



Town of Elon

2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Public Water System ID # 02-01-025

Report Date: April 27, 2021

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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 is proud to announce that there were no drinking water quality violations during the calendar year 2020.**

The Town of Elon purchases all of our water from the City of Burlington. The City of Burlington utilizes two (2) surface water supply sources. Lake Mackintosh is located in Southwest Alamance County and Southeast Guilford County. It supplies the J.D. Mackintosh, Jr. Water Treatment Plant (JDMWTP) located in Southwest Alamance County. Stoney Creek Reservoir is located near the Hopedale community. It supplies the Ed Thomas Water Treatment Plant (ETWTP) located in downtown Burlington.

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 Elon 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.

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), 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 is 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 the City of Burlington's water supplies 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 watershed and its delineated assessment area). The assessment findings are summarized in the following table:

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (Per NC DEQ – Source Water Assessment Program)

| Source Name | Susceptibility Rating | SWAP Report Date |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| Stoney Creek Reservoir (City of Burlington) | Moderate | September 2020 |
| Lake Mackintosh (City of Burlington) | Higher | September 2020 |

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating is only a measure of the systems' *potential* to become contaminated by pollutant contaminants sources (PCS) in the assessment area, and not an actual measure of water quality. 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 complete SWAP Assessment report for the City of Burlington's water supplies may be viewed on the Web at: https://www.ncwater.org/SWAP_Reports/NC0201010_SWAP_Report-20200909.pdf. 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:

Donnie Wood, Public Works Director
Town of Elon
104 S. Williamson Avenue, Elon, NC

Telephone #: 336-584-9600
Email: dwood@elon.gov

This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2020. The Town of Elon's test results have also been inserted for your reference. As guidance, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) recommends that we only report those parameters that have a recognized limit for drinking water and have been detected in the water tested. All of the Town's water quality sampling during the calendar year 2020 was within water quality standards (MCL).

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Elon is the authority that determines infrastructure funding and the board members, under advisement of the Town's management staff, make other decisions that affect the water supply and the quality of your drinking water. The Town of Elon Board of Aldermen meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM in the Town of Elon Municipal Building, 104 S. Williamson Avenue, Elon, NC.

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.).

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the following page 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.

In the following 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:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

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

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 treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. For example: a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day for seventy years at the MCL level in order to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the potential health effect associated with a particular contaminant. Many of the regulated contaminants MCL's are set at this level.

| Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------------------------|------|-------------|--|
| Contaminant (units) | MCL/MRDL | Your Water | Range | MCLG | MCL for RAA | Likely Source of Contamination |
| | Violation | | Low | | | |
| | Y/N | | High | | | |
| TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes] | N | 52 | 43-59 | N/A | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acids] | N | 37 | 10-60 | N/A | 60 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Lead and Copper Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Contaminant (units) | Sample Date | Your Water | # of sites found above the AL | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Copper (ppb) (90th percentile) Tested Every 3 Years | Sep-18 | ND | 0 | 1300 | AL=1300 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead (ppb) (90th Percentile) Tested Every 3 Years | Sep-18 | ND | 0 | 0 | AL=15 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits |

| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|---|------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Contaminant (units) | Sample Date | MCL Violation | Your Water | Range | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
| | | Y/N | (AVG) | Low High | | | |
| Fluoride (mg/l) | 6/10/2020 | N | 0.8 | .6-1.0 | 4 | 4 | Water Additive to promote strong teeth |
| Free Chlorine (mg/l) | Free Chlorine was not used during Calendar Year 2020 | | | | <4.0 | N/A | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| Monochloramines (mg/l) | 2020 | N | 2.00 | 1.7-2.5 | <4.0 | N/A | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Contaminant (units) | MCL Violation | Your Water | MCLG | MCL | | Likely Source of Contamination | |
| | Y/N | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria (Presence or Absence) | N | ND | 0 | one positive monthly sample | | Naturally present in the environment | |
| Fecal Coliform or E. coli (Presence or Absence) | N | ND | 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 E. coli positive) | | Human and animal fecal waste | |
| Average Turbidity (NTU) | N | 0.05 | 0.3 | Water must be less than 0.3 NTU 95% of time and cannot exceed 1.0 NTU. | | Soil Runoff | |
| Maximum Turbidity (NTU) | N | 0.17 | 0.3 | Water must be less than 0.3 NTU 95% of time and cannot exceed 1.0 NTU. | | Naturally present in the environment | |
| Other Physical and Chemical Information | | | | | | | |
| Parameter | Sample Date | Your Water | Parameter | Sample Date | Your Water | | |
| PH | 2020 | 7.5 | Sodium (mg/l) | 6/20/2020 | 19.7 | | |
| Alkalinity (mg/L) | 2020 | 31 | Sulfate (mg/L) | 6/10/2020 | 28 | | |
| Orthophosphorus (ppb) | 2020 | 925 | Hardness (mg/L) | 2020 | 32.5 | | |
| Carbon Dioxide | 2020 | 4.25 | | | | | |
| Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Sampling (UCMR4) | | | | | | | |
| Parameter | AVG | Range | Date of Analysis | Information | | | |
| Quinoline (ppb) | 23.7 | ND-27.0 | Mar-18 | City of Burlington Water Plant Results, Only present at Ed Thomas WTP | | | |
| Source Water TOC (ppb) | 6,977 | 5,530-8,720 | Mar-18 | City of Burlington Water Plant Results | | | |
| Manganese (ppb) | 104 | N/A | Nov-19 | Town of Elon Water Distribution System | | | |
| Source Water Bromide (ppb) | 21 | ND-21.8 | Mar-18 | City of Burlington Water Plant Results, Only present at Mackintosh WTP | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids-9 (ppb) | 30 | 28-32 | Nov-19 | Town of Elon Water Distribution System | | | |
| Anatoxin-a (ppt) | 38.85 | ND-74.1 | Mar-18 | City of Burlington Water Plant Results, Only present in 5 of 16 samples | | | |

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water or sewer utility, please contact:

Donnie Wood, Public Works Director
 Town of Elon Telephone #: 336-584-9600
 Email: dwood@elon.gov