

# Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority

## 2024 Consumer Confidence Report

### Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

### Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers 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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Where does my water come from?

For the year 2024, your water was treated surface water purchased from Saluda CPW (4110001), who purchases treated surface water from City of Newberry (3610001), and surface water from Lake Murray (S41001) treated at the Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority Water Treatment Plant (4120001). **Water treated at the Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority Water Treatment Plant is not fluoridated.**

### Source water assessment and its availability

For more information about source water assessment, please visit <https://scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/source-water-protection>.

### Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 (EPA) 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

## How can I get involved?

Our regular scheduled meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at 106 N. Jennings Street. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. We encourage you to attend any of our meeting and learn more.

## Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature. Visit

[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

- Take short showers.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead.
- Run clothes washer and dishwasher only when full.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered.
- Teach your kids about water conservation.

## Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you use a septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed organization and volunteer to help. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water provider

## Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection, and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

## Additional Information for Lead

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. Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority 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>.

## Tables for Unit Descriptions and Important Drinking Water Definitions

| Unit Description |  |
|------------------|--|
| Term             | Definition   |
| ppm              | ppm, parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) |
| ppb              | ppb, parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L) |
| pCi/L            | pCi/L, picocuries per liter                            |
| NA               | NA, not applicable                                     |
| ND               | ND, not detected                                       |
| NR               | NR, monitoring not required but recommended            |

*For more information please contact:*  
**Contact Name: Jason Fell**  
**Address: 106 N JENNINGS ST**  
**SALUDA, SC 29138**  
**Phone: 864-445-9572**

| Important Drinking Water Definitions |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Term                                 | Definition  |
| MCLG                                 | MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.  |
| MCL                                  | MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.   |
| TT                                   | TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  |
| AL                                   | AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.   |
| Variances and Exemptions             | Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.   |
| MRDLG                                | MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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. |
| MRDL                                 | MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.                              |
| MNR                                  | MNR: Monitored Not Regulated  |
| MPL                                  | MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level   |

## Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

| Lead and Copper for SALUDA CO W&S AUTHORITY (4120001) |               |     |                             |              |                        |                     |             |   |
|---|---------------|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|
| Contaminants (unit of measure)                        | MCLG or MRDLG | AL  | 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile | Range        | # Samples Exceeding AL | Exceeds AL (Yes/No) | Sample Date | Typical Source  |
| Copper-action level at consumer taps (ppm)            | 1.3           | 1.3 | 0.081                       | 0.014 – 0.18 | 0                      | No                  | 2023        | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Lead-action level at consumer taps (ppb)              | 0             | 15  | 0.36                        | 0 – 2.2      | 0                      | No                  | 2023        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.                                   |

| Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products for SALUDA CO W&S AUTHORITY (4120001) |                       |                  |                        |               |                       |             |   |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| Contaminants (unit of measure)  | MCLG or MRDLG         | MCL, TT, or MRDL | Highest Level Detected | Range         | Violation (Yes or No) | Sample Date | Likely Source of Contamination  |
| Chlorine as Cl <sub>2</sub> (ppm)   | 4                     | 4                | 0.60                   | 0.60 – 0.60   | No                    | 2024        | Water additive used to control microbes.  |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)   | No Goal for the Total | 60               | 26                     | 2.27 – 51.70  | No                    | 2024        | By-product of drinking water disinfection.  |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)  | No Goal for the Total | 80               | 65                     | 11.30 – 90.60 | No                    | 2024        | By-product of drinking water disinfection.  |
| Selenium (ppb)  | 50                    | 50               | 2.10                   | 2.10 – 2.10   | No                    | 2024        | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from mines. |

| Chemical and Radionuclide Constituents for SALUDA CO W&S AUTHORITY (4120001) |               |                  |                      |               |                       |             |  |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| Contaminants (unit of measure)   | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL, TT, or MRDL | Detect in Your Water | Range         | Violation (Yes or No) | Sample Date | Typical Source   |
| Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L)                              | 0             | 15               | 1.8                  | 0 – 1.8       | No                    | 2021        | Erosion of natural deposits.                                   |
| Sodium (ppm) (unregulated)   | NA            | NA               | 23                   | 23 – 23       | No                    | 2023        | Naturally occurring.   |
| Nitrate measured as Nitrogen (ppm)   | 10            | 10               | .085                 | 0.085 - 0.085 | No                    | 2024        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage |

| Turbidity for SALUDA CO W&S AUTHORITY (4120001)   |                             |                |           |                                |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Turbidity is a measure of the amount of suspended particles in the water (cloudiness); an indicator of overall water quality and filtration effectiveness.  | Limit (Treatment Technique) | Level Detected | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Highest single measurement  | 1.0 NTU                     | 0.280 NTU      | No        | Soil runoff.                   |
| Lowest monthly % meeting limit  | 0.3 NTU                     | 100.00%        | No        | Soil runoff.                   |
| Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. |                             |                |           |                                |

#### Total Organic Carbon for SALUDA CO W&S AUTHORITY (4120001)

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

### Unregulated Contaminants (UCMR5)

Unregulated contaminants are those for which U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2023 Saluda County Water & Sewer Authority participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). For a copy of the results please call Jason Fell at 864-445-9572.

| TABLE OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS for Saluda CO W&S Authority (4120001) |             |                     |                     |  |
|---|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Contaminants (Units)  | Sample Year | Average Level Found | Range of Detections |  |
| Lithium (ppt)   | 2023        | 0                   | 0.0 - 0.0           |  |
| PFOA (ppt)  | 2023        | 3.3                 | 0.0 - 5.2           |  |
| PFOS (ppt)  | 2023        | 7.8                 | 5.8 – 9.7           |  |
| PFNA (ppt)  | 2023        | 0                   | 0.0 – 0.0           |  |

| Violation Table |                 |               |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Violation Type  | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
| N/A             | N/A             | N/A           | N/A                   |