



**2008 Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**Town of Williamston**  
**Annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**  
**S.C. DHEC# 0410010**  
**March 12, 2009**



We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. The Town of Williamston purchases its water from Anderson Regional Joint Water System located on beautiful Lake Hartwell.

**I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **David Rogers at (864) 847-7473**. 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. They are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

The Town of Williamston routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. 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, including bottled 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.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- **Action Level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **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 (MCL)** – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **ND** – None detected.

**TEST RESULTS – Town of Williamston**

Contaminant	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Unit Measurement	# Sites Exceeding AL	Action Level	Year Sampled	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	0.016	ppm	0	1.3	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	ND	ppb	0	15	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

**TEST RESULTS FOR 2008– Anderson Regional Joint Water System**

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate	N	0.098	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0.06	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
HAA5	N	RAA 32	ppb	0	60	By product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM	N	RAA 50	ppb	0	80	By product of drinking water disinfection
Cadmium	N	0.79	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from waste batteries and paint

**What does this mean?**

As you can see by the above table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water *IS SAFE* at these levels. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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

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. The Town of Williamston 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 drinking 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Source Water Assessment and Protection Plans (SWAP) were completed for all public water systems in South Carolina in May 2003. SWAP's among other things, identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies. The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control has completed the plans for all SC public water systems. A copy of this assessment report can be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Water in Columbia, SC at (803) 898-4300 or on the web at <http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/srcwtr.htm>

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

We at the Town of Williamston work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Also we ask that you report *any* suspicious activity in and around local water utilities immediately by calling 911.

Please call our office at (846) 847-7473 or email us at [davidrogers@williamstonsc.us](mailto:davidrogers@williamstonsc.us) should you have any questions.