



ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

RICHMOND COUNTY WATER SYSTEM 2024

Mission Statement

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.

RICHMOND COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

Website: www.richmondnc.com

Tel: 910-997-8338

PO Box 504, Rockingham
NC 28380



What The EPA Wants You To Know

Drinking water, including bottled water,

Richmond County Water System
PO Box 504 ROCKINGHAM, NC 28380
910-997-8338



Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

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

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

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.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Everyone wants clean, safe drinking water and we assume this natural resource will always be available to us. However, drinking water sources can be threatened by many potential contaminant sources, including underground storage tanks for gasoline, permitted wastewater discharges and other waste disposal sites, improper handling of hazardous materials, urban storm water runoff, or other types of non-point source contamination such as runoff produced by agricultural activities and land clearing for development. Your drinking water source(s) is listed in Table 1. Protecting your drinking water from becoming contaminated is a wise investment in public health and your community's future.

Table 1. Public Water Supply System Information

System Name	RICHMOND COUNTY WATER SYSTEM
City	ROCKINGHAM
PWS ID	NC0377109
Source Name	PEE DEE RIVER

In addition to the sources listed in Table 1 above, this water supply system has interconnections to allow for the purchase of water from the following water system(s) or "Seller" system(s):

**ANSON COUNTY WATER SYSTEM
HAMLET WATER SYSTEM**

Source Water Assessment Program Report for RICHMOND COUNTY WATER SYSTEM Community Water System

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 Richmond County Water System 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:

Table 2. SWAP Results Summary

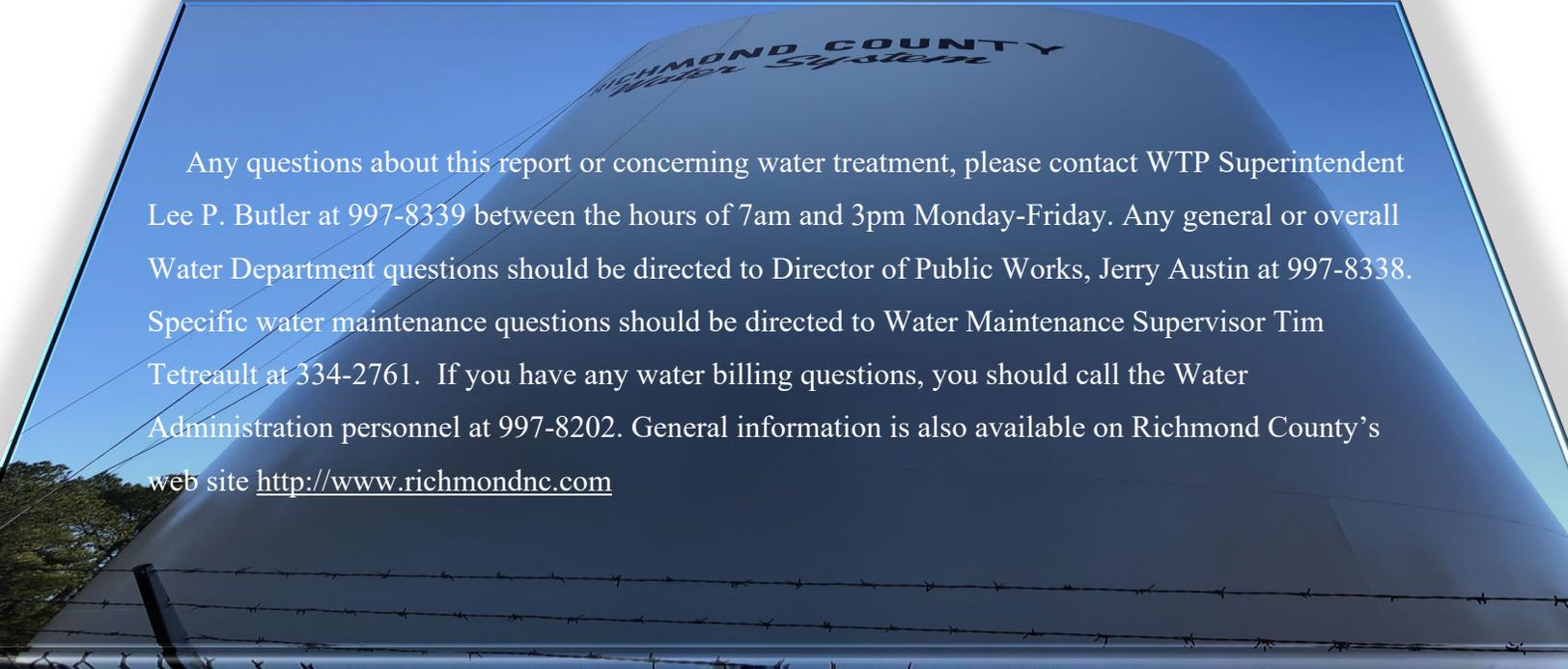
Source Name	Inherent Vulnerability Rating	Contaminant Rating	Susceptibility Rating
Pee Dee River	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Table 3. Surface Water Source - Information

Source Name	Watershed Classification	Source Location
Pee Dee River	WS-IV	Class 3

The complete SWAP Assessment report 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 website 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@deq.nc.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.

What If I Have Any Questions or Would Like to Become More Involved?



Any questions about this report or concerning water treatment, please contact WTP Superintendent Lee P. Butler at 997-8339 between the hours of 7am and 3pm Monday-Friday. Any general or overall Water Department questions should be directed to Director of Public Works, Jerry Austin at 997-8338. Specific water maintenance questions should be directed to Water Maintenance Supervisor Tim Tetreault at 334-2761. If you have any water billing questions, you should call the Water Administration personnel at 997-8202. General information is also available on Richmond County's web site <http://www.richmondnc.com>

VIOLATIONS THAT YOUR WATER SYSTEM RECEIVED FOR THE REPORT YEAR

Richmond County had no violations for 2024.

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.
- **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 (picograms/L)** - One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- **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.
- **Variances and Exceptions** – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or Treatment Technique under certain conditions.
- **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.
- **Running Annual Average (RAA)** – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **Level 1 Assessment** - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** - A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
- **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.

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, 2024.** 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.

Microbiological Contaminants in the Distribution System

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (Presence or absence)	N	0	TT*	Naturally present in the environment
<i>E. Coli</i> (Presence or absence)	N	0	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is E. coli-positive, or system fails to take repeat samples following E. coli-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for E. coli Note: If either an original routine sample and/or its repeat samples(s) are E. coli positive, a Tier 1 violation exists.	Human and animal fecal waste

* If a system collecting fewer than 40 samples per month has two or more positive samples in one month, an assessment is required.

E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Turbidity* - Systems with population >10,000

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation (Y/N)	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	N	0.09 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (%) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are < 0.3 NTU	Soil Runoff

* Turbidity 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.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation (Y/N)	Your Water (Lowest RAA)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Removal Ratio (no units)	N	1.2	1.31 - 1.67	N/A	Removal Ratio RAA <1.00 and alternative compliance criteria was not met	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90th Percentile)	Number of sites above the AL	Range	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	2024	.366	0	.007-.455	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 th percentile)	2024	ND	0	0 - 14.3	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

* The table above summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at lee.butler@richmondnc.com.

* We have been working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and prepared an inventory of all service lines in our water system. To access this inventory, please call 910-997-8338 to request.

* 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. RC Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact RC Water System and 910-997-8338. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Disinfection Residuals Summary

(units)	MRDL Violation (Y/N)	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low - High	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.17	..14 - 2.2	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Nitrate/Nitrite

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	MCL Violation Y/N		MCLG/ MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	February 2024	1	N		10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	February 2024	ND	N		1	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.

Radiological

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (RAA)	MCL Violation Y/N		MCLG/ MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L) (Gross Alpha Excluding Radon and Uranium)	April 2019	ND	N		0/15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	April 2019	ND	N		0/50*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	April 2019	<1.0	N		0/5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	April 2019	ND	N		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.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	MCL Violation Y/N	Range Low - High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Antimony (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	February 2024	.66	N	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	February 2024	ND	N	N/A	.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories





Miscellaneous Contaminants

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

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low - High	SMCL
Iron (mg/l)	February 2024	.02	0 - .08	.03
Manganese (mg/l)	February 2024	.011	0 - .059	.005
Nickel (mg/l)	February 2024	ND		N/A
Sodium (mg/l)	February 2024	7.7		N/A
Sulfate (mg/l)	February 2024	32.2		250
pH	February 2024	7.2	6.1 - 7.4	6.5 to 8.5

Disinfection Byproducts

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 may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Sample Year	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low - High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2024	N	52	27 - 80	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2024	N	48	24 - 63	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulation (UCMR)

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. 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. All sample results for the UCMR5 testing for the Richmond County Water System were non-detect. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact us at lee.butler@richmondnc.com.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
2,4-D (ppb)	2024	N	ND	0	.6	70	70	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2,4,5-TP (Silvex) (ppb)	2024	N	ND			50	50	Residue of banned herbicide
Alachlor (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	2	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Atrazine (ppb)	2024	N	.6			3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH)(ppt)	2024	N	ND			0	200	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
Carbofuran (ppb)	2024	N	ND			40	40	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
Chlordane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	2	Residue of banned termiticide
Dalapon (ppb)	2024	N	ND			200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di (2ethylhexy l)adipate (ppb)	2024	N	ND			400	400	Discharge from chemical factories
Di (2ethylhexy l)phthalate (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	0	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
DBCP[Dibromochloropropane](ppt)	2024	N	ND	0	200	leaching from soil fumigant on soybeans, cotton, pineapples, and orchards		
Dinoseb (ppb)	2024	N	ND	7	7	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables		
Endrin (ppb)	2024	N	ND	2	2	Residue of banned herbicide		
EDB [Ethylenedibromide] (ppt)	2024	N	ND	0	50	Residue of banned insecticide		
Heptachlor (ppt)	2024	N	ND	0	400	Discharge from petroleum refineries		
Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	2024	N	ND	0	200	Residue of banned pesticide		
Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND	0	1	Breakdown of heptachlor		
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	2024	N	.04	0	.12	50	50	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
Lindane (ppt)	2024	N	ND			200	200	Discharge from chemical factories
Methoxychlor (ppb)	2024	N	ND			40	40	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle, lumber, gardens
Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	2024	N	ND			200	200	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock
PCBs[Polychlorinatedbiphenyls](ppt)	2024	N	ND			0	500	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	1	Runoff from landfills; discharge of waste
Picloram (ppb)	2024	N	ND			500	500	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Simazine (ppb)	2024	N	ND			4	4	Herbicide runoff
Toxaphene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	3	Herbicide runoff

Volatile Organic Chemical Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Benzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from factories; leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
Carbon tetrachloride (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
Chlorobenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			100	100	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
o-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			600	600	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			75	75	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,2 – Dichloroethane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,1 – Dichloroethylene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			7	7	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			70	70	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			100	100	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Dichloromethane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Styrene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			100	100	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; leaching from landfills
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
1,2,4 –Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			70	70	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
1,1,1 – Trichloroethane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			200	200	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,1,2 –Trichloroethane (ppb)	2024	N	ND			3	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	5	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Toluene (ppm)	2024	N	ND			1	1	Discharge from petroleum factories
Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	2024	N	ND			0	2	Leaching from PVC piping; discharge from plastics factories
Xylenes (Total) (ppm)	2024	N	ND			10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

For More Information, Please Contact:

Richmond County Water System

P.O. Box 504 Rockingham, Nc 28380

System ID# NC0377109



Superintendent Lee P. Butler

(910) 997-8339