

The City of Florence Has Never Violated Drinking Water Standards for Lead

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. The City of Florence is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact City of Florence at (843) 665-3236. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



Where Your Water Comes From

The City of Florence relies on the McQueen Branch Aquifer as its primary drinking water source, serving about 79,745 people, including 30,671 households and 3,491 businesses. Approximately 60% of the city's water comes from groundwater wells, while the Frank E. Willis Pee Dee River Regional Surface Water Plant, which utilizes the Pee Dee River, contributes the remaining 40%. Together, these resources sustain Florence's vibrant community.

Florence City Council

The Florence City Council governs public utilities and ensures compliance with federal and state regulations. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month in the Council Chambers at 324 West Evans St. Customers, and the public are strongly encouraged to attend.

If You Have Special Health Concerns

Certain individuals, including those with weakened immune systems, older adults, and parents of infants, may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. It is advisable for them to consult healthcare providers for personalized guidance.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide resources to help minimize the risk of infections from Cryptosporidium and other microorganisms.

For more information, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Your health and safety are important!

About This Report

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. 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.

What's In Your Drinking Water

The City of Florence's water system has prepared a source water assessment report. Malcolm Cook at (843) 665-3236 can provide the information.

2024 Water Quality Report

Florence's City Manager, Scotty Davis, is pleased to announce the release of the 2024 Water Quality Report, which informs water customers about the high quality, safe drinking water delivered each day. Davis emphasized that the city's water supply met all drinking water regulatory requirements in 2024. Additionally, Davis reinforced his commitment to Florence water customers, citing clean water availability as an essential service the City must continue to provide.

The data collected by the City of Florence undergoes thorough scientific analysis and validation by the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES).

The report presents results from rigorous testing conducted throughout 2024, showcasing the City's dedication to delivering high quality water and enhancing residents' quality of life. A detailed table of sampling data is included for transparency.



FULL LIFE. FULL FORWARD.
FLORENCE
SOUTH CAROLINA

2024 City of Florence Water Quality Report



Fundamentally Committed to Water Quality



www.cityofflorence.com

Fluoride

Fluoride is a naturally occurring element that helps prevent tooth decay. To maintain an acceptable level of fluoride a small amount of fluoride is added during the water treatment process, as recommended by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the American Dental Association (ADA).

Table Definitions

90 th Percentile	Of all samples analyzed, 90 percent were at or below the detection level.
AL	Action Level. The concentration of contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
ALG	Action Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.
DBPR	Disinfectant By product Rule.
HAA5	Halo Acetic Acids.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average.
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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs provide a margin of safety.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. Highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. Level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
ND	Non-Detected. No measurable level of substance or contaminant detected.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. Units of measure to indicate water clarity.
PPB	Parts Per Billion. The equivalent of one penny in \$10,000,000 or 1 minute in 2,000 years.
PPM	Parts Per Million. The equivalent of 1 penny in \$10,000 or 1 minute in 2 years.
TT	Treatment Technique. Required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes.

2024 Water Quality Sampling Results

The following table shows actual sampling results for substances detected in the Florence water systems for the period Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2024, compared with state and federal health and safety standards for those substances.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

Lead and Copper—Inorganic Contaminants								
Contaminants (unit of measure)	ALG	AL	90 th percentile	Range	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Copper-action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.39	0.02 - 1.7	1	No	2024	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead-action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.1	0 - 2.3	0	No	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.

Chemical and Radionuclide Constituents							
Contaminants (unit of measure)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect in Your Water	Range	Violation (Yes or No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.78	0 - 0.78	No	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use. Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm) [unregulated]	NA	NA	26.0	N/A	No	2024	Naturally occurring.
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.372	0.0 - 0.372	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.25	0.0-1.25	No	2024	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
*The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. Because the beta particle results were below 50 pCi/L, no testing for individual beta particle constituents was required.							

Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products							
Contaminants (unit of measure)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect in Your Water	Range	Violation (Yes or No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.87 RAA	0.80 - 0.98	No	2024	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (HAA5)(ppb)	No goal for the total	60	18 LRAA	0 - 30.8	No	2024	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No goal for the total	80	74 LRAA	0 - 91.5	No	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Pee Dee River Surface Water Plant Data

Turbidity	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.27 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.09 NTU	100.000%	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.				
Total Organic Carbon Information for the percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.				