

# 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Town of Black Creek

Water System Number: 04-98-035

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 your source(s) of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. **If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Greg Gates at 252-243-6439. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at Town Meeting Hall the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.**

### 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 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 (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, 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 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. Black Creek 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 result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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.

### When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The Town of Black Creeks water source is from four ground water wells.

## Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), 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 Black Creek 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	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Well # 1	Lower	September 2020
Well #3	Lower	September 2020
Well #5	Lower	September 2020
Well #8	Lower	September 2020

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Black Creek may be viewed on the Web at: <https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600> Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the 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 requests to [swap@ncdenr.gov](mailto:swap@ncdenr.gov). Please indicate your system name, number, 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 system’s potential to become contaminated by PCSs in the assessment area.

### Help Protect Your Source Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility. The Town of Black Creek has implemented a Well Head Protection Program, to protect our water sources. You can help protect your community’s drinking water source(s) in several ways: (examples: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

### Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

During 2022, or during any compliance period that ended in 2022, we received a Source Water Monitoring and Reporting violation that covered the time period of June 22, 2022 thru September 12, 2022. On June 22, 2022 Wilson County South West District collected 5 routine bacteriological samples from its water distribution system. Of the 5 samples taken by Wilson County Water, 1 returned positive for coliform. On that same day (June 22, 2022) Black Creek collected 2 routine bacteriological samples from its water distribution system. All of Black Creek’s samples returned clean. Wilson County Water was contacted by the testing lab about the positive sample on June 24, 2022. On that same day (June 24, 2022) Wilson County Water collected repeat samples, and sampled the entry point to their water system on Yank Rd. All samples returned clean. Black Creek continued collecting monthly routine bacteriological samples for the months of July and August, all were clean. The rule requires Black Creek sample its source water because Wilson County South West Water Dist. purchases its water from Black Creek and had a positive sample. Black Creek did not see the need to sample its source water at the expense of our customers because all Black Creek samples tested clean. Black Creek received a notice of violation letter from N.C.D.E.Q. the first week of September 2022. After the threat of monetary fine and 7 clean samples, Black Creek did all source water samples and all tested clean.

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### Important Drinking Water Definitions:

- **Not-Applicable (N/A)** – Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.
- **Non-Detects (ND)** - Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.
- **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 (ug/L)** - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L)** - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- **Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/L)** - One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (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 Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)** – 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.
- **Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)** – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters under the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.
- **Running Annual Average (RAA)** – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.
- **Level 1 Assessment** - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (MCLG)** - 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.

## Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2022.** The EPA and the State allow 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Fluoride (ppm)	2/04/22	N	.45	N/A		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

### Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	Number of sites found above the AL		MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	9/14/22	.419	0		1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	9/14/22	ND	0		0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

### Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range		MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
			Low	High			
Chlorine (ppm)	N	.97	.5	1.6	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Chloramines (ppm)	N/A	N/A			4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine dioxide (ppb)	N/A	N/A			800	800	Water additive used to control microbes

### Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance - Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
TTHM (ppb)	2022	N				N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
BO1			.001					
BO2			.001					
HAA5 (ppb)						N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
BO1			ND					
BO2			ND					

# NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Town of Black Creek Has Not Met 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(s) specified in the table below, we [‘did not monitor or test’ or ‘did not complete all monitoring or testing’] for the contaminants group(s) listed and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

CONTAMINANT GROUP**	ENTRY POINT/ LOCATION CODE	COMPLIANCE PERIOD BEGIN DATE	SAMPLING FREQUENCY	WHEN SAMPLES WERE OR WILL BE TAKEN (Water System to Complete)
FECAL INDICATOR	W01,W03,W05, W08/RW1,RW3, RW4,RW8	JULY 1, 2022	1	September 12, 2022

\*\* See back of this notice for the complete list of individual contaminants for each contaminant group

**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?

During 2022, or during any compliance period that ended in 2022, we received a Source Water Monitoring and Reporting violation that covered the time period of June 22, 2022 thru September 12, 2022. On June 22, 2022 Wilson County South West District collected 5 routine bacteriological samples from its water distribution system. Of the 5 samples taken by Wilson County Water, 1 returned positive for coliform. On that same day (June 22, 2022) Black Creek collected 2 routine bacteriological samples from its water distribution system. All of Black Creek’s samples returned clean. Wilson County Water was contacted by the testing lab about the positive sample on June 24, 2022. On that same day (June 24, 2022) Wilson County Water collected repeat samples, and sampled the entry point to their water system on Yank Rd. All samples returned clean. Black Creek continued collecting monthly routine bacteriological samples for the months of July and August, all were clean. The rule requires Black Creek sample its source water because Wilson County South West Water Dist. purchases its water from Black Creek and had a positive sample. Black Creek did not see the need to sample its source water at the expense of our customers because all Black Creek samples tested clean. Black Creek received a notice of violation letter from N.C.D.E.Q. the first week of September 2022. After the threat of monetary fine and 7 clean samples, Black Creek did all source water samples and all tested clean.

*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.*

For more information, please contact:

<b>Responsible Person</b> Greg Gates	<b>System Name</b> Town of Black Creek	<b>System Address (Street)</b> 112 West Center St.
<b>Phone Number</b> 252-243-6439	<b>System PWSID #</b> 04-98-035	<b>System Address (City, State, Zip)</b> Black Creek, N.C. 27813

**Violation Awareness Date:** August 31, 2022

**Date Notice Distributed:** June 1, 2023      **Method of Distribution:** CCR

#### **Public Notification Certification:**

*The public water system named above hereby affirms that public notification has been provided to its consumers in accordance with all delivery, content, format, and deadline requirements specified in 15A NCAC 18C .1523.*

**Owner/Operator:**      **Greg Gates**  
(Signature)

**Greg Gates**  
(Print Name)

**April 5, 2023**  
(Date)

## Contaminant Group List

**(BA) Total Coliform Bacteria** includes Fecal/*E.coli* bacteria. Testing for Fecal/*E.coli* bacteria is required if repeat samples confirm presence of total coliform.

**(AS) Asbestos** - includes testing for Chrysotile, Amphibole and Total Asbestos.

**(TTHM) - Total Trihalomethanes** - include Chloroform, Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, and Chlorodibromomethane.

**(TOC) - Total Organic Carbon** - includes testing for Alkalinity, Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC), Total Organic Carbon (TOC) and Ultraviolet Absorption 254 (UV254). Source water samples must be tested for both TOC and Alkalinity. Treated water samples must be tested for TOC. Source water samples and treated water samples must be collected on the same day.

**(HAA5)- Haloacetic Acids** - include Monochloroacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dibromoacetic Acid.

**(BB) Bromate/Bromide** – includes testing for Bromate and/or Bromide.

**(CD) Chlorine Dioxide/Chlorite** – includes testing for Chlorine Dioxide and/or Chlorite.

**(IC) Inorganic chemicals** - includes Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide, Fluoride, Iron, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, pH, Selenium, Sodium, Sulfate, and Thallium.

**(LC) Lead and copper** are tested by collecting one sample and testing that sample for both lead and copper.

**(NT) Nitrate/ (NI) Nitrite** – includes testing for nitrate and/or nitrite.

**(RA) Radionuclides** - includes Gross Alpha, Radon, Uranium, Combined Radium, Radium 226, Radium 228, Gross Beta, Tritium, Strontium 89, Strontium 90, Iodine 131, and Cesium 134.

**(SOC) – Synthetic Organic Chemicals/Pesticides** - SOC's are commonly used in industrial and manufacturing processes. SOC's include 2,4-D, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Alachlor, Aldicarb, Aldicarb Sulfone, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, Aldrin, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Dieldrin, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), Dicamba, Dinoseb, Endrin, Ethylene dibromide (EDB), Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Methoxychlor, Metribuzin, Oxamyl(vydate), PCBs, Propachlor, Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Simazine, Toxaphene.

**(VOC) - Volatile Organic Chemicals**, - VOCs are commonly used in industrial and manufacturing processes. VOCs include p-Isopropyltoluene, Chloromethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, Bromomethane, Chloroethane, Fluorotrichloromethane, 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, Chloroform, Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Xylenes (Total), Dichloromethane, o-Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, m-Dichlorobenzene, o-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, and n-Propylbenzene.

### Instructions for Completing the Notice/Certification Form & for Performing Public Notice for Tier 3 Monitoring Violations

1. **Complete ALL the missing information on the “Notice to the Public.”** (Note: Under the section of the notice entitled “What Happened? What is being done? When will the problem be corrected?” describe corrective actions you took or are taking. You may choose the appropriate language below, or develop your own:

- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The sample results showed we are meeting drinking water standards.
- We have since taken the required samples, as described in the last column of the table above. The sample for coliform bacteria exceeded the limit. [Describe corrective action; use information from public notice prepared for violating the limit.]
- We plan to take the required samples soon, as described in the last column of the table above.)

2. **Provide public notification to your customers within 12 months after you learn of the violation as follows:**

**Community systems** must use one of the following:

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

**For community systems**, this notice is appropriate for insertion in an annual notice or the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), as long as public notification timing and delivery requirements are met (C.F.R. 141.204(d)).

**Non-community systems** must use one of the following:

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

**For non-community systems**, if you post the notice, it must remain posted as long as the violation or situation persists; in no case should the notice be posted less than 7 days, even if the violation is resolved. (C.F.R. 141.204(b)).

(Note: **Both** community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others **IF** they would not be reached by one of the required methods listed above (C.F.R. 141.204(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations.

- **Both sides of this public notice/certification MUST be delivered to the persons served by the water system** in order for your customers to have access to the required **Contaminant Group List**.
- If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.
- Notify new billing customers or units prior to or at the time their service begins.
- Provide multi-lingual notifications if 30% of the residents served are non-English speaking.
- Repeat the notice quarterly for as long as the violation exists.
- Should you decide not to use this enclosed notice and develop your own version instead, the mandatory language in **bold italics** may not be altered and you **MUST** include the ten required elements listed in C.F.R. 141.205.

3. **After issuing the “Notice to the Public” to your customers, sign and date the “Publication Notification Certification” at the bottom of the notice. Mail the completed public notice/certification form to the Public Water Supply Section, ATTN: Public Notification Rule Manager, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634 within ten days after issuing the notice (C.F.R. 141.31(d)). Keep a copy for your files.**