

Clinton  
NORTH CAROLINA

# 2015 City of Clinton Water Quality Report



## Inside This Report:

What the EPA Wants You to Know	2
Why Do We Treat Our Water?	2
Our Water Quality	3
Glossary of Terms	3
Water Quality Table of Detected Contaminants	4
Unregulated Contaminants	5
Other Misc. Water Characteristics	5
Source Water Protection	6
SWAP	7
Questions?	8

The City of Clinton Department of Public Works and Utilities is pleased to present to you the 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets forth the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act. These regulations limit amounts of specific contaminants or pollutants in our drinking water, and they ensure the quality of public water supplies. In addition, the State of North Carolina regulates our drinking water via the Department of Environmental Quality

(NCDEQ), Public Water Supply Section, "Rules Governing Public Water Supplies." Year round, City of Clinton Water Utilities employees are working to provide its citizens with drinking water that not only meets but exceeds federal and state requirements. This report summarizes the City's water supply quality by providing you with details regarding the source of your water supply, what that water supply contains, and how your water compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. As a com-

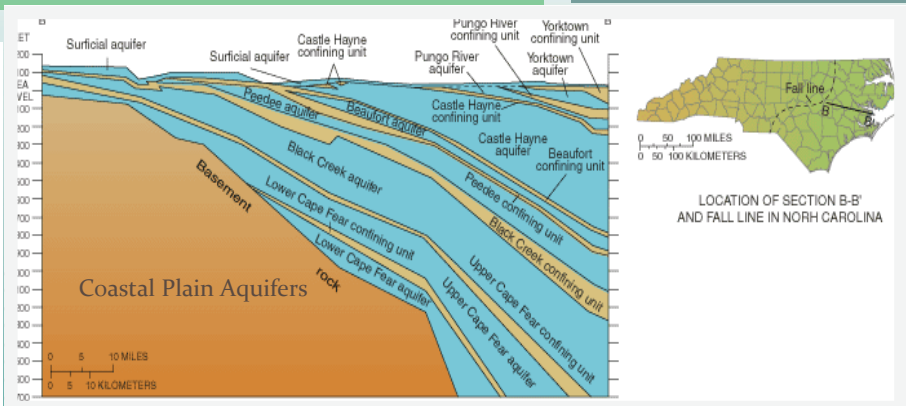
munity, we strive to meet the challenges to continually improve the water treatment process, protect our water resources, and to educate ourselves and you, our customers, in best management practices.

We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information. Should you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact the Public Works & Utilities Department at 910-299-4905. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

## Our Community's Water Source

The water that is used by our system is drawn from wells supplied by the Upper Cape Fear and Black Creek Aquifers. Seventy five percent of the City's water is drawn from six (6) wells, and this water is then treated at our

Parsons-Anders Water Treatment Facility, which is located on Clive Jacobs Road in the southeastern section of the City. We also supplement this facility with four (4) additional wells that are treated on site, and feed directly into the system.



*The Perfect Place To Call Home*

## What the EPA Wants You to Know

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or by visiting the EPA's website at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/>.

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. 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 (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 City of Clinton Public Works and Utilities Department 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>.



In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes the limits that regulate contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Why Do We Treat Our Water?

### Impurities That May Be Present in Untreated Water

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 pre-

sent in untreated 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. These are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum pro-

duction, 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.

#### Did You Know?...

**Roughly 78% of an adult human brain is WATER!!**



## Our Water Quality

In accordance with Federal and State laws, the City of Clinton Water Utilities employees routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water. The tables included in this report list all the drinking water contaminants that were **detected** in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. Please note that detection of any particular contaminant alone

is **not** an indication that your water poses a health risk. Unless a contaminant is greater than the Federal or State specified limit, no health risk is expected to arise from its presence. Please refer to the Glossary of Terms for an explanation of the limit determinations.

For certain contaminants, the EPA and the State require us to monitor less than once per year. This is because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary signif-

icantly from year to year. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the tables are from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2015.** Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old due to the monitoring frequency requirements. **For the calendar year of 2015, the City of Clinton water quality met or surpassed all primary Federal and State water quality standards.**

*The City of Clinton Drinking Water continues to meet or surpass Federal and State primary drinking water standards.*

### Glossary of Terms:

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

**Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) –** The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters under the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG):** 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL):** 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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. MCLs 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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.

**Not Applicable (NA):** Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.

**Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L):** To give an idea of just how small a concentration this is, 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 (ug/L):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

## Water Quality Data Table of Detected Contaminants

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	YOUR WATER			EPA LIMIT (MCL or AL)	EPA GOAL (MCLG)	TYPICAL SOURCE
	BETTER THAN STANDARD	MEASURED VALUE	RANGE			
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>						
Fluoride (ppm)	✓	<b>0.83</b>	0.2 to 1.9	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury (ppm)	✓	<b>0.0004</b>	0.0004 to 0.0004	0.002	0.002	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories, runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
<b>DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT CONTAMINANTS</b>						
TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes]	✓	<b>21</b> (highest site value)	ND to 21	80	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acids]	✓	<b>5</b> (highest site value)	ND to 5	60	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	✓	<b>1.0</b> (annual average)	0.3 to 1.6	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS*</b>						
Beta/photon Emitters (pCi/L)	✓	<b>9.2</b>	ND to 20.6	50**	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	✓	<b>0.6</b>	0.4 to 0.8	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>COPPER AND LEAD CONTAMINANTS***</b>						
			# of sites found above the AL			
Copper (ppm) (Distribution System)	✓	<b>0.14</b>	0	13	13	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (Distribution System)	✓	<b>4</b>	0	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

\*Data collected July 2012

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

## Unregulated Contaminants

The City of Clinton participated in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3), List 1 testing in 2015. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. **The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regula-**

**tions are warranted.** The UCMR3 List 1 is comprised of twenty one (21) additional contaminants for which the City monitored during the calendar year 2015. Monitoring was conducted during winter and summer months and was performed at ten (10) sites throughout the City. Of the 21 contaminants tested, nineteen (19) were below detectable levels. Two (2) of the contaminants were in the detectable range.

Data for the 2 detected contaminants are listed in the table below:



### UCMR<sub>3</sub> List 1 Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	AVERAGE, ppb	RANGE, ppb
Strontium	89.0	59.3 to 113.7
Hexavalent Chromium	0.034	0.030 to 0.041

#### Did You Know?...

The first water pipes in the US were made from hollowed logs!

## Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics

The North Carolina Public Water Supply Section requires monitoring for other miscellaneous 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.** While the state requires the City to monitor for this group of

secondary contaminants only every three (3) years, the City monitors for them annually to ensure the quality of your water. All detected secondary contaminants that were detected in 2015 are listed in the table below:

### Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristic Contaminants (Secondary Contaminants)

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	YOUR WATER		SECONDARY MCL
	LOW	HIGH	
Iron (ppm)	ND	0.377	0.3
Manganese (ppm)	0.011	0.101	0.05
Sodium (ppm)	14.9	52.6	NA
pH	7.3	7.6	6.5 to 8.5



## Help Protect Your Source Water!

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. While the City of Clinton utilizes underground wells for our source water rather than surface water (lakes or rivers), those wells are supplied ultimately by river aquifers. The more we protect our surface waters, the more our source water wells are protected. The City of Clinton has implemented several water protection actions, and is working to implement further actions in the coming year. Currently, the City offers household hazardous waste disposal days to that citizens may responsibly dispose of unwanted hazardous materials from their homes. City personnel are participating in public outreach opportunities to educate its citizens regarding stormwater contamination and ways to protect our rivers and streams. City personnel are also conducting drainage ditch and wetland clean-ups in some of the areas of the City most heavily impacted by litter. In

the coming year, the City is endeavoring to become a Keep America Beautiful affiliate. The Keep America Beautiful campaign involves additional source water protection activities, and opportunities for citizens to become involved in source water protection.

**What can you do now to help protect your source water?** You can help protect our community's source water in several ways: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recy-

cling center; recycle used cooking oil using the City's cooking oil recycling program; don't overuse pesticides or fertilizers; return unused medications to your pharmacy—don't flush or dump them in waterways; participate in the City's household hazardous waste day; prepare a presentation about your watershed for a school or civic organization; volunteer for the City's Keep America Beautiful upcoming programs, or another clean-up opportunity in our community. For additional information on volunteering, dates of household hazardous waste days, assistance with presentations, or any additional questions you may have regarding source water protection, please contact the City's Environmental Programs Manager at (910)299-4912, M-F, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



cling center; recycle used cooking oil using the City's cooking oil recycling program; don't overuse pesticides or fertilizers; return unused medications to your pharmacy—don't flush or dump them in waterways; participate

### Did you know?...

Water is one of the world's most important resources, and we can all do our part to stop it from getting polluted. Simple changes like using natural cleaning products instead of toxic ones in your home, and planting more trees and flowers in your yard can make an important impact.

The EPA provides a list of cleaning products (as well as a variety of other products) that are considered 'green', meaning they won't pollute the water supply. For this information, please go to : [www.epa.gov/greenerproducts](http://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts)

## Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)



The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Public Water Supply (PWS) Section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) periodically conducts assessments of all drinking water sources across North Carolina. These assessments are performed in order 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. The report assigns a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate, or Lower to each

drinking water source 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.). It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of “Higher” does not imply

poor water quality, only the systems’ potential to become contaminated by PCS’s in the assessment area. The assessment ratings of the July 14, 2015 SWAP assessment for the City of Clinton water sources are summarized in the table below:

SWAP ASSESSMENT RATING SUMMARY			
Source Name	Contaminant Rating	Inherent Vulnerability Rating	Susceptibility Rating
Well 12B	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 13	Moderate	Lower	Moderate
Well 16	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 17	Moderate	Lower	Moderate
Well 18 Deep	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 18 Shallow	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 21 Deep	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 21 Shallow	Lower	Lower	Lower
Well 22 Shallow	Lower	Higher	Moderate
Well 24 Shallow	Lower	Lower	Lower

### For More Information on the SWAP Assessment Report...

For more information on the SWAP Assessment Report or to view the complete report, you may visit <http://www.ncwater.org/pws/swap>. Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this web site may differ from the results that were

available at the time this Water Quality Report was prepared. If you are unable to access your SWAP report on the web, you may mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program, Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email requests to [swap@ncdenr.gov](mailto:swap@ncdenr.gov).

Please indicate your system name (City of Clinton), PWSID (03-82-010), and provide your name, mailing address and telephone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at (919)707-9098.

*Did you know?...*  
**More than one quarter of bottled water comes from municipal water sources — the same place tap water comes from!**



## What If I Have Questions Or Would Like to Become More Involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, or if you would like a printed copy of this report, please contact the City of Clinton Public Works and Utilities Department at **(910) 299-4905** or the Environmental Programs Manager at **(910) 299-4912**.

You may also wish to visit the following websites for more information:

- The EPA's Ground Water and Drinking Water website: [http://](http://water.epa.gov/drink/)

[water.epa.gov/drink/](http://water.epa.gov/drink/).

- For more information on the EPA standards and a list of drinking water contaminants, please visit <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/index.cfm>.
- For more information on North Carolina rules governing public water systems, please visit <http://www.newater.org/pws/rulesreg.htm>

On and after June 1st, 2016, this Water Quality Report may be viewed in full on the City's website at the following link: <http://www.cityofclintonnc.com/docume>

[nt\\_center/PublicWorks/2015CCR%20proof%20copy.pdf](http://www.cityofclintonnc.com/center/PublicWorks/2015CCR%20proof%20copy.pdf)

Information regarding City Council meetings, scheduling, holiday changes, etc. may be viewed on the City's website at the following link: <http://www.cityofclintonnc.us/government-calendar.html>.

For tips on water conservation in your homes and businesses, please visit the North Carolina state sponsored site: <http://savewaternc.org/>.



### The City of Clinton Participates in World Water Monitoring Day

World Water Monitoring Day is an international education and outreach program with the goal of building public awareness about the importance of protecting water resources around the world. The program encourages people to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies using simple monitoring kits. World Water Monitoring Day is officially celebrated on September 18, but monitoring and educational events can take place any time between March 22 and December 31. During this time, people of all ages throughout the world community will have an opportunity to monitor the quality of their local watersheds and enter the results of their efforts into an international database. For more information, visit <http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org>.

### Test Your Water Sense!

Try the EPA's interactive on-line water quiz!

Move the water-efficiency hero Flo through water pipes and answer water-efficiency questions while avoiding water-wasting monsters like Sogosaurus, Drip Drip, and Drainiac. Link to the quiz here: [http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/test\\_your\\_watersense.html](http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/test_your_watersense.html)

### Did you know?...

A leaky toilet can waste up to 200 gallons or 260 liters of water per day. Fixing leaks not only helps to conserve this precious resource, but also saves you money.