

**TOWN OF BLACKSBURG  
YEAR 2015  
DHEC # 1110002  
JUNE 8, 2016**

**2015 ANNUAL WATER-QUALITY REPORT**

We're pleased to present a summary of the water provided to you during the past year. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires utilities to issue an annual "Consumer Confidence" Report to customers in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water treatment and testing are designed to prevent. The Town of Blacksburg is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Charlene Carter, Town Administrator, at (864) 839-2332. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at Blacksburg Town Hall at 7:00pm.

**WATER SOURCE**

The Town of Blacksburg purchases all of our water from the Gaffney Board of Public Works. The Gaffney Board of Public Works is supplied by surface water from Cherokee Creek and Broad River. Cherokee Creek is dammed to form Lake Welchel and water is pumped as needed from Broad River. This supply then flows to the Plant by gravity as needed.

The source of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) including 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 result 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.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be natural-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**AN EXPLANATION OF THE WATER-QUALITY DATA TABLE**

This report is based upon test conducted in the year 2015 by the Town of Blacksburg and the Gaffney Board of Public Works. Terms used in the Water Quality Table 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 MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL OR MCGL:** 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.

**ACTIONLEVEL or AL:** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

**MCL=**Maximum Contaminant Level

**MCLG=** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal.

**pic\l=** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppm=**parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) Example: ppm- corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**ppb=**parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (mg/l) Example: ppb corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**MRDL=** (Maximum Residual Disinfection Level) Highest level of a disinfections allowed in drinking water

**MRDLG=** (Maxium Residual Disinfection Level Goal) Level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**TOWN OF BLACKSBURG**

Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Major Source	Violation
Copper 2013	ppm	AL=1.3ppm	1.3	90 <sup>th</sup> %= 0.05 0>AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposit.	No

Date Tested	Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	Detected Level	Range	Major Source	Violation
Chlorine 2015	ppm	4	4	1.	1-1	Water additive used to control microbes.	No

Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCGL	Detected Level	Range	Major Source	Violation
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TTHM	2015	ppb	80ppb	0	72	38.9-101.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
HHA5	2015	ppb	60ppb	0	38	25.1-42.2.	By-product of Drinking water disinfection	No

### **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

	YEAR TESTED	UNIT	MCL	MCLG	DETECTED LEVEL	MAJOR SOURCE	VIOLATION
Nitrate	2015	0 ppm	10	0	0.24ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage erosion of natural deposits	No

### **UNREGULATED CONTAMINATES**

Neither the Town of Blacksburg nor the Gaffney Water Plant test for Cryptosporidium or Radon in 2003.

### **OTHER REQUIRED ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION (FYI)**

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 FDA regulations establish limits for contaminate in bottle water.

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 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. (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immune 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. EPE/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 Town of Blacksburg 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 it tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize your exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### **NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATION COMPLIANCE- OTHER MONITORING**

In addition to required testing, voluntary tests for many additional substances and microscopic organisms are performed to make certain our water is safe and of high quality.

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

" We at the Town of Blacksburg work around the clock to provide quality water to every tap," said Mayor David Hogue. " We ask that all our customers help us protect our water."

