



# Clemson University Water System

System No, SC3910006

Clemson, SC

## 2008 Annual Water-Quality Report

Developed May 27, 2009

Clemson University is committed to providing students, faculty, and staff with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. We test our water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. The water supplied by Clemson University Water System meets state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other things you should know about drinking water.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) have strict standards for all drinking water. These standards are designed to protect consumers from bacteria and water-borne illnesses. In order to protect our customers, water samples are taken all over the campus once a month and the lab results are reviewed by DHEC. Our drinking water is safe and met all federal and state requirements during 2008. Since we are only a distribution system, we do not actually filter or treat our water and therefore depend on our water supplier to furnish us with most of our test results that are listed in this report labeled **Anderson Regional Joint Water System (ARJWS)** Water Quality Table. In addition to continuously monitoring some parameters, the operators at the ARJWS Plant perform over 200 laboratory tests of the water daily.

### Water Source

The Clemson University Water System is supplied by ARJWS, Hartwell Lake Filter Plant which draws its water from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hartwell Lake Reservoir lying along the border of upstate South Carolina and Georgia. This water is piped into the CU Water System through three metering stations.

### An Explanation of the Water Quality Data Table

The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that was detected in the water, even the most minute trace, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL and MCLG are important.

Terms used in the Water Quality Tables and in other parts of this report are defined here.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or MCLG:** The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or (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 or (MRDLG):** The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

<b>Key To Tables</b>	
AL = Action Level	NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
BDL = Below Detectable Level	pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
CM = centimeter	ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) (this compares to one penny in \$10,000)
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level	ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L) (this compares to one penny in \$10,000,000)
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
MFL = Million fibers per liter	ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
mrem/year = millirems per year-- (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)	RAA = Running Annual Average
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	TT = treatment technique
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	UV = ultra violet light

### The Secondary Standards

Unlike **primary** drinking water regulations, **secondary** drinking water regulations are **not** designed to protect the public health. Instead, they are intended to protect “public welfare” by providing guidelines regarding the **taste, odor, color**, and other **aesthetic aspects** of drinking water, which do **not** present a health risk. Our water supplier, ARJWS analyzes the water for secondary drinking water standards on a regular basis. The following information was made available for 2008:

Constituent	Annual Average	MCL	Contaminant Effects
pH	7.10 (Units)	6.5 - 8.5	Water is too corrosive
Alkalinity	12.35 mg/L	N/A	
Chlorine	1.26 mg/L	4.0 mg/L	
Hardness	4.98 mg/L	N/A	
Iron	BDL	0.30 mg/L	Taste; staining laundry
Manganese	BDL	0.05 mg/L	Taste; staining laundry
Sodium	8.7 mg/L	N/A	
Sulfate	9.0 mg/L	250 mg/L	Taste; laxative effects

### Source Water Assessments and Protection Plan

Source Water Assessment Plans (SWAP's) were completed for all public systems in South Carolina by May 2003. SWAPs, among other things, identify potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies. The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control has completed the plans for all SC public water systems. A copy of this assessment report can be obtained by contacting the SC DHEC Bureau of Water in Columbia, South Carolina at (803) 898-4300 or on the web at <http://www.scdhec.gov/envionment/water/srcwtr.htm>.

**Anderson Regional Joint Water System -- Water Quality Table**

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Avg. or Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform Bacteria	2008	0	0	0			Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment & are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed & this was a warning of potential problems.	NO
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i> Bacteria	2008	0	0	0			Fecal coliforms & <i>E. coli</i> are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.	NO
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Lead**	2006	ppb	AL=15	0	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 0 0 > AL	ND – 3.8	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper	2006	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 0.28 0 > AL	0.1 – 0.28	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Turbidity	2008	NTU	0.5	< 0.10	0.06	0.04 – 0.18	Soil runoff.	
Flouride	2008	ppm	4	4	< 0.100	0.11	Erosion of natural deposits: water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	NO
Nitrate	2008	ppm	10	10	0.18	0.18	Runoff from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	NO
Cadmium	2008	ppm	5	5	0.79		Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from Metal refineries; runoff of waste batteries and paints	NO
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMS)	2008	ppb	80	0	RAA = 50	23 – 95	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	2008	ppb	60	0	RAA = 32	13 – 53	Naturally present in the environment	NO
Chlorine	2008	ppm			RAA = 1.26	0.9 – 1.7	Water additives used to control microbes	NO
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Combined Radium	2001	pCi/L	5	0	ND		Erosion of natural deposits.	NO

We have been monitored per the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation 2 (UCMR2) in 2008. No detections were noted. If you would like to receive the list of contaminants monitored, please contact: David Melton, (864) 226-9676, or email: [dmelton@arjwater.com](mailto:dmelton@arjwater.com).

\*\*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. Clemson University 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>.

**Water Quality Table Footnotes**

As you can see from the above table, the ARJWS had no violations. The above table shows only the contaminants that had detections. The drinking water was tested for many other regulated and unregulated contaminants, but no detectable levels were found. The water supplied to Clemson University from ARJWS met or exceeded all Federal and State requirements.

Note 1- A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* positive.

### Anderson Regional Joint Water System -- TOC Test Results 2008

Contaminant	Sample Frequency	MCL	Level Detected,	Range	Likely source of contamination	Violation
			% Removal Required			
Total Organic Carbon	Monthly	TT Step 1	32.26% removal, 35% required*	0.5 – 1.9 mg/L removal	Naturally present in the environment	No

\*For source water with TOC level greater than 2.0 mg/L, 35% removal is required.

NOTE: Due to contract laboratory error, the TOC sample for the month of August 2008 resulted in a minor reporting violation for ARJWS.

### Clemson University Water System -- Water Quality Table

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level	Range	Major Sources	Violation
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total coliform bacteria (12 samples analyzed each month)	2008	Number per month	Note 1	0	0	0 - 5	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment & are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed & this was a warning of potential problems.	YES
Fecal coliform and <i>E coli</i> bacteria	2008	Number per month	Note 2	0	0	0	Fecal coliforms & <i>E. coli</i> are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.	NO

#### Water Quality Table Footnotes

- 1 One sample total coliform positive (for systems collecting less than 40 samples)
- 2 A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or *E coli* positive.

### Clemson University Water System -- Lead & Copper Measurements

Contaminant	Date Tested	Units	Action Level	90 <sup>TH</sup> Percentile Value	MCLG	Sampling Sites Exceeding Action Level	Range of Detection	Possible Sources	Violation
Lead**	06/07 – 09/07	ppb	15	5.9	0	1	ND – 36	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper	06/07 – 09/07	ppm	1.3	0.144	1.3	0	0.042 – 0.56	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	NO

\*\* See footnote above (page 3)



### Contaminants not detected

The ARJWS monitored for four (4) consecutive quarters during calendar year 2001 for the parameters required of the Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulations (UCMR), and there were no detections found.

The following is a list of contaminants that were tested for but not detected in the drinking water:

Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide (total), Mercury, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrite, Selenium, Gross Alpha (Radioactive), Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Propachlor, Hexachlorobenzene, Lindane, Heptachlor, Aldrin, Alachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Chloradane, Metolachlor, Butachlor, Dieldrin, Endrin, Methoxychlor, Toxaphene, Simazine, Atrazine, Metribuzin, Di-2-(Ethylhexyl) Adipate, Di-2-(Ethylhexyl) Phthalate, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Aldicarb Sulfone, Oxamyl (Vydate), Methomyl, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Aldicarb, Carbofuran, Carbaryl(Sevin), dalapon, Dicamba, 2, 4-d Pentachlorophenol, Silvex, Dinoseb, Picloram, PCB as Decachlorobiphenyl, Benzo(a)Pyrene, p-Isopropyltoluene, Chloromethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, Bromomethane, Chloroethane, Fluorotrchloromethane, Hexachlorobutadiene, Naphthalene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dibromomethane, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,3-Dichloropropane, 1,3-Dichloropropene, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene, n-Butylbenzene, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene, Tert-Butylbenzene, Sec-Butylbenzene, Bromochloromethane, Bromoform, Chlorodibromomethane, Xylenes (total), Dichloromethane, o-Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, m-Dichlorobenzene, 0-Dichlorobenzene, p-dichlorobenzene, vinyl Chloride, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, Carbon Tetrachloride, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, Tetrachloroethylene, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, Chlorobenzene, Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Bromobenzene, Isopropylbenzene, Styrene, n-Propylbenzene, Barium, 2,4-dinitrotoluene, 2,6-dinitrotoluene, Acetochlor, DCPA mono-acid degradate\*/DCPA di-acid degradate\*, 4,4-DDE, EPTC, Molinate, MTBE, Nitrobenzene, Perchlorate, Terbacil.

\* DCPA degradates are not separately determined by these methods; therefore, they will be reported as the sum of both degradates.

### Required Additional Health Information



To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on 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 which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. The 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. 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).

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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- (E) 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.

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/Center for Disease Control 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).



**National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance**

We will be happy to answer any questions about this report or the Clemson University Water System. If you have any questions please call Harry K. Kirby at (864) 656-4942 or e-mail Harry at [kharry@clemson.edu](mailto:kharry@clemson.edu).

Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available on the web at [www.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com).

A copy of this report is posted on the internet at <http://www.clemson.edu/facilities/utilities/>.