

City of Conover Consumer News



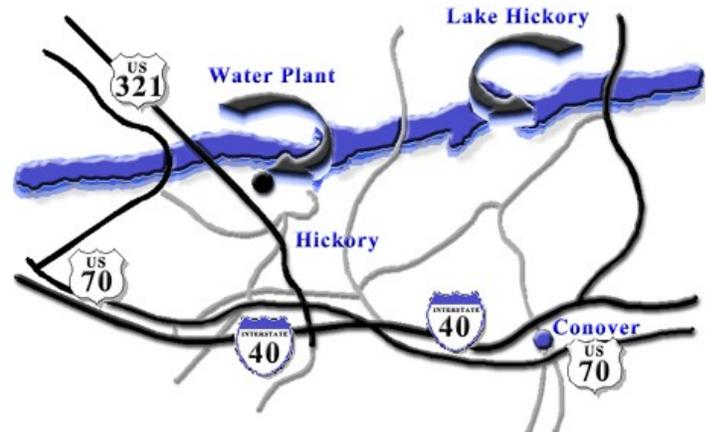
Annual Water Quality Report

PWS ID# 01-18-020

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 where your water comes , what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information. **Water provided by the City of Conover during this report period meets or exceeds established water quality standards.**

Where Does My Water Come From?

As you may know, the City of Conover purchases water from the City of Hickory, which treats surface water from Lake Hickory on the Catawba River. Conover owns (3) million gallons per day capacity and currently uses approximately (1.92) million gallons per day, serving some 5537 customers. The City owns, operates and maintains it's own distribution system that consists of approximately 148 miles of lines and two 1 million gallon water storage tanks. Test result information will represent analytical data for Conover & Hickory's system.



Water Quality Safeguards

Water storage is essential for meeting peak demands of customers and emergencies such as fires. Conover utilizes two elevated storage tanks for meeting these demands as well as equalizing supply and demand. The downtown tank was constructed in 1977 and the Hwy. 16 North tank in 1996. Both tanks have a capacity of 1 million gallons. Both tanks are inspected and cleaned routinely to insure a high level of service.



**Downtown Water Tank
Hwy. 16 @ City Hall**



**Hwy. 16 North
Water Tank**

Terms and Abbreviations

The following are a few terms and abbreviations that may help you better understand the report.

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 penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) - one part per billion corresponds to one 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.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

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

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 these substances 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 EPA'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, those 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.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Center for Disease Control (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 City of Conover 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 results from urban storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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.

Source Water Assessment Program

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 (PCS's). The results of the assessment are available in SWAP Assessment Reports that include maps, background information and a relative susceptibility rating or Higher, Moderate or Lower.

The relative susceptibility rating of each source for the City of Conover was determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCS's 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 below:

Source Name: City of Hickory

Susceptibility Rating: Higher

The Complete Swap Assessment report for City of Conover may be viewed on the Web at: www.ncwater.org/pws/swap. Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by 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 request to swap@ncmail.net. Please indicate your system name, PWSID, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at 919-707-9098.

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of “higher” **does not** imply poor water quality, only the systems' potential to become contaminated by PCS's in the assessment area.

Potable Water Characteristics—2012

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Hickory Water	Range High and Low	SMCL
Sodium (mg/l)	1/10/12	14.5	N/A	N/A
Sulfate (mg/l)	1/10/12	17.4	N/A	250 mg/l
pH (su)	1/10/12	6.5	N/A	6.5 to 8.5
Alkalinity (mg/l CaCO ₃)	1/10/12	20.0	N/A	N/A
Hardness (mg/l CaCO ₃)	1/10/12	15.9	N/A	N/A
Iron (mg/l)	1/10/12	0.009	N/A	0.300 mg/l

We Value Your Input

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jimmy Clark or Brian Bradshaw at (828) 464-4808 or PO Box 549, Conover NC 28613. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more please attend any of our regular scheduled City Council meetings, which are held on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.



WATER QUALITY REPORT *Conover Test Results*

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Drinking Water	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Microbiological Contaminants—2012

Total Coliform Bacteria	N	Absent	Presence Or Absence	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli	N	Absent	Presence Or Absence	0	The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and a repeat sample are total Coliform positive, and one is also fecal Coliform or E. Coli positive.	Human and animal fecal waste.

Lead and Copper Contaminants—2012

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Drinking Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	September 2010	0.104	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	September 2010	< 0.003	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants—2012

Contaminant	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Drinking Water RAA (Stage 1)	Range Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	N	54.5	30-77	N/A	80	By-product of Chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	N	31.9	19-43	N/A	60	By-product of Chlorination

Hickory's Test Results

Microbiological Contaminants - 2012

Contaminant	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	Absent	Presence or Absence	0	5% of monthly samples are positive	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform And E. coli	N	Absent	Presence or Absence	0	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

Turbidity* 2012 - Systems with population > 10,000

Contaminant (Units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Drinking Water	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	N	0.19	TT = 1 NTU	Soil runoff
		100%	TT = PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLES < 0.3 NTU	

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

Radioactive Contaminants – 2012

No Radiological Contaminates were detected in the source water.

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants – 2012

Contaminant	MCL Violation Y/N	Drinking Water	Range Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	N	N/D	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	N	0.100	N/A	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.

Inorganic Contaminants – 2012

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Drinking Water	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride Date sampled 01/12	N	0.109	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additives which promote strong teeth and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Lead and Copper Contaminants – 2012

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Drinking Water	Number of Sites Above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th Percentile)	9//9/10	0.702	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits and leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90th Percentile)	9/9/10	< 3.0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Report Cont'd

Test Results

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants - 2012

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Drinking Water RAA (Stage 1)	Range Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	N	0.04	0.03-0.04	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	N	0.03	0.02-0.03	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.15	0.45-1.7	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfection By-product Precursor Contaminants-2012

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Drinking Water	Removal Ratio Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Compliance Method
Total Organic Carbon (Removal Ratio) (TOC)- Treated	N	0.54	27%-100%	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment and high biomass concentrations	ACC#2

As you can see by the table, our systems had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE to drink at these levels. 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.

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