

2006
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Chowan County Water System
PWSID # 04-21-015
JUNE 13, 2006

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is seven wells located in the Valhalla Community.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Chowan County Water Department at 252-482-7477**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please **come by the Water Department between 8:00 am & 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday**.

Chowan County Water System routinely monitors for contaminants 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, 2005. 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 contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. 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.

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.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Maximum Contaminant Level - (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 - (mandatory language) 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.

"<" - Means less than.

Re-sample- after one monthly positive sample we re-tested upstream and downstream and the samples came back absent.

| TEST RESULTS | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--|------------------|------|--|---|
| Contaminant | Violation Y/N | Level Detected | Unit Measurement | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Microbiological Contaminants 2005 | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria * | Y**** | ND | Absent / Present | 0 | Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples | Naturally present in the environment |
| Unregulated Volatile Organic Contaminants 2005 | | | | | | |
| Chloroform | N | 8.2 | ppb | n/a | n/a | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Bromoform | N | 1.3 | ppb | n/a | n/a | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| B D Chloromethane | N | 8.4 | ppb | n/a | n/a | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| C D Chloromethane | N | 7.5 | ppb | n/a | n/a | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| TTHM *** [Total trihalomethanes] | N | 47.5 (AVERAGE) RANGE = 23 -67 | ppb | 0 | 100 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Copper ** July 1999 | N | 0.114 RANGE .050-.473 | ppb | 1.3 | AL=1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives. |

* In 2005, we collected 10 samples per month.

** Based on 20 samples in August 2005 no home tested exceeded the lead or copper action level.

*** Based on 4 samples in 2005.

**** Tier 3 Monitoring and Reporting Violation as described below.

As you can see by the table, our system had a monitoring and reporting violation. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

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. 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.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 **CHOWAN COUNTY** 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:

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs)

| Source Name | Inherent Vulnerability Rating | Contaminant Rating | Susceptibility Rating |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| WELL #2 @ VALHALLA | Higher | Lower | Moderate |
| WELL #7 @ VALHALLA | Lower | Lower | Lower |
| WELL #8 @ VALHALLA | Lower | Lower | Lower |
| WELL #9 @ VALHALLA | Higher | Lower | Moderate |
| WELL #5 @ BRAHALL | Lower | Lower | Lower |
| WELL #6 @ BRAHALL | Higher | Lower | Moderate |
| WELL #1 @ VALHALLA | Lower | Lower | Lower |

The complete SWAP Assessment report for **CHOWAN COUNTY** may be viewed on the Web at: <http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap> 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 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 919-715-2633.

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

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo therapy, 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 (800-426-4791).

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

CHOWAN CO WATER SYSTEM Has Not Met Coliform Bacteria Monitoring Requirements

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period specified in the table below, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for coliform bacteria and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

| CONTAMINANT GROUP | LOCATION | COMPLIANCE PERIOD BEGIN DATE | SAMPLING FREQUENCY | WHEN SAMPLES WERE OR WILL BE TAKEN |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform ¹ | Distribution System | 11/1/2005 | Monthly | Monthly |

¹ Total Coliform includes Fecal/E.coli bacteria. Testing for Fecal/E.coli bacteria is required if total coliform is present in the sample.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What happened? What is being done? When will the problem be corrected?

We collect 10 total coliform samples every month and send them to a private lab we pay to analyze the samples and to report the results to the state. For the month of November, 2005 we collected our usual 10 samples and shipped them to the lab; however, the lab only reported 9 results to the state which put Chowan County in a Tier 3 violation. The State notified us in March, 2006 that we were in violation. We contacted the lab about this matter however they could not find the tenth analysis result.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

We at Chowan County Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap, said Ray Goodwin, Director. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.