

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By
Robeson County Water System

PWS ID#: NC0378055

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual drinking water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe 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. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Substances That Could Be in Water

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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 occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. 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.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the U.S. EPA by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

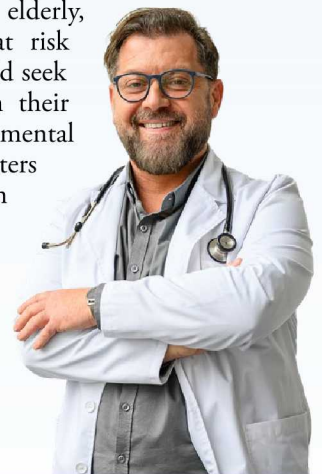
When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

Robeson County Water System obtains all raw water from 38 deep wells in the Black Creek Aquifer. Wells range in depth from 110 to 180 feet. Raw water from these wells is pumped to 13 treatment plants in various locations around the county, where sodium hydroxide is added for pH adjustment to help remove iron. Chlorine is added for disinfection, and water is filtered to remove iron. After filtration the water is fluoridated, and phosphates are added for corrosion control in the distribution system.



Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Julius Bullard at (910) 844-5611.

Source Water Assessment Program Results

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Public Water Supply (PWS) section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), conducted assessments for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments 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. It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of higher does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated by PCSs in the assessment area.

The relative susceptibility rating of each source for Robeson County Water System 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 are summarized in the table below.

SUSCEPTIBILITY OF SOURCES TO PCSS					
SOURCE NAME:	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING:	SOURCE NAME:	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING:	SOURCE NAME:	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING:
Well 25	Moderate	Well 35	Moderate	Well 12	Lower
Well 26	Moderate	Well 40	Higher	Well 14	Lower
Well 27B	Higher	Well 41 (Lumber Bridge)	Moderate	Well 17	Moderate
Well 3	Higher	Well 42 (Lumber Bridge)	Moderate	Well 18	Lower
Well 30 (County Jail)	Moderate	Well 44 (Lumber Bridge)	Moderate	Well 19	Moderate
Well 31 (Clark Lot)	Moderate	Well 52 (Lamb Road)	Lower	Well 2	Higher
Well 32 (Locklear Lot)	Moderate	Well 48	Moderate	Well 21	Moderate
Well 33 (Midway)	Lower	Well 49	Moderate	Well 22	Moderate
Well 6	Higher	Well 50	Moderate	Well 23	Moderate
Well 7	Lower	Well 51	Moderate	Well 24	Moderate
Well 4A	Higher	Well 55	Moderate	Well 46	Moderate
Well 5A	Higher	Well 10	Moderate		
Well 34	Moderate	Well 11	Lower		

{Updated on September 10, 2020}

The complete SWAP assessment report for Robeson County Water System may be viewed online at ncwater.org/?page=600. Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available online may differ from the results that were available at the time this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was prepared. If you are unable to access your SWAP report online, you may mail a written request for a printed copy to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email requests to swap@ncdenr.gov. Please indicate your system name and number 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) 707-9098.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. Robeson County Water System 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, or 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 it tested, contact Robeson County Water System at (910) 844-5611. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

We have been working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and prepared an inventory of all service lines in our water system. To access this inventory, contact Robeson County Water at 265 McGirt Road, Maxton.



Test Results

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2025.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

LEAD AND COPPER CONTAMINANTS

The table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at julius.bullard@robesoncountync.gov

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	YOUR WATER (90TH PERCENTILE)	# SITES ABOVE AL	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	AL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	6/21/24	0.270 (ppm)	0	0.00 (ppm)	0.893 (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	6/21/24	0.00 (ppb)	0	0.00 (ppb)	5.50 (ppb)	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

STAGE 2 DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS (TTHM AND HAA5)

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	5 (ppb)	3 (ppb)	5 (ppb)	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	ND	ND	ND	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS SUMMARY

CONTAMINANT	MRDL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER (RAA)	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MRDLG	MRDL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.19 (ppm)	0.20 (ppm)	2.20 (ppm)	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

NITRATE/NITRITE CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	MCL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	1/13/25	N	1.82 (ppm)	1.74 (ppm)	1.82 (ppm)	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	MCL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER (RAA)	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5/5/25	N	2.7	1.1 (pCi/L)	2.7 (pCi/L)	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	9/2/25	N	4	1.5 (pCi/L)	4.0 (pCi/L)	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: The MCL for beta/photon emitters is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	MCL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Fluoride (ppm) Well #14	1/13/25	N	0.55 (ppm)	0.55 (ppm)	0.55 (ppm)	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Fluoride (ppm) Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	N	1.1 (ppm)	0.32 (ppm)	1.1 (ppm)	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Fluoride (ppm) Well #12	9/5/23	N	0.85 (ppm)	0.85 (ppm)	0.85 (ppm)	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Fluoride (ppm) Well #13	7/10/23	N	0.66 (ppm)	0.66 (ppm)	0.66 (ppm)	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICAL (VOC) CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	MCL VIOLATION Y/N	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	4/14/25	N	0.8 (ppb)	0.8 (ppb)	0.8 (ppb)	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes (Total) (ppm)	4/14/25	N	0.0072 (ppm)	0.0072 (ppm)	0.0072 (ppm)	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS MONITORING REGULATION (UCMR)

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	YOUR WATER (AVERAGE)	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH
HFPO-DA	2/14/23	0.034 (ppb)	0.034 (ppb)	0.034 (ppb)
HFPO-DA	7/25/23	0.033 (ppb)	0.033 (ppb)	0.033 (ppb)
Lithium	2/14/23	12.0 (ppb)	12.0 (ppb)	12.0 (ppb)
PFBA	2/14/23	0.0094 (ppb)	0.0094 (ppb)	0.0094 (ppb)
PFBA	7/25/23	0.011 (ppb)	0.011 (ppb)	0.011 (ppb)
PFBS	2/14/23	0.0085 (ppb)	0.0085 (ppb)	0.0085 (ppb)
PFBS	7/25/23	0.0082 (ppb)	0.0082 (ppb)	0.0082 (ppb)
PFHpA	2/14/23	0.009 (ppb)	0.0051 (ppb)	0.013 (ppb)
PFHxS	2/14/25	0.0084 (ppb)	0.0084 (ppb)	0.0084 (ppb)
PFHxS	7/25/23	0.0083 (ppb)	0.0083 (ppb)	0.0083 (ppb)
PFOA	2/14/23	0.0126 (ppb)	0.0044 (ppb)	0.022 (ppb)
PFOA	7/25/23	0.0155 (ppb)	0.0055 (ppb)	0.03 (ppb)
PFPeA	2/14/23	0.0137 (ppb)	0.0033 (ppb)	0.027 (ppb)
PFPeA	7/25/23	0.0139 (ppb)	0.0039 (ppb)	0.0290 (ppb)
PFPeS	2/14/23	0.0044 (ppb)	0.0044 (ppb)	0.0044 (ppb)
PFPeS	7/25/23	0.0047 (ppb)	0.0047 (ppb)	0.0047 (ppb)
PFHpA	7/25/23	0.0103 (ppb)	0.0046 (ppb)	0.016 (ppb)
PFHxA	2/14/23	0.016 (ppb)	0.0090 (ppb)	0.0230 (ppb)
PFHxA	7/25/23	0.0122 (ppb)	0.0033 (ppb)	0.025 (ppb)
PFOS	2/14/25	0.0061 (ppb)	0.0061 (ppb)	0.0061 (ppb)
PFOS	7/25/23	0.0056 (ppb)	0.0056 (ppb)	0.0056 (ppb)

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact us at julius.bullard@robersoncountync.gov

Why We Test So Often

Drinking water is one of the most closely monitored resources in the United States. Water systems regularly test for bacteria, disinfectants, metals, organic chemicals, radioactive substances, and many other contaminants. Some tests are performed daily, while others are conducted weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, depending on regulatory requirements and system size. Microbiological testing for bacteria such as coliforms ensures that disinfection is working properly. Turbidity monitoring confirms effective filtration. Chemical testing verifies that treatment processes remain optimized. All certified laboratories must meet strict quality assurance requirements to ensure accurate results. When results approach regulatory limits, corrective actions are taken immediately.



OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARACTERISTICS CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	SAMPLE DATE	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	SMCL
Iron (ppm) Well #14	1/13/25	0.239 (ppm)	0.239 (ppm)	0.239 (ppm)	0.3
Iron (ppm) Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	0.797 (ppm)	0.00 (ppm)	0.797 (ppm)	0.3
Iron (ppm) Well #12	9/5/23	0.317 (ppm)	0.317 (ppm)	0.317 (ppm)	0.3
Iron (ppm) Well #13	7/10/23	0.248 (ppm)	0.248 (ppm)	0.248 (ppm)	0.3
Manganese (ppm) Well #14	1/13/25	0.0112 (ppm)	0.0112 (ppm)	0.0112 (ppm)	0.05
Manganese (ppm) Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	0.017 (ppm)	0.00 (ppm)	0.017 (ppm)	0.05
Sodium (ppm) Well #14	1/13/25	30.80 (ppm)	30.80 (ppm)	30.80 (ppm)	N/A
Sodium (ppm) Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	29.376 (ppm)	15.431 (ppm)	29.376 (ppm)	NA
Sodium (ppm) Well #12	9/5/23	16.837 (ppm)	16.837 (ppm)	16.837 (ppm)	NA
Sodium (ppm) Well #13	7/10/23	33.22 (ppm)	33.22 (ppm)	33.22 (ppm)	NA
Sulfate (ppm) Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	21.1 (ppm)	15.1 (ppm)	21.1 (ppm)	250
pH Well #14	1/13/25	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.5 to 8.5
pH Wells #1,2,3,4,5,6,9,11,&15	1/8/24	7.7	6.7	7.7	6.5 to 8.5
pH Well #12	9/5/23	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.5 to 8.5
pH Well #14	7/10/23	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.5 to 8.5

The PWS Section requires monitoring for other misc. contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, and/or color) in drinking water. The contaminants with SMCLs normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Community Participation

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Call (910) 671-3022 to find out when those meetings will be held.

Count On Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water.
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions.
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results.
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry.
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels.
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies.
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.



So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop!

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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 a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.