



PO Box B
Charleston, SC 29402
103 St. Philip Street (29403)

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CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

JUL 1 2021

CHARLESTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

June 24, 2021

Please share our 2020 Annual Water Quality Report with your residents

Dear Property Manager,

Enclosed is a copy of our annual consumer confidence report (CCR), which is typically published in May. It provides important information about our tap water, including where it comes from, how it's treated, and lab test results showing that it meets or exceeds all quality standards set by the EPA and SCDHEC.

We've shared this information with our customers via email or on their monthly water bill. However, those who do not receive a water bill, such as tenants/homeowners whose water is included in their monthly rent/regime fee, did not receive this information.

In order to reach these customers, we're sending the enclosed poster to property managers and homeowners associations to display for residents, along with a copy of the report. To request additional posters and/or hard copies of the water quality report, please contact us at info@charlestoncpw.com or (843) 727-6800 (select option 6). Please include the number of copies you need, your name, and mailing address. If you have any questions about the report, please contact me at cliftonlm@charlestoncpw.com.

Thank you for helping communicate this important water quality information.

Sincerely,

Laura Clifton
Communications Coordinator



Get the facts about your tap water.

Our drinking water met or exceeded
all quality standards and regulations in 2020.

Our 2020 water quality report is now available.

View it at:

www.charlestonwater.com/2020report
or call (843) 727-6800 to request a hard copy.

Voluntary Testing of Unregulated Compounds All were below their EPA Health Advisory or drinking water standard.

Compounds With Health Advisories	Units	Aug 2018	Nov 2018	Feb 2019	May 2019	Oct 2020	Nov 2021	Feb 2022	May 2023	EPA Health Advisory	Secondary Drinking Water Standards	Notes
2,4-D (2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid)	ppt	NA	NA	NA	8.7	NA				200,000*		Compounds Analyzed: Aug. 2018: 597 Nov. 2018: 595 Feb. 2019: 627 May 2019: 601 Oct. 2020: 573 Definitions: EPA Health Advisory (HA): An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a substance based on health effects info. It's not a legally enforceable standard or regulation, but rather a technical guidance for regulators. Exclusions: Thirty-four compounds with HAs were not analyzed because there are no analytical methods to do so. Footnotes: *EPA Drinking Water Equivalent Level (DWEL). **EPA Health Advisory, as data is not available. Position Statements: To view our position statements on Fluoride and Unregulated Compounds, please go to www.charlestonwater.com/positionstatement .
Aluminum	ppb	74	58	38	35	70				NA	50 to 200	
Atrazine	ppt	22	19	7.2	16	24				700,000*		
Barium	ppb	14	12	16	17	14				7,000*		
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	5.6	3.7	3.3	2.9	5.2				100*		
Chloroform	ppb	7.2	2.7	2.6	3.2	7.1				350*		
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	2.6	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.9				700*		
Formaldehyde	ppb	NA	NA	NA	7.1	7.3				7000*		
Diuron	ppt	NA	NA	NA	NA	82				100,000*		
Manganese	ppb	13	6.4	3.3	9.6	8.5				1,600*		
Perchlorate	ppb	NA	NA	0.13	0.12	NA				25*		
PFOA	ppt	5.0	4.1	4.4	5.3	4.3				70**		
PFOS	ppt	9.7	6.1	6.3	7.0	7.5						
Simazine	ppt	NA	6.9	14	16	NA				700,000*		
Strontium	ppb	53	41	43	53	46				20,000*		
Zinc	ppb	NA	NA	6.3	NA	NA				10,000*		

Additional unregulated compounds detected during unregulated compound testing.

Compound	Units	Aug 2018	Nov 2018	Feb 2019	May 2019	Oct 2020	Nov 2021	Feb 2022	May 2023	EPA Health Advisory	Secondary Drinking Water Standards	Notes
1,4 Dioxane	ppb	0.11	0.14	0.32	0.33	0.11				NA		
6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid (6:2 FTS)	ppt	NA	4.0	NA	NA	NA				NA		
Acesulfame-K	ppt	NA	32	160	88	46				NA		
Atenolol	ppt	NA	NA	NA	5.8	NA				NA		
Boron	ppb	37	32	26	22	28				NA		
Chromium, hexavalent	ppb	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.33				NA		
DEA (Diethanolamine)	ppt	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.2				NA		
DEET	ppt	NA	12	NA	NA	21				NA		
Iohexal	ppt	NA	19	19	51	21				NA		
Lincomycin	ppt	NA	24	NA	NA	NA				NA		
NDMA	ppt	7.5	3.4	5.6	5.1	7.7				NA		
NMEA	ppt	NA	2.5	NA	NA	NA				NA		
PFBA	ppt	7.0	NA	NA	NA	8				NA		
PFBS	ppt	3.8	4.0	3.2	3.5	2.9				NA		
PFHpA	ppt	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.8	2.6				NA		
PFHxA	ppt	5.6	5.7	4.3	5.6	4.9				NA		
PFHxS	ppt	3.3	2.8	2.1	2.2	2.7				NA		
PFPeA	ppt	7.5	7.5	4.7	5.8	5.5				NA		
Quinoline	ppt	NA	19	NA	NA	NA				NA		
Sucralose	ppt	NA	950	640	580	430				NA		
Tetrahydrofuran	ppb	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.1				NA		
Theobromine	ppt	NA	NA	16	NA	NA				NA		
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	15.4	8.4	7.5	7.6	14.2				NA		



Water Characteristics

Parameter	Units	2020 Average	Highest Level Recommended by EPA
Chloride	ppm	13	250
Color	PCU	<1	15
Iron	ppm	<0.10	0.3
Manganese	ppm	<0.05	0.05
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	93	500
Sodium	ppm	8	No Standard
Alkalinity	ppm	28	
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	184	
Hardness	ppm	58 (3.38 gpg)	
Ortho-phosphate	ppm	1.2	
Silica	ppm	8.3	
Temperature	F	71.2° (22°C)	

Abbreviations: ppm: Parts per million PCU: Platinum Cobalt Units gpg: Grains per gallon µmhos/cm: Micromhos/cm

These parameters affect aesthetics, such as taste, odor, hardness, etc. The EPA has secondary standards for some of these parameters, which are recommended guidelines.

This report is published annually in May.

Questions / Extra Copies:
 Communications department: (843) 727-7146

En Español:
 Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Get Involved:
 Our Board of Commissioners meets monthly and meetings are open to the public. Citizen participation is welcomed. Meetings are typically held the fourth Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. at 103 St. Philip Street. More information: www.charlestonwater.com.

Public Water System ID#:
 1010001

@CharlestonWater
 @ChasWaterSystem
 YouTube.com/CharlestonWater
 www.charlestonwater.com
 Charleston Water System
24/7 Customer Service: (843) 727-6800
Main Office (Downtown) 103 St. Philip Street Charleston SC, 29403
North Area Office 6296 Rivers Avenue North Charleston, SC 29418

Regulatory Testing These were the only compounds found in our water and all were below the regulatory limit.

	Required Regulatory Report	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by EPA	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Actual Level in CWS Water for 2020	Year Sampled	Possible Sources in Water
Inorganic Compounds	Turbidity A measure of the amount of suspended particles in the water (cloudiness); an indicator of overall water quality and filtration effectiveness.	Requires a specific treatment technique; 95% of monthly samples must be less than 0.3 NTU	NA	0.12 NTU Highest level detected 100% of monthly samples met the limit Range: 0.07 - 0.12	2020	Soil runoff
	Cryptosporidium A parasite spread through human and animal waste that causes gastrointestinal illness.	None	Zero Cryptosporidium oocysts per 1 liter of water	0.0	2020	Human and animal sources
	Giardia A parasite spread through human and animal waste that causes gastrointestinal illness.	None	Zero Giardia oocysts per 1 liter of water	0.0	2020	Human and animal sources
Disinfectants	Copper A metal widely used in household plumbing that may corrode into water.	90th percentile of all samples collected must be less than the 1.3 ppm action level	1.3 ppm	0.12 ppm (No samples exceeded the action level) Range: 0 to 0.18 ppm	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing materials EPA requires testing for copper and lead once every three years.
	Lead A metal no longer used in water pipes, but may be present in plumbing fixtures or old pipes; may corrode into water.	90th percentile of all samples collected must be less than the 15 ppb action level	0 ppb	90th percentile = 2.3 ppb (No samples exceeded the action level) Range: 0 to 11 ppb	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing materials EPA requires testing for copper and lead once every three years.
	Nitrate/Nitrite Nitrates and nitrites are nitrogen-oxygen compounds that can become a source of pollution in the form of unwanted nutrients.	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.18 ppm	2020	Runoff from fertilizers
Disinfection Byproducts	Fluoride A substance that is naturally occurring in some water sources, particularly groundwater. It is also added to drinking water to help prevent tooth decay.	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.11 ppm in source water 0.50 ppm in finished water Range: 0.45 to 0.67 ppm	2020	Naturally occurring in source water and adjusted during treatment to prevent tooth decay.
	Chlorine Dioxide A disinfection agent added in small amounts to protect against microbes.	800 ppb	800 ppb	260 ppb Range: 0 to 260 ppb	2020	Added for disinfection
	Chloramine Residual A compound of chlorine and ammonia added in small amounts to treated water to protect against microbes.	4 ppm MRDL	4 ppm MRDLG	3.0 ppm Running Annual Average Range: 2.0 - 3.0 ppm	2020	Added for disinfection
Organics & Bacteria	Total Trihalomethanes (Stage 2) Stage 2 of the Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule requires the locational running annual average (LRAA) for each sampling location to be below the MCL. CWS has eight sampling locations.	Locational Running Annual Average must be below 80 ppb	NA	Highest level detected: 15.93 ppb Range: 4.32 - 15.93 ppb	2020	Byproduct of disinfection
	Total Haloacetic Acids (Stage 2) Stage 2 of the Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule requires the locational running annual average (LRAA) for each sampling location to be below the MCL. CWS has eight sampling locations.	Locational Running Annual Average must be below 60 ppb	NA	Highest level detected: 20.86 ppb Range: 5.8 - 20.86 ppb	2020	Byproduct of disinfection
	Chlorite A byproduct formed when chlorine dioxide is used to disinfect water.	1 ppm	0.8 ppm	Highest level detected: 0.73 ppm Range: <0.02 - 0.73 ppm	2020	Byproduct of disinfection
Organics & Bacteria	Total Organic Carbon (TOC) The measure of organic substances in a body of water, mostly from naturally occurring sources such as plant material. TOC provides a measurement for the potential formation of disinfection byproducts.	No MCL; EPA requires a specific treatment technique.	Required % removal varies from 35% - 55% TOC removal, depending on source water quality	Removal Range: 57% to 65% 61.4 % removed	2020	Naturally present in the environment
	Total Coliform Bacteria A group of bacteria whose presence in water indicates possible contamination with soil or waste from warm blooded animals.	Presence of coliform bacteria greater than or equal to 5% of monthly samples	0%	2.4% highest % of positive monthly samples Range: 0 - 2.4% All repeat samples were satisfactory	2020	Naturally present in the environment

Abbreviations: ppm: Parts per million (mg/L) ppb: Parts per billion (ug/L) ppt: Parts per trillion (ng/L) LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average RAA: Running Annual Average NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

DEFINITIONS

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.

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.

Action Level (AL)
 The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements 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 (MRDL)
 The highest level of 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 (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 contamination.

EPA's 2020 Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR2)

Compound	Units	Raw Water		Finished Water		Distribution Water	
		Average	Range	Average	Range	Average	Range
HAA5	ppb					12.19	8.14 - 18.44
HAA6Br	ppb					5.89	4.34 - 8.42
HAA9	ppb					17.28	12.25 - 25.86
Bromide	ppb	0.04	0.03 - 0.04				
Manganese	ppb			9.38	6.15 - 14.4		
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	7.45	6.46 - 7.98				

BUSHY PARK RESERVOIR IS OUR PRIMARY WATER SOURCE

Source Water Protection

To raise awareness about preventing water pollution, SC DHEC identifies potential sources of contamination for each drinking water source in the state. www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/source-water-protection

You Can Help

Pick up the poop! Pet waste adds bacteria and excess nutrients, which contribute to algae growth that chokes out plants and wildlife.

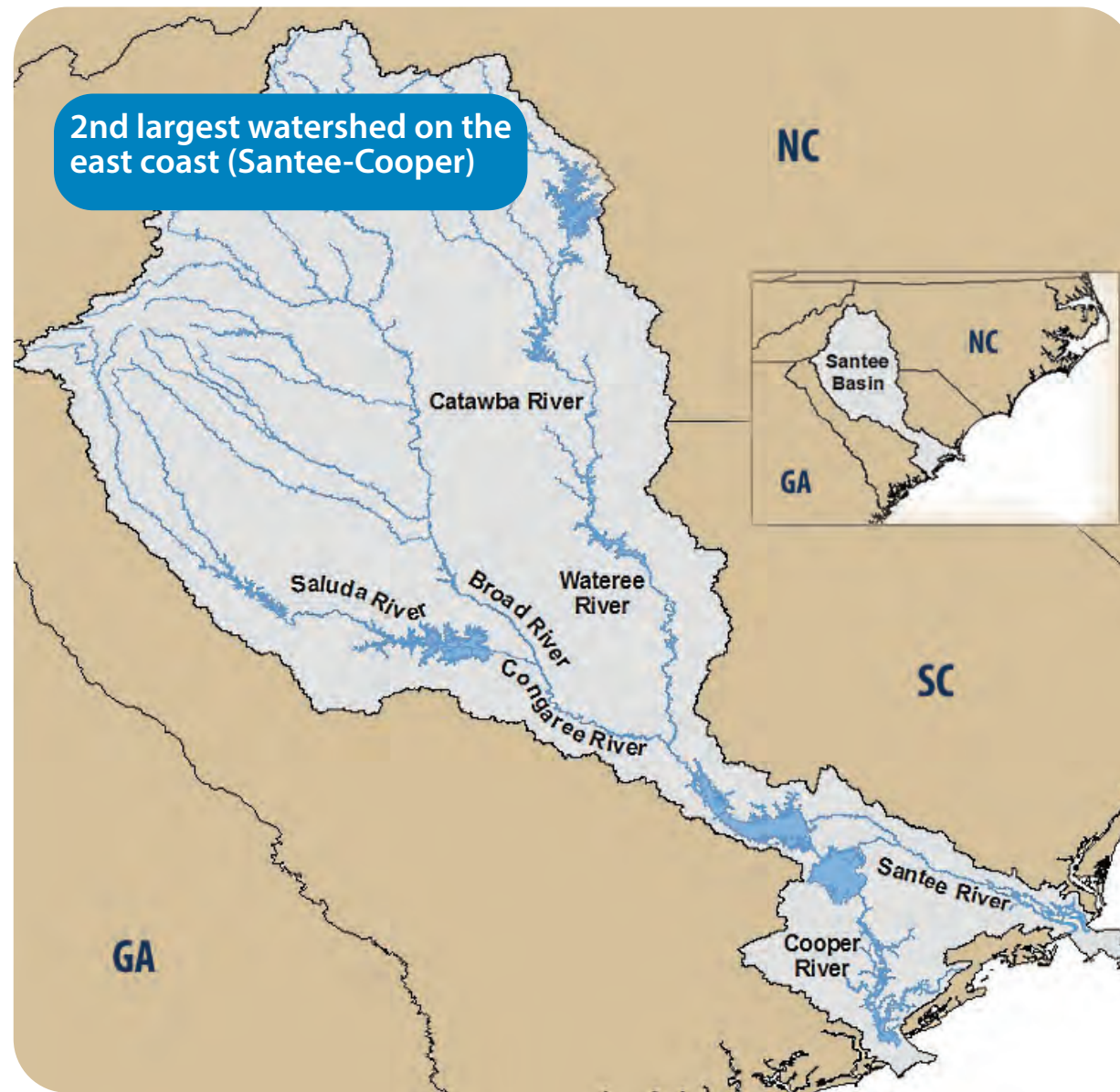
Don't over-fertilize your lawn. It washes into storm drains, streams, rivers and oceans.

No dumping in storm drains. They empty directly into a waterway.

Proper disposal of oils, paints, and chemicals.



BUSHY PARK RESERVOIR WATERSHED



MESSAGE FROM THE EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, some elderly and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice 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 (1-800-426-4791).

EDISTO RIVER IS OUR SECONDARY WATER SOURCE



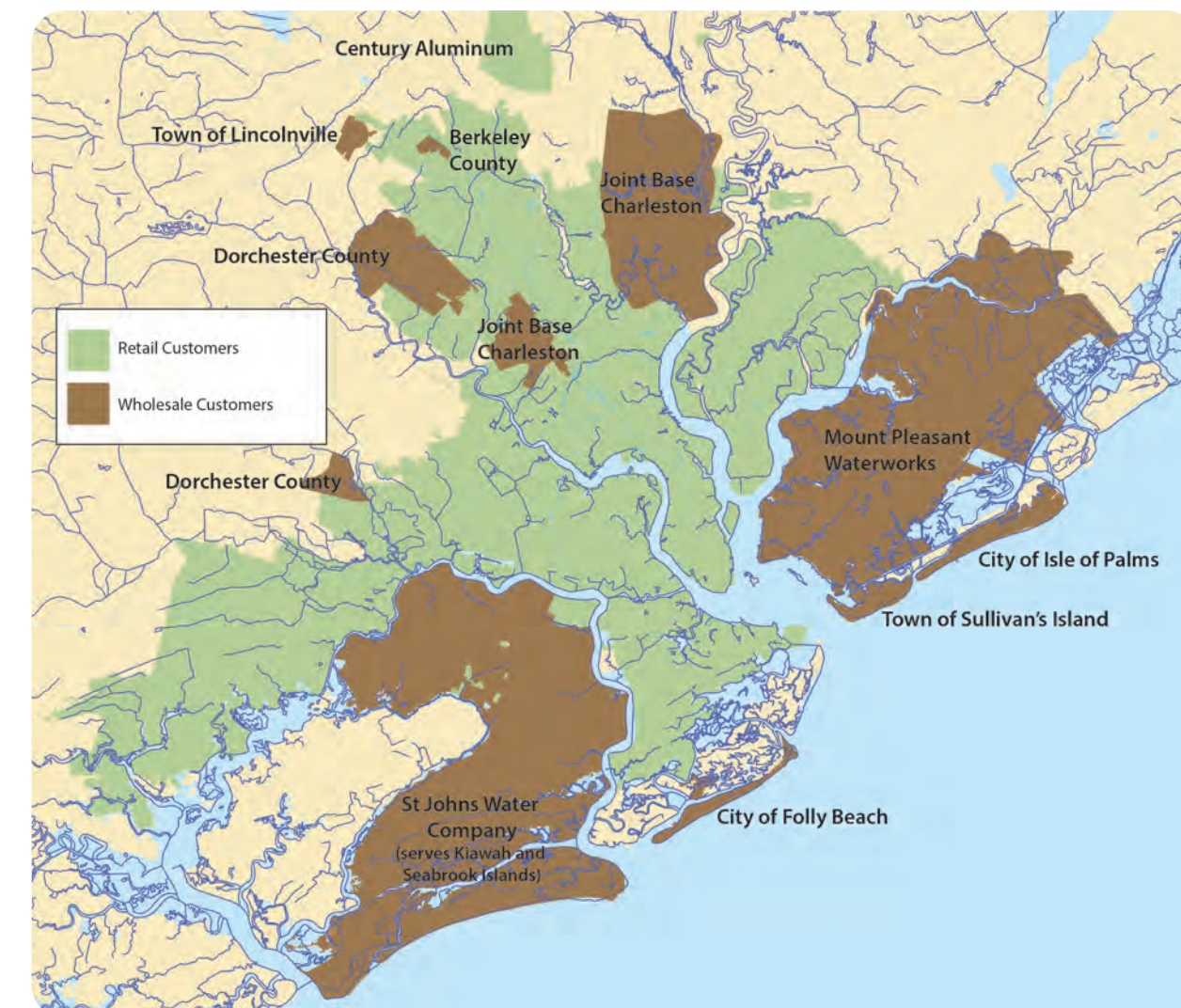
- Located in Givhans Ferry State Park
- Connected to Hanahan Water Treatment Plant by a 23 mile tunnel
- In 2020-2021, we will spend \$4.6 million to improve our intake structure

BY THE NUMBERS

- 1** Largest water treatment plant by permitted capacity in S.C.
- 9** Wholesale customers
- 1,850** Miles of water mains
- 10,500** Fire hydrants
- 20,000** Total annual water quality tests
- 37,000** Water valves
- \$40,000** Spent since 2017 on voluntary unregulated compound testing
- 123,000** Retail customer accounts
- 450,000** People served in the tri-county area
- 64 MGD** Average daily volume of treated water
- 105.5 MGD** Largest recorded volume treated in one day
- 115.4 MGD** DHEC permitted capacity

MGD = Million Gallons Per Day

WATER SERVICE AREA



POSSIBLE CONTAMINANTS IN SOURCE WATER

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells.

As water travels over land and into waterways, it dissolves natural minerals and picks up substances from animals or human activity.

To protect public health, water treatment plants reduce contaminants to safe levels established by regulations.

Microbes, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from septic systems, livestock, pets and wildlife.

Organic compounds, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, can also come from gas stations, runoff, and septic systems.

Inorganic compounds, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or the result of storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Radioactive compounds can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Pesticides and herbicides may come from agriculture, runoff, and residential uses.



Adding and maintaining critical infrastructure is an important part of maintaining water quality all the way to customer taps!

Learn more about our capital improvements program at: www.charlestonwater.com/CIP

TREATMENT PROCESS

