

*West Carteret Water Corporation's  
2020 Water Quality Report*



*This report is available by request or on-line at [www.wcwc.biz](http://www.wcwc.biz)  
for Public Water System ID No. 04-16-040*

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Brenda Newman, Vice-President (Gales Creek)

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H. Bryan Wilson, System Manager

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## 2020 WATER QUALITY REPORT

### WHY IS YOUR WATER COMPANY PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION?

Several years ago, the EPA decided that water companies should be required to provide their customers with a report about their operations and testing results during the preceding year. At WCWC we have always made this information available and look forward to keeping you informed by providing this Water Quality Report each year. The report includes information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set

by regulatory agencies. Sections of it may look the same from year to year because there are topics that must be included. 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.

In addition to water quality and treatment information, we attempt to provide you with billing information,

such as rate and procedure changes, and conservation tips.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the report, please contact our office. You may also elect to read it by visiting our website at [www.wcwc.biz](http://www.wcwc.biz). The report will be posted no later than July 1, 2021. **Also, if you have any questions or concerns about your water, or suggestions, please contact the General Manager/Executive Director, Lisa Smith-Perri, or any Customer Service Representative at 252-393-1515.**



**FACEBOOK & WWW.WCWC.BIZ**



#### FACEBOOK AND WEB PAGE

Are you on Facebook? We are! "LIKE Us" so you can receive updated information regarding closings, meetings, and other key dates. Also, please check out [www.wcwc.biz](http://www.wcwc.biz) for important messages, water rates, scheduled outages, emergency repair information, office closings, and forms.

#### ONLINE BILL PAY

Interested in handling your water billings online? West Carteret Water Corporation uses InvoiceCloud for all of our online billing needs. You can make a one-time payment with your credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover) or checking account or you can register your account to access a myriad of payment options. By registering your account, you can set-up an automatic draft, schedule payments (one-time or recurring), sign-up for pay by text, switch to paperless billing, and access PDF copies of your bills! Questions? Call our office, our staff is happy to help!

#### SIGN UP FOR ALERTS

You can subscribe to receive news and alerts via email or text by visiting our website. Alerts will notify you of any office closings, meetings, key dates, messages that are important about water outages and emergency repair information.

#### PAYMENT OPTIONS

- In office, drive-thru or drop box
- Monthly credit card or bank draft
- Telephone using credit card – VISA, MasterCard, or Discover
- Mail-in with remittance slip

#### PAYMENT EXTENSIONS

Avoid late and interruption fees by remitting payments no later than the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. Payment extensions are available upon request 3 times per year. Contact the office for information.

#### SUMMER REMINDERS

WCWC will be using chlorine for disinfection purposes as usual July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane season is fast approaching. In the event of an emergency, if you stay at home, conserve water. Turn off all water to:

- DOCKS
- POOLS
- IRRIGATION LINES
- OUT BUILDINGS

WCWC does not make adjustments for these types of leaks.

## HIGH WATER USAGE

Are you aware that the residential water rate drastically increases once you use 40,000 gallons and it increases again when your meter registers over 100,000 gallons of monthly usage?

Treated water is expensive when not used wisely! If you must use potable water for washing your car, watering plants and other outdoor uses, track how much is registered on your meter to avoid any surprises when your bill arrives.

As a reminder, although we have a leak adjustment policy, it does not allow for adjustments where the leak was avoidable, not repaired in a timely manner, or for outdoor appurtenances, such as damaged water hoses, leaking exterior fittings, and so forth.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SWAP) RESULTS

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 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 West Carteret Water Corporation 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 for the March 2017 report are summarized in the table below:

### SUSCEPTIBILITY OF SOURCES TO POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT SOURCES (PCSs)

SOURCE NAME	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING	SWAP REPORT DATE
Well # 1	Lower	September 2020
Well #2	Lower	September 2020
Well #3	Lower	September 2020
Well #4	Lower	September 2020
Well #5	Lower	September 2020
Well #6	Lower	September 2020

\* Well 7 and Well 8 were certified November 2020.

*(Please note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on the web site may differ from the results that were available at the time this CCR was prepared)*

The complete SWAP Assessment report for WCWC may be viewed on the Web at: [www.ncwater.org/?pws=600](http://www.ncwater.org/?pws=600) 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. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or e-mail request to [swap@ncdenr.gov](mailto:swap@ncdenr.gov). Please indicate our system name, PWSID (04-16-040), 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 919-715-2633. It is important to understand that if a susceptibility rating of “higher” was given, that does not imply poor water quality, only the system’s potential to become contaminated by PCSs in the assessment area.

## 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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791) as well.

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 or 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 products, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- \* Radioactive contaminants 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, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

## FACTS ABOUT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

Currently, the water supply comes from five (5) 10-inch wells, one (1) 12-inch well and two (2) 6-inch wells located in the Croatan National Forest. The average depth of the wells is 280 feet. The water is pumped from the Castle Hayne Aquifer. The wells are equipped with either 40-hp or 50-hp pumps, which are capable of producing approximately 600 gallons per minute (gpm), with the exception of Wells 2, 3 and 8. Wells 2 and 3 pumps approximately 375 gpm. Well 8 is closest to the plant and is the largest producer at 1,200 gpm. The raw water is pumped to the treatment plant located at 4104 Highway 24 in the community of Ocean. The first treatment process is aeration before being stored in two (2) 50,000-gallon ground storage tanks located adjacent to the plant.

In September 2008, the treatment process added **iron removal**, which is used as needed, before being **softened** by utilizing Cation Resin. This process reduces the hardness level to approximately 40 - 50 ppm (2.3 – 2.9 grains per gallon). After softening, the water continues through a train of **color (tannin) removal** vessels, which use Anion Resin. The water is then injected with **ortho-polyphosphate** as needed for corrosion control within the distribution system.

Following this process, **chlorination** is next in the treatment train. The water is routed to a detention tank before being injected with **ammonia**. These last two components, chlorine and ammonia, are for disinfection purposes. This process is **chloramination**, which is used monthly except July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>. During that time, we use chlorine only for maintenance. The water is then stored in three (3) elevated tanks or routed to the distribution system.

West Carteret Water Corporation's customer base consists of residential, commercial, and institutional members. **Distribution lines** are located from Gethsemane Memorial Park near Morehead City along the Highway 24 corridor to the White Oak River in Cedar Point. Currently, our northernmost distribution lines end at the Stella Bridge. Perpendicular to NC Highway 24, we have water lines installed to the Newport ETJ on both Robert's Road and Nine Foot Road, along with a short distance on Lake Road.



## WATER RATES

West Carteret Water Corporation has an ascending rate to promote conservation. Water rates are posted on our website or we can mail you a rate schedule. WCWC increased water rates 1% in March 2021 for residential customers using more than 8,000 gallons, 2% increase for 1-inch meters and 3% for all other commercial customers. As notified in previous mailings, your board decided a few years ago to annually raise rates in hopes of avoiding larger one-time increases; however, it will be evaluated each year based on budgetary needs.

## 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: 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.

## CHECK FOR LEAKS OR HIGH USAGE

1. Locate your water meter and remove the lid.  
*(Call the Office if you have difficulty doing so.)*
2. There are digital meters installed throughout the system. If water is going through the meter at the time, the digital meters will indicate the rate of flow to let you know water is going through the meter.  
  
In one mobile home community analog meters (dial-faced meters) are installed. You can check the leak detection triangle.
3. Write down a reading for either type of meter.  
Repeat after a few hours of no water use.
4. If there is a difference, subtract the readings to determine the amount of usage in that given period of time.
5. Check all toilets, faucets, pipes and connections. You can isolate the leak location by turning the water off near the home and then repeating steps 1 & 2. If the meter stops moving, then the leak is in the home. If not, it is between the meter and the cut-off valve to the home.
6. Once leaks are located, have them repaired quickly.

### ***Your water company strives to keep your water safe...***

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the next page lists all the drinking water contaminants that we tested and any detected in the last round of sampling for the particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table in this report located on pages 9 - 11 is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2020. The EPA or the State requires 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.

**Did you know that your water company has full-time lab technicians on staff? They are either in the field sampling or working in the lab daily! Our Lab Manager, Lisa G, coordinates with both the lab and our flushing staff to bring you the best quality water possible. However, if you ever have concerns or questions about your water, do not hesitate to contact us. We will be happy to make an appointment to meet with you!**



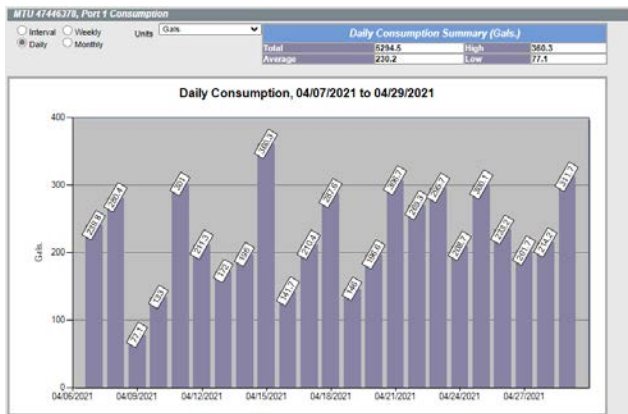
## THE NEPTUNE/ACLARA STAR METER READING SYSTEM FOR WEST CARTERET WATER CORPORATION

Below is an example of the water meters that have been installed throughout the system. This Neptune E-Coder water meter is state of the art with a solid-state absolute encoder register. That means it has no moving parts to wear out. The register shows 7 digits plus 2 more past the decimal for accurate reading down to the 10ths of a gallon. Depending on the model, there is also a leak indicator, a tamper indicator and a reverse-flow detector/indicator. It even shows rate of flow, when water is being used. This is especially helpful when diagnosing a potential leak.



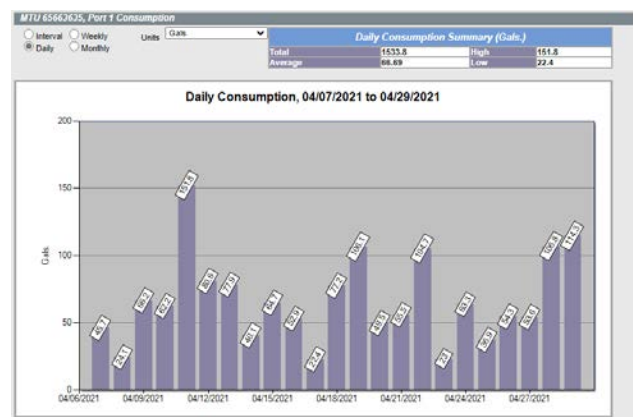
	<p><b>FLOW INDICATOR</b> Shows the direction of flow through the meter:</p> <p><b>ON</b> Water in use. <b>OFF</b> Water not in use. <b>Flashing</b> Water is running slowly. <b>(-)</b> Reverse flow. <b>(+)</b> Forward flow.</p>
	<p><b>LEAK INDICATOR</b> Displays a possible leak:</p> <p><b>OFF</b> No leak indicated. <b>Flashing</b> Intermittent leak indicates that water has been used for at least 50 of the 96 15-minute intervals during a 24-hour period. <b>On Continuously</b> Indicates water use for all 96 15-minute intervals during a 24-hour period.</p>
<p><b>RATE</b></p>	<p><b>RATE OF FLOW</b> Average flow rate is displayed every six seconds on LCD display.</p>

We use two models of the Aclara STAR system to transmit usage and other data, via Data Collector Units throughout the water system, back to our office. This is done either nightly or hourly depending on the model. The benefit is “real-time” information on your usage and the water system. The meters can be programmed to read more frequently when needed in determining specific leak information. Graphs and precise daily usage are just a few of the reports that make this system a great customer service tool, while helping the company to track water usage. If you need access to specific information, please call the office.



The graph on the left illustrates daily usage for a family with three adults and two children.

The graph on the right illustrates the usage for one person in the home.



## TESTING NOTES...UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

In the tables on the next page, we have included detected and undetected contaminants in order to make you, the customer, aware of the extent of the testing that is performed. As a note, unregulated contaminants are included in this report as well. The company did not have any detects in this category. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of such contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. If you would like more information on unregulated chemicals, you may call the EPA Hot Line.

### ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS

In the test result table located in this report, you will find many terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following 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 set for the particular methodology.

**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 (mg/l)** - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L)** - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (pictogram/L)** – One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

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

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - Highest allowable contaminant of any substance as set by the USEPA and State Department of Health Services; MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**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.

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

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

**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 (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.

**Field Trip Blank (FTB):** A sample of analyte-free media taken from the laboratory to the sampling site and returned to the laboratory unopened. A trip blank is used to document contamination attributable to shipping and field handling procedures.

**Secondary Contaminants, required by the NC Public Water Supply Section, are substances that affect the taste, odor, and/or color of drinking water. These aesthetic contaminants normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.**

Water Characteristics Contaminants - February 2018				
(Every 3 Years)				
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	Secondary MCL
Iron (ppm)	02/13/18	ND	N/A	0.3
Manganese (ppm)	02/13/18	ND	N/A	0.05
Nickel (ppm)	02/13/18	ND	N/A	N/A
Sodium (ppm)	02/13/18	105.750	N/A	N/A
pH	02/13/18	7.6	N/A	6.5 to 8.5



## Testing Results

This company tests for many contaminants, both regulated and unregulated. The results of both are listed below. A "ND" refers to non-detects. The Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) are set at very stringent levels.

### Microbiological Contaminants-15 per month required TESTING Fecal Coliform (E. coli) - Non-detect 2020

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	0	0	1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	N	0	0	1 positive sample / month Note: If either an original routine sample and/or its repeat samples(s) are fecal coliform or E. coli positive, a Tier 1 violation exists.	Human and animal fecal waste

### Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants-February 2020 (Yearly) TESTING (ND): Nitrate

### Inorganics Contaminants – February 2018 (Every 3 years; Next retest 2021)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	02/13/18	N	0.13	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

**Additional Testing (ND):** Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Antimony, Beryllium, Thallium, Iron, Sulfate.

### Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOC) Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides –

April, May and July 2020 (ND) (Next retest 2021)

**Additional Testing (ND):** Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH), Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Dinoseb, Endrin, Ethylene Dibromide (EDB), Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Methoxychlor, Oxamyl [Vydate], PCBs [as deccachlorobiphenyl], Picloram, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), Simazine, Toxaphene, 2,4-D (ppb), Pentachlorophenol (ppb), Gamma (BHC), DBCP.

### Volatile Organic Chemical Contaminants (VOC) – October 2018 (Next retest 2021)

**Additional Testing (ND):** 1,2,4 –Trichlorobenzene, c-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Xylenes, Dichloromethane, o-Dichlorobenzene, p-Dichlorobenzene, Vinyl Chloride, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, t-1,2-Dichloroethylene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, Carbon Tetrachloride, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Chlorobenzene, Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene

### Radiological Contaminants – 2016 (Next retest 2021)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	1/13/16	N	ND	ND	ND	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/l)	01/13/16	N	ND	ND	ND	0	50 *	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	1/13/16	N	ND	ND	ND	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	1/13/16	N	ND	ND	ND	0	20.1	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 2020

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Highest RAA Your Water	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm) [Total]	2020	N	3.16 (10 months/yr)	1.1 - 4.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (ppm) [Free]	2020	N	2.93 (2 months/yr)	1.0 - 4.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

## Disinfection By-Product Contaminants – Stage 2 (2020; Next retest 2021)

Based on locational running annual average.

	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low-High **	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)							
B01-STELLA BRIDGEVIEW	2020	N	49	29 – 69	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B02-HIBBS ROAD	2020	N	30	27 – 35	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B03-DUDLEY'S MARINA	2020	N	28	24 – 33	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B04-HADNOT CREEK	2020	N	33	27 – 38	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)							
B01-STELLA BRIDGEVIEW	2020	N	43	29 – 57	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B02-HIBBS ROAD	2020	N	31	24 – 38	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B03-DUDLEY'S MARINA	2020	N	28	21 – 34	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B04-HADNOT CREEK	2020	N	29	23 – 36	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

\*\*Reported LRAA for four quarters of 2020.

## Just a little water chatter about hardness and fluoride...

**Hardness...** Total hardness is defined as the sum of the calcium and magnesium concentrations (or salts). Both of these are expressed as calcium carbonate in units of milligrams per liter. Calcium is the major component of hardness in water. It is present in many minerals, principally limestone and gypsum. There is no U.S. EPA drinking water MCL for hardness. Silica (SiO<sub>2</sub>) is found in crystalline (quartz, rock crystal amethyst and microcrystalline) formations. In the presence of Magnesium, it can form a scale. There is no U.S. EPA drinking water MCL for Silica. Evidence of both Calcium and Silica may be observed as water dries on or near fixtures.

The average (untreated) concentration of calcium carbonate from the wells at West Carteret Water Corporation is approximately 250 ppm. The water is softened to 40 – 50 ppm on average before entering the distribution system. This is considered to be a moderately hard range of water. Softened water can be corrosive to certain types of plumbing. Therefore, the moderately hard range has been chosen to minimize problems from occurring in the distribution system and customer's plumbing. A further reduction of calcium carbonate can be managed by the customer installing one of many varieties of water softeners that are available on the market today.

**Fluoride...** In October 2020, Fluoride was tested at each well. Seven wells tested at a range from 0.11 – 0.16 ppm of naturally occurring fluoride. (Tested every year)

## Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)

EPA has implemented the **Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)** to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. EPA uses the results of UCMR monitoring to learn more about the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to decide whether or not these contaminants will be regulated in the future. SWDA requires that once every 5 years the EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by PWS.

### Unregulated Contaminants \*\*\* (UCMR 4)

We performed monitoring and reported the analytical results of the monitoring to EPA in accordance with its Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) (<http://www.epa.gov/dwusmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod>) Consumers can review UCMR results by accessing the NCOD. Contaminants that were detected during our UCMR4 sampling and the corresponding analytical results are provided below.

\*\*\* More information about the contaminants that were included in UCMR4 monitoring can be found at: <http://www.drinktap.org/water-info/whats-in-my-water/unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule.aspx>. Learn more about the EPA UCMR at: <http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/learn-about-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule> or contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contact.cfm>

Contaminant Name May & November 2019 118 Stella Bridgeview - WCWC	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Unit of Measure
Bromochloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	1.13 – 1.52	ug/L
Bromodichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	0.693 – 0.870	ug/L
Dichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	8.98 – 12.2	ug/L
Trichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	7.02 – 9.04	ug/L

800 Hibbs Road	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Unit of Measure
Bromochloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	1.24 – 1.25	ug/L
Bromodichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	0.684	ug/L
Dichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	12.3 – 12.4	ug/L
Trichloroacetic Acid	2019	ND	8.93 – 9.70	ug/L

Raw Water – WCWC Treatment Plant	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Unit of Measure
Bromide	2019	ND	29.2 – 35.3	ug/L
Total Organic Carbon	2019	ND	6240 - 7270	ug/L

On July 11, 2019, Wells 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8 were tested for Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOAs). No contaminants were detected.

### UCMR4

**Additional Testing (ND):** N-ethyl Perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid, N-methyl Perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid, Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS), Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA), Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA), Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS), Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), Perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA), Perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTeDA), Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA), Perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA), HFPO-DA/GenX, ADONA, 9CI-PF3ONS/F-53B Major, 11CI-PF3OUdS/F-53B Minor.

### UCMR5 – Proposed Testing 2023 - 2024

**Chloride Testing - October 2020:** Wells 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8; Range was 9 - 12 ppm of Chlorides.

**Lead and Copper Contaminants - 2020 (30 samples per year every 3 years; Next retest 2023)**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	June 2020	0.311	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	June 2020	ND	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

## LEAD AND COPPER

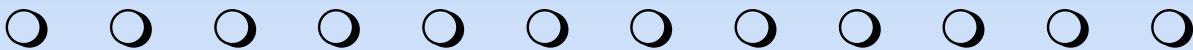
If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. West Carteret Water Corporation is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has 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>.

### INTERESTED IN BEING A LEAD AND COPPER TEST SITE?

The Environmental Protection Agency working along with NC DENR Public Water Supply mandates requirements for lead and copper testing in homes with lead and copper plumbing that are served by public water utilities. The water produced and delivered through West Carteret Water Corporation does not contain lead and copper contaminants. However, the purpose of the sampling is to identify homes and other structures that have a potential for developing high copper or lead content. The EPA and PWS developed a tiering system that prioritizes sampling sites based on the tier structure below with priority given to Tier I.

To assist with preventing lead and copper contamination, WCWC injects a corrosion inhibitor (ortho-polyphosphate) into the water supply prior to leaving the plant. This is a recommended method for optimal corrosion control within homes and businesses. This method was approved by the North Carolina DENR and we began injecting it several years ago. However, we continue to test as required.

Currently, we have approximately 60 home sites. NCDENR requires us to have 15 additional sites as alternates which may or may not be selected for use. **If you are interested in being considered as a test location, please contact our office at (252) 393-1515 for the appropriate form.** If selected, you will be provided with a bottle to capture a water sample. The water must remain undisturbed in your plumbing a minimum of six hours prior to the sample being taken. You will be contacted about the sampling schedule, which generally takes place between June and September every 3<sup>rd</sup> year. There is no charge for this testing. We appreciate your efforts in helping us to comply with the regulations.



**Tier 1** sampling sites consist of single-family structures that (1) contain copper pipe with lead solder that was installed between 1983 and 1985; and/or contain lead pipe or are served by a lead service line (any age structure).

**Tier 2** sampling sites consist of buildings, including multi-family residences that (1) contain copper pipe with lead solder that was installed between 1983 and 1985; and/or contain lead pipe or are served by a lead service line (any age structure).

**Tier 3** sampling sites consist of single-family structures that contain copper pipes with lead solder installed before 1983.

## Do you need a RPZ for Cross Connection Prevention?

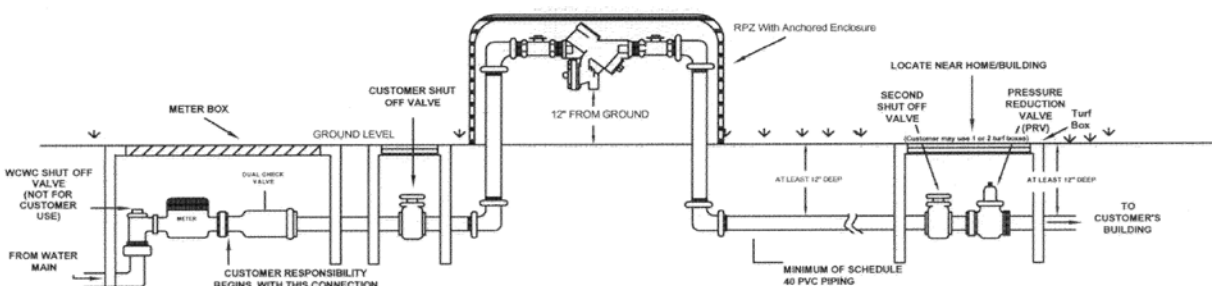
Public Water Supply requires that all public water systems have an active cross connection control plan (CCCP) and a certified operator employed to ensure the protection of your water system from contamination. A cross-connection is illegal and can be found where an approved water source is connected with an unapproved water source or potentially harmful connection. Backflow preventers keep water from re-entering the public water system's lines once it has passed through the meter. West Carteret Water Corporation has always provided some form of backflow prevention devices. In the development of a cross connection control policy, where possible, we have used the guidance of Public Water Supply, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Plumbing Code.

Since the purpose of this policy is to protect the water system and customers from potentially harmful sources in the event of backsiphonage or backflow, West Carteret Water Corporation began requiring a reduced pressure zone backflow preventer (RPZ) when we developed our CCCP policy in 2006. The RPZ must be used at all commercial accounts, as well as, residential accounts that provide water to irrigation systems, swimming pools, and docks along with other potential hazards. The account holder is required to install an AWWA (American Water Works Association) and USC (University of Southern California) approved RPZ backflow preventer using the following guidelines:

1. Installation
  - a. When contracted by the account holder, the installation must be completed by a licensed plumber.
  - b. The RPZ must be installed within 5 feet of the water meter using an ASSE 1013 approved RPZ model.
    - i. Residential - (see next page for recommendations)
    - ii. Commercial – To be specified and/or provided by WCWC. The latter subject to applicable fees.
  - c. No other connections will be allowed between the meter and RPZ.
  - d. The RPZ should be covered and properly anchored to the ground or a concrete pad. Always allow for proper box drainage according to RPZ manufacture specifications.
  - e. The cover must be ASSE 1060 approved and have adequate access for maintenance and testing.
  - f. Additional insulation is advised to prevent damage from cold weather. However, insulation efforts should not hinder the ability to test the device.
2. Testing & Certification
  - a. Public Water Supply and WCWC requires that these devices be tested immediately after installation and then on a yearly basis thereafter.
  - b. This procedure must be handled by a certified backflow cross connection tester who must also be approved by our Operator in Responsible Charge. (Since their certifications must be renewed, contact our office for a current listing of approved testers and installers.)
  - c. Once tested, a copy of the testing report must be provided to WCWC. This requirement will be considered delinquent if testing results are not provided within 30 days following the anniversary testing date. For past due inspections, WCWC will contact a certified tester and the charges along with administrative fees will be billed to the customer's account.
3. Retest Certifications for Failed Devices
  - a. When a RPZ does not pass inspection, it must be repaired by a certified tester or plumber immediately.
  - b. Afterwards, it must be tested following the guidelines provided.

The initial deadline for this installation was July 1, 2007 and has been extended each year due to the expense and high demand. RPZs can be fairly expensive to install if contracted. Because of this, your Board of Directors has extended in the past, but request that everyone comply as quickly as possible to prevent a possible interruption of service at some point in the future.

Contact the office for more information at (252) 393-1515.



# HELPFUL HINTS TO CONSERVE WATER

## In the Kitchen

- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Some refrigerators, air conditioners, and ice makers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.
- Never run the dishwasher without a full load. This practice will save water, energy, detergent, and money.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
- For cold drinks, keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.
- Use a small pan of cold water when cleaning vegetables, rather than letting the water run over them. Then, collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, and reuse it to water house plants.
- Use only a little water in the pot and put a lid on it for cooking most food. Not only does this method save water, but food is more nutritious since vitamins and minerals are not poured down the drain with the extra cooking water.
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.
- Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
- If your dishwasher is new, cut back on rinsing. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older ones.
- If you accidentally drop ice cubes when filling your glass from the freezer or when you have ice left in your cup from a take-out restaurant, don't throw it in the trash, dump it on a plant, instead.
- Always keep water conservation in mind, and think of other ways to save in the kitchen. Making too much coffee or letting ice cubes melt in the sink can add up over time. By making these small changes in the kitchen, you can count on bigger savings on your yearly water bill.

## In the Bathroom

- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.
- Take a shower instead of taking a bath. Showers with low-flow shower heads use less water than taking a bath.
- Turn off the water while you wash your hair to save up to 150 gallons a month.
- Reduce the level of the water being used in a bathtub by one or two inches if a shower is not available.
- When remodeling a bathroom, install a new low-volume flush toilet that uses only 1.6 gallons per flush.
- Test toilets for leaks. Add a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet to the water in the tank, but do not flush the toilet. Watch to see if the coloring appears in the bowl within a few minutes. If it does, the toilet has a silent leak that needs to be repaired.
- Use a toilet tank displacement device such as a toilet dam or bag. Another alternative is filling a plastic bottle with stones or water, recapped, and placed in the toilet tank. These devices will reduce the volume of water in the tank but will still provide enough for flushing. Displacement devices are not recommended with new low-volume flush toilets.
- Never use the toilet to dispose of cleansing tissues, cigarette butts, or other trash. This wastes a great deal of water and also places an unnecessary load on the sewage treatment plant or septic tank.
- Do not let the water run when washing hands. Water should be turned off while washing and scrubbing and be turned on again to rinse. A cutoff valve may be installed on the faucet.
- When shaving, fill the lavatory basin with hot water instead of letting the water run continuously.
- Place water-saving aerators on all of your faucets..

## In the Laundry

- Use your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. This will save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Washing dark clothes in cold water saves both water and energy while it helps your clothes to keep their colors.
- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.

## Plumbing and Appliances

- Check water requirements of various models and brands when considering purchasing any new appliances. Some use less water than others.
- Check all waterline connections and faucets for leaks. A slow drip can waste as much as 170 gallons of water EACH DAY, or 5,000 gallons per month, and will add to the water bill.
- Learn to repair faucets so that drips can be corrected promptly. It is easy to do, costs very little, and can mean a substantial savings in plumbing and water bills.
- Check for hidden water leakage such as a leak between the water meter and the house. To check, turn off all indoor and outdoor faucets and water-using appliances. The water meter should be read at 10 to 20 minute intervals. If it continues to run or turn, a leak probably exists and needs to be located.
- Insulate all hot water pipes to reduce the delays (and wasted water) experienced while waiting for the water to "run hot."
- Be sure the water heater thermostat is not set too high. Extremely hot settings waste water and energy because the water often has to be cooled with cold water before it can be used.
- Use a moisture meter to determine when house plants need water. More plants die from over-watering than from being on the dry side.
- Winterize outdoor spigots and faucets when cold temperatures arrive to prevent pipes from freezing and bursting.

## For Outdoor Use

- Water only when needed. Look at the grass, feel the soil, or use a soil moisture meter to determine when to water.
- Do not over-water. Soil can hold only so much moisture, and the rest simply runs off. A timer will help, and either a kitchen timer or an alarm clock will do. Apply only enough water to fill the plant's root zone. Excess water beyond that is wasted. One and a half inches of water applied once a week in the summer will keep most grasses alive and healthy.
- Water lawns early in the morning during the hotter summer months. Otherwise, much of the water used on the lawn can simply evaporate between the sprinkler and the grass.
- To avoid excessive evaporation, use a sprinkler that produces large drops of water, rather than a fine mist. Sprinklers that send droplets out on a low angle also help control evaporation. Adjust sprinkler heads as necessary, to avoid waste, runoff and ensure proper coverage.
- Set automatic sprinkler systems to provide thorough, but infrequent watering. Pressure-regulating devices should be set to design specifications. Rain shut-off devices can prevent watering in the rain.
- Use drip irrigation systems for bedded plants, trees, or shrubs, or turn soaker hoses upside-down so the holes are on the bottom. This will help avoid evaporation.
- Water slowly for better absorption, and never water on a windy day.
- Forget about watering the streets or walks or driveways. They will never grow a thing.
- Condition the soil with mulch or compost before planting grass or flowerbeds so that water will soak in rather than run off.
- Fertilize lawns at least twice a year for root stimulation, but do not over-fertilize. Grass with a good root system makes better use of less water and is more drought-tolerant.
- Do not scalp lawns when mowing during hot weather. Taller grass holds moisture better. Grass should be cut fairly often, so that only 1/2 to 3/4 inch is trimmed off. A better-looking lawn will result.
- Use a watering can or hand water with the hose in small areas of the lawn that need more frequent watering (those near walks or driveways or in especially hot, sunny spots.)
- Use water-wise plants. Learn what types of grass, shrubbery, and plants do best in the area and in which parts of the lawn, and then plant accordingly. Choose plants that have low water requirements, are drought-tolerant, and are adapted to the area of the state where they are to be planted.
- Consider decorating some areas of the lawn with wood chips, rocks, gravel, or other materials now available that require no water at all.
- Do not "sweep" walks and driveways with the hose. Use a broom or rake instead.
- When washing the car, use a bucket of soapy water and turn on the hose only for rinsing.
- We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers, and hoses for leaks.

## 2021 Annual Membership Meeting

Canceling the Annual Membership Meeting last year was a difficult decision, but our priority will always be the safety of our members, Board, and staff. In 2021, we will hold our meeting later in the year as opposed to May.

Your Board has selected Thursday, October 14th as a tentative date for this year's gathering. Pending guidelines at that time, the location will be either at our facilities or held virtually.

Not knowing if we would be able to meet, the Nominating Committee met in January to discuss any nominations made to the Board. There were three (3) vacancies and three (3) incumbents that expressed an interest in continuing to serve. The Nominating Committee accepted the nominations and no ballot voting will be necessary in 2021. The incumbents were: Spurgeon Wilson Venters, Steven Pridgen, and Bobby Bell.



### CONGRATULATIONS

WCWC's Board and staff want to congratulate Lisa Smith-Perri, General Manager/Executive Director, for being elected NC Rural Water Association's first female President at the 2021 NCRWA Spring Conference in Winston-Salem.

### NCRWA Apprenticeship Program

West Carteret Water Corporation is proud to be the first company to participate in the North Carolina Rural Water Apprenticeship Program! We encourage anyone who might be interested in this line of work to check out the video at the link below and reach out to North Carolina Rural Water if you have any questions or are interested in more information.

Even if you may not be interested in the Apprenticeship Program or a job in the water utility field, feel free to still watch the video to get a better understanding on how our plant and office operates. As you take a brief, virtual tour of West Carteret Water Corporation's facilities, you may even see some familiar faces! We hope you enjoy this video as much as we enjoyed participating in it!

To learn more about the program, visit <https://www.ncrwa.org/apprenticeshipprogram.html>.

### It's Hard to Say Good-Bye

ETHEL LEDBETTER SHACKELFORD  
Board of Director (1994 – 2019)  
25 Years of Service and Dedication

We lost a true friend and long-time West Carteret Water colleague, Ms. Ethel Ledbetter Shackelford. She was missed when she moved to be close to her daughter, but we had assurance we would visit again. Sadly, COVID did not allow any of us to travel, but FB kept us connected as much as possible.

Ms. Ethel served on the WCWC Board of Directors from 1994 to 2019. She was an asset to the community in many ways and left her mark on hearts of many.