM.

### **Water quality testing**

Craven County Water routinely collects samples of water from its wells and the distribution system. These samples are then sent to an independent laboratory for testing for more than 120 different contaminants and none exceeded the standards set by the EPA. Craven County staff carefully review each of the tests results to monitor the water contaminants. The table on the next page shows the substances detected in the required test for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014.

### **About drinking water**

Drinking water supplies for both tap water and bottled water include oceans, rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

### **Special Information**

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/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA establishes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public systems. In the table of-Craven County' water quality tests results you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

(Over)

- *Action Level (AL)* - the concentration of a contaminant which triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.
- *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.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level* - (mandatory language) the "Maximum Allowed" - (MCL) is 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.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - (mandatory language) 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.**

## Water Conservation

Craven County Water & Sewer customers are fortunate to have very good quality water. Our water requires no treatment other than a small amount of chlorine for distribution system disinfection. Unfortunately, nothing can last forever, but we can extend the life of our aquifer for future generations if we all conserve water now. Please visit our website at [www.water-lessmeansmore.com](http://www.water-lessmeansmore.com) for additional information and tips for conserving water.

**Atencion:** Este documento contiene information importante acerca de la calidad del suministro del agua publico. Si no lee ingles, favor de encontrar alguien para traducir esta information.

**Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results:** 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 assessment was to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source (well or surface water intake) to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs). The results 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 Craven County Water Department 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, as of March 16, 2005, are as follows:

| Source Name                | Susceptibility Rating |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Dover Pee Dee</b>       | <b>Moderate</b>       |
| <b>Wintergreen Pee Dee</b> | <b>Lower</b>          |
| <b>Bryan Pee Dee</b>       | <b>Lower</b>          |
| <b>Davis Pee Dee</b>       | <b>Lower</b>          |
| <b>Well #5 Pee Dee</b>     | <b>Lower</b>          |
| Dover Ft Barnwell Well     | Lower                 |
| Wintergreen Well           | Lower                 |
| Bryan Well                 | Lower                 |
| Davis Well                 | Lower                 |
| Well #5                    | Lower                 |

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

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Craven County Water Department may be viewed on the WEB at: <http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap>. 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](mailto:swap@ncmail.net). Please indicate your system name (Craven County Water Department, PWSID (04-25-055), 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.

### Test Results of Water at Source - Well Site

| Substance       | Violation Y/N | Well #1 | Well #2 | Well #3 | Well #4 | Well # 5 | MCL | MCLG    | Primary Source   | Meets Goal |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----|---------|--|------------|
| Fluoride (ppm)  | N             | 1.1     | 1.4     | 1.7     | 1.5     | 1.9      | 4.0 | 4.0     | Naturally occurring mineral; also added to drinking water to promote dental health | ✓          |
| Manganese (ppm) | N             | ND      | ND      | ND      | 0.023   | ND       | .05 | No MCLG | Erosion  | ✓          |

### Test Results of Water in Distribution System

| Substance    | Violation Y/N | Craven County Water  | MCL    | MCLG    | Primary Source   | Meets Goal |
|--------------|---------------|--|--------|---------|--|------------|
| Copper (ppm) | N             | .329   | AL=1.3 | 1.3     | Copper occurs naturally in soils, but its presence in drinking water is almost entirely due to corrosion of private household plumbing systems | ✓          |
| Lead (ppb)   | N             | .014   | AL=15  | No MCLG | Lead occurs naturally in soils, but its presence in drinking water is almost entirely due to corrosion of household plumbing systems           | ✓          |
| TTHM's (ppm) | N             | Individual site range from 0.028(low) to 0.092(high).<br>Local Running Annual Average (LRAA) 0.0395(low) to 0.0787(high).      | .080   | .080    | By-product of chlorine used to disinfect water   | ✓          |
| HAA5 (ppm)   | N             | Individual site range from 0.0088 (low) to 0.0227(high).<br>Local Running Annual Average (LRAA) 0.0126 (low) to 0.0173 (high). | .060   | .060    | By-product of chlorine used to disinfect water   | ✓          |

### Regulated Substances Tested

| Substance     | Violation Y/N | Highest Level Detected | Highest Allowed MCL | Ideal Goal MCLG | Primary Source                                |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Sodium (ppm)  | N             | 154.800 (Well #5)      | Not regulated       | None set        | Mineral naturally occurring in soils          |
| Sulfate (ppm) | N             | ND                     | Not regulated       | None set        | Element naturally occurring in soil and water |

## Water Quality Data of Detected Unregulated Contaminants

\*Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3)

| Contaminant (units)          | Sample Date | Reported Level | Range (Low – High) |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Vanadium (µg/L)              | 2014        | 0.33µg/L       | 0.11 – 0.33µg/L    |
| Molybdenum (µg/L)            | 2014        | 1.4µg/L        | 0.78 – 1.4µg/L     |
| Strontium (µg/L)             | 2014        | 52.0µg/L       | 13.6 – 52.0µg/L    |
| chromium <sup>3</sup> (µg/L) | 2014        | 0.24µg/L       | 0.16 – 0.24µg/L    |
| Chromium-6 (µg/L)            | 2014        | 0.012µg/L      | ND – 0.012µg/L     |
| Chlorate (µg/L)              | 2014        | 1740µg/L       | 294 - 1740µg/L     |

\*The 1996 amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) require that once every five years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWS). The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) provides EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the occurrence of contaminants in drinking water. These data serve as a primary source of occurrence and exposure information that the agency uses to develop regulatory decisions.

## Other Regulated Contaminates

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants – 2014 ND

Radiological Contaminants – 2010 ND

Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) – 2014 ND

Pesticides and Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) – 2013 ND

## TTHM Violation in 2014

In the third quarter of 2014 the results from our TTHM samples at the B01 site, at the intersection of Adams Creek Rd and Belangia Rd, were high enough to cause a violation of the LRAA (Local Running Annual Average) when averaged with the previous three quarters at this site. With an MCL of 0.080 ppm we had TTHM levels of 0.083 ppm. As you can tell from this report that after the fourth quarter samples were taken the levels dropped down to below the MCL of 0.080 ppm and were at 0.0787 ppm. We are continuing to monitor the quality of water in this area to prevent anymore violations.

### Lead Education for our water users.

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. Craven County Water 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>.



