

2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Town of Sims

Water System Number: 04-98-045

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(s) 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 to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. **If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Miranda Boykin at 252-237-4226. 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 at Town Hall the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm.**

What 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).

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 microbial 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 Town of Sims 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>.

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 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.

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.

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The water that is used by this system is ground water from Well #3 owned by the Town of Sims and multiple wells owned by the Town of Black Creek (04-98-035) and purchased from Wilson County Southwest Water District (40-98-012) which originates from the City of Wilson..

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) 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.

The relative susceptibility rating of each source for the Town of Sims and the Town of Black Creek 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 Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs) – Town of Sims (04-98-045)

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Well # 3	Higher	September 10, 2020

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs) – Town of Black Creek (04-98-035)

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Well #1	Lower	September 10, 2020
Well #3	Lower	September 10, 2020
Blk Creek Well #5	Lower	September 10, 2020
Well #8	Lower	September 10, 2020

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the Town of Sims (04-98-045) and the Town of Black Creek (04-98-035) may be viewed on the Web at: <https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600> 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 CCR was prepared. If you are unable to access your SWAP report on the web, 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, 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.

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.

Help Protect Your Source Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. You can help protect your community’s drinking water source(s) in several ways: (examples: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center, volunteer in your community to participate in group efforts to protect your source, etc.).

Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

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, 2020.** The EPA and the State allow us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

Not-Applicable (N/A) – 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) - 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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 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.

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 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.

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.

Tables of Detected Contaminants - Town of Sims

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants - Town of Sims

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	4-15-2019	N	1.39	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Lead and Copper Contaminants - Town of Sims

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	6-23-2020	0.3515	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	6-23-2020	0.0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Radiological Contaminants - Town of Sims

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Gross Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	12-16-16	N	5.7	N/A		0	15	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.

Disinfectant Residuals Summary - Town of Sims

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range		MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	N	0.69	0.6 - 0.7		4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance - Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) - Town of Sims

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
TTHM (ppb)						N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location B01	2020	N	4	N/A				
HAA5 (ppb)						N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location B01	2020	N	6	N/A				

For TTHM: *Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

For HAA5: *Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

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.

Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants - Town of Sims

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range		SMCL
			Low	High	
Manganese (ppm)	7-20-2020	0.074	N/A		0.05 mg/L
Sodium (ppm)	7-20-2020	24.01	N/A		N/A
Sulfate (ppm)	7-20-2020	37.70	N/A		250 mg/L
pH	7-20-2020	6.5	N/A		6.5 to 8.5

Results from Wilson County Southwest Water District, Town of Black Creek, and the City of Wilson

Tables of Detected Contaminants – Wilson County Southwest Water District (40-98-012)

Tables of Detected Contaminants

Microbiological Contaminants in the Distribution System For systems that collect less than 40 samples per month

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	NO	Absent	0	One positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (presence or absence)	NO	Absent	0	0 (Note: The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive)	Human and animal fecal waste

Lead and Copper

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLL	Action Level (AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	09/2020	0.221	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	09/2020	ND	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Asbestos Contamination

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Asbestos (MRL)	12/3/2019	NO	ND	ND	7	7	Leakage of Asbestos Cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL (ppm)	Likely Source of Contamination
THM (ppm) Location – B01	2020	NO	0.022	N/A	N/A	0.080	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAAS (ppm) Location – B01	2020	NO	0.004	N/A	N/A	0.060	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

For THM: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

For HAAS: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Tables of Detected Contaminants – Town of Black Creek (40-98-035)

Tables of Detected Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Cyanide (ppb)	02/11/19	N	ND	N/A		300	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	02/11/19	N	2.30	N/A		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 th percentile)	8/15/19	.323	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	8/15/19	ND	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance – Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)					N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location B01	2020	N	0.001	N/A	N/A		
HAAs (ppb)					N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Location B02	2020	N	0.001	N/A	N/A		

Tables of Detected Contaminants – City of Wilson (48-80-010)

2020 Annual Consumer Confidence Report Information for Wilson County

City of Wilson
P.O. Box 10
Wilson, NC 27894
PWS ID # NC0408010

City of Wilson's Water Treatment Facilities

Turbidity ¹					
Contaminant (Units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation If:	MCLG	Your Water	Likely Source of Contamination	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest Single Turbidity Measurement	Turbidity >1 NTU	N/A	0.28 NTU	Soil runoff	NO
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest Monthly Percentage (%) of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limits	Less than 95% of Monthly Turbidity Measurements are ≤ 0.3 NTU	N/A	100%		

¹Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Your Water	Range Detected	Likely Source of Contamination	MCL Violation Y/N
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	4	4	0.89	0.80 - 0.83	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives which promotes strong leach; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	NO

Disinfection By-Product /Precursors Contaminants

Contaminant	TT	MCLG	Compliance Method (Step 1 or ACCM)	Your Water (RAA Removal Ratio)	Range (Monthly Removal Ratio)	Likely Source of Contamination	MCL Violation Y/N
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (Removal Ratio) - Treated Water	TT	N/A	Step 1	1.91	1.57 - 2.44	Naturally present in the environment	NO

City of Wilson's Distribution System

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance-Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Your Water (Highest LRRA)	Range Detected	Likely Source of Contamination	MCL Violation Y/N
TTHM (ppb)	2020	80	N/A	63.3 (Site B08)	16 - 93	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
HAA5 (ppb)	2020	60	N/A	36.8 (Site B08)	20 - 52	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

Contaminant (Units)	Year Sampled	MRDL	MRDLG	Your Water (Highest RAA)	Range Detected	Likely Source of Contamination	MRDL Violation Y/N
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	4.0	4	0.82	0.20 - 1.63	Water additive used to control microbes	NO

Regulated at the Tap - Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	Year sampled	AL	MCLG	Your Water	Number of Sites Found Above AL	Likely Source of Contamination	MCL Violation Y/N
Lead (ppb) (90 th Percentile)	2019	AL = 15	0	None Detected (90th percentile)	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	NO
Copper (ppm) (90 th Percentile)	2019	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.216 (90th percentile)	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	NO