

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Bethune Rural Water Company, Inc.
SC DHEC #SC2820006

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The source of our water is four deep wells located on Best Rd., Young's Bridge Rd., Highway 341, and Hwy. 903. Our wells draw from the Middendorf Aquifer. If you have questions about your drinking water, the information on this report please contact Stephen Taylor at 803-310-2003. You may also attend one of our regularly scheduled meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month at our office located at 110 S. Main St., Bethune, SC 29009..

Bethune Rural Water routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

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

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.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) 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 (MCLG) -The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 Disinfectant 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.

TEST RESULTS

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Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90 th percentile	Unit	Action Level	Sites over action level	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead & Copper						
Lead (2022)	N	1.2	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2022)	N	0.24	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Disinfectant and Disinfectant by Products						
	Violation	Levels Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (2023)	N	1.0 Range 0.51-1.14	ppm	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants						
Sodium (2023) **Unregulated Contaminant	N	3.5 Range 3.5-3.5	ppm	N/A	N/A	Occurs Naturally
Nitrates (Measured as Nitrogen) (2023)	N	2.4 Range 0.81 – 2.4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (2022)	N	0.15 Range 0.13-0.15	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Radioactive Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228 (2018)	N	2.0 Range 0 – 2.0	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (2022)	N	3.0 Range 0-3.0	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
**EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.						
Volatile Organic Contaminants	Violation	Levels Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Ethylbenzene (2022)	N	0.55 Range 0.55-0.55	ppb	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes (2022)	N	0.00218 Range 0.00218- 0.00218	ppm	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

If present, elevated lead levels 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. Bethune Rural Water Inc. is responsible for providing high quality

drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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