



# City of Georgetown

Providing the citizens of Georgetown with a safe, high quality, dependable supply of drinking water

## 2016 Annual Water Quality Report

### Introduction

The City of Georgetown has compiled and is pleased to present to its citizens and customers the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for State Water System ID# 2210001. This report covers the entire calendar year 2016, January 1 to December 31.

### Test Results of Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	Year Tested	
Haloacetic Acid HAA5 * (ppb) Stage 2 Monitoring	0 No goal for the total	60	Highest QTR. LRAA 54.0	3.3-69.93	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	2016	
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM * (ppb) Stage 2 Monitoring	0 No goal for the total	80	Highest QTR. LRAA 48.0	16.56-56.91	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	2016	
Inorganic Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	Year Tested	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	ND	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from aluminum and fertilizer factories	2016	
Nitrate (ppm) (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	0.42	ND - 0.42	No	Run- off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	2016	
Radioactive Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	Collection Date	
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	12/09/2015	
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L)	0	15	2.4	0 - 2.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits	12/09/2015	
Substance	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range	Sample Data	Violation	Possible Source	Year Tested
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	0	TT	83.9% Removal / Year 45 - 50% Required	70.5 - 92.2	Monthly	No	Naturally present in the environment	2016



### Treatment Facility

The City of Georgetown Water Treatment Plant is located on Anthuan Maybank Drive. We currently produce a daily average of 1.198 MGD of safe drinking water with reserve capability to produce up to 5.2 MGD. Four state-licensed operators staff the plant.

### Source of Drinking 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 be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### Water Source

The City of Georgetown Water Treatment Plant receives raw water from Pee Dee River via a canal that is owned and maintained by International Paper Company. The City of Georgetown also owns and maintains two wells.

### Water Substance

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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800- 426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

In 2016, the City of Georgetown detected only a very small number of the nearly 100 substances and elements regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act in its drinking water supplies. Here is a summary of those substances detected:

**Turbidity-** Turbidity is a measurement of the clarity of the water. The City of Georgetown Water Treatment Plant has consistently produced water below the limit set by the EPA.

**Hardness-** If the amount of Calcium Carbonate is over 100 mg/l, the water is considered to be hard. Hard water can result in scale formation in the distribution system piping and requires more soap to produce a given amount of lather.

**Lead and Copper-** The City of Georgetown Water Treatment Plant has never had a significant amount of lead or copper detected within its water distribution system and meets EPA requirements. We are currently on a reduced monitoring program for lead and copper that has been approved by DHEC.

**Trihalomethanes-** Trihalomethanes (THMs) are by-products of the reaction of chlorine with naturally occurring organics in the raw untreated water. EPA has established a maximum contaminate limit (MCL) of 80 parts per billion.

**Nitrates-** Nitrates are formed when nitrogen-oxygen chemical units combine with various organic and inorganic compounds. The primary source of nitrates in the Pee Dee River is soil erosion and run off from fertilizer use.

**Fluoride-** Fluoride is a naturally occurring element produced by geologic deposits in groundwater supplies that helps prevent tooth decay. Because there are no naturally occurring levels of fluoride in the Pee Dee River, a small amount is added during the treatment process as recommended by the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association.

**Total Organic Carbon (TOC)-** Organic contaminants enter the Pee Dee River in rainfall runoff and during elevated river levels. Removal of the TOC in the raw water is necessary to prevent elevated THM levels in drinking water.

**Chlorine-** Chlorine is the disinfectant used to control microbial contaminants.

**Chloramines-** Chloramines are an alternative disinfectant formed by the reaction of hypochlorous acid (or aqueous chlorine) with ammonia.

### Customer Assistance

For more information contact the City of Georgetown Water Utilities Monday through Friday between 9 and 5 at 545-4509 or 545-4500.

***Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.***

### Customer Service Locations:

Water Utilities @2377 Maybank Drive  Water Treatment Plant @ 2355 Maybank Drive  City Hall @ 1134 North Fraser St.

The public is invited to attend monthly City Council Meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:30p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center in the Municipal Court Room located at 2222 High Market Street.