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ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025

Presented By

Appalachian State University WTP

APPSTATE

PWS ID#: NC0195101

Introduction

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 water source, 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 providing you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies.

Source Water Assessment Program Results

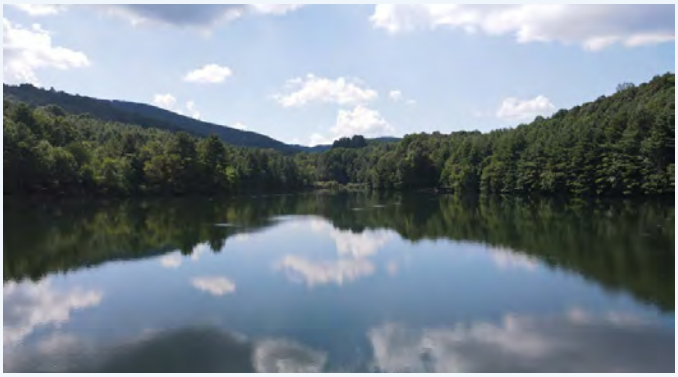
The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Public Water Supply (PWS) section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), has conducted assessments for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments was to determine the susceptibility of each drinking 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. 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. The relative susceptibility rating of each source for Appalachian State WTP 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:		
SOURCE NAME:	SUSCEPTIBILITY RATING:	SWAP REPORT DATE:
Norris Branch	Moderate	September 9, 2020
Howards Creek	Moderate	September 9, 2020

The complete SWAP assessment report for Appalachian State University may be viewed at ncwater.org/?page=600&Action=Swap_Search; use the search term "Appalachian State Univ WTP" or ID 0195101. Please note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available online may differ from the results that were available at the time this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was prepared. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email requests to swap@deq.nc.gov. Please indicate your system name and PWS ID 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 at (919) 707-9098.

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

Appalachian State WTP uses surface water as the source of all water produced. The primary water source is the Norris Branch stream, which is located off Rainbow Trail. This small stream is fed from the Howards Knob watershed. There is no industrial activity within the Howards Knob watershed and limited residential development, so there is little danger from contaminants associated with those activities. Our large reservoir stores approximately 300 million gallons of water. The secondary water source, used periodically in dry conditions, is Howards Creek, which is fed from the Rich Mountain watershed.



About Our Reporting Violation

Required paired total organic carbon (TOC) samples for the compliance period beginning April 1, 2025, were not reported within the required time frame. TOC is monitored as a disinfection by-product precursor and does not have a health-based standard, so no customer action was needed. Samples were collected July 1, 2025, and routine quarterly monitoring has resumed.

The water system received a violation for failure to submit Lead Consumer Notices to the state by the required deadline. All lead samples were below the required action limit.

What If I Have Any Questions or Would Like to Become More Involved?

Appalachian State Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is administered through the Facility Operations Department. All operational data is stored on-site at the water treatment facility on Rainbow Trail and open for public inspection. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Jason Harkey, Water Plant Supervisor, at (828) 262-3197.

Substances That Could Be in 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 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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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 occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the U.S. EPA by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

About Our Violation

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) — MCL Exceedance

Quarterly monitoring for January 1 through March 30, 2025, showed the running annual average for HAA5 at one or more sampling sites exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.060 part per million (ppm), with a high of 0.077 ppm. HAA5 are by-products that form when chlorine reacts with organic material in source water. We optimized finished-water chlorine and pH and increased distribution flushing; subsequent results are back below the MCL.

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater.

Tap vs. Bottled

Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced us all that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 40 percent of bottled water is actually just tap water, according to government estimates.

The FDA is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that's packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommended eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to $1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you installed a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you'd pay for bottled water.

For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, visit goo.gl/Jxb6xG.

How Long Can I Store Drinking Water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate, even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria prior to filling up with the tap water, the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water could be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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 building plumbing. Appalachian State WTP is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components within campus buildings. The Appalachian State Facilities Operations group, of which the WTP is a part, is responsible for the plumbing in our dormitories, dining halls, and other campus buildings, and shares in the responsibility of protecting our campus community from lead exposure. This includes identifying and removing lead materials within campus plumbing and taking steps to reduce risk to residents, students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Before drinking tap water, flush the pipes for several minutes by running the tap, taking a shower, or running a load of laundry or dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have it tested, contact Appalachian State WTP at (828) 262-3197. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

We have been working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and prepared an inventory of all service lines in our water system. There are no lead service lines anywhere in Appalachian State University's campus water distribution system, and no galvanized service lines that require replacement. A copy of the lead service line inventory is available upon request by calling the Appalachian State WTP at (828) 262-3197.

Count On Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water.
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions.
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results.
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry.
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels.
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies.
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop!

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- A standard showerhead uses about 2.5 gallons of water per minute, which means a 10-minute shower uses roughly 25 gallons. Shortening your shower by just a few minutes each day can save thousands of gallons per year. Installing a WaterSense-labeled showerhead can reduce that flow even further without sacrificing pressure.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Run your washing machine only with full loads. A standard top-loading washer uses about 30 to 40 gallons per cycle, while high-efficiency models use as little as 15 gallons. Washing full loads instead of partial ones can save thousands of gallons each year, and selecting the appropriate load size setting helps when a full load isn't possible.
- Automatic dishwashers use the same amount of water per cycle regardless of how many dishes are loaded. ENERGY STAR certified models use 3.5 gallons or less per cycle, while older units can use 10 to 15 gallons. Either way, running your dishwasher only when it's full gets the most out of every cycle.
- Report any signs of leaks or running water in restrooms or common areas to building maintenance right away. A leaking flush valve toilet can waste up to 5 gallons per minute — that's potentially thousands of gallons in a single day if it goes unaddressed.

Why We Test So Often

Drinking water is one of the most closely monitored resources in the United States. Water systems regularly test for bacteria, disinfectants, metals, organic chemicals, radioactive substances, and many other contaminants. Some tests are performed daily, while others are conducted weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, depending on regulatory requirements and system size. Microbiological testing for bacteria such as coliforms ensures that disinfection is working properly. Turbidity monitoring confirms effective filtration. Chemical testing verifies that treatment processes remain optimized. All certified laboratories must meet strict quality assurance requirements to ensure accurate results. When results approach regulatory limits, corrective actions are taken immediately.

Test Results

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 from January 1 through December 31, 2025.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2025	[4]	[4]	0.86	0.30–1.66	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2025	60[1]	NA	77	23–116	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	54	20–58	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity[2] (NTU)	2025	TT = 1 NTU	NA	0.03	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2025	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community[3]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	1.3	0.40	ND–0.49	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0	ND	ND–9.00	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
pH (units)	2025	6.5–8.5	NA	7.70	NA	No	Naturally occurring

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES[4]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sodium (ppm)	2025	5.49	NA	NA

[1] Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
[2] Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.
[3] This table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at appstate.water.plant@gmail.com.
[4] Unregulated contaminants are those for which the U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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.

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.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIV WTP HAS LEVELS OF HAA5 ABOVE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Monitoring results for water samples collected during the quarterly compliance period beginning January 1, 2025 show that the contaminant concentration from one or more sampling locations in our water system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5). The standard for HAA5 is 0.060 mg/L. Over the referenced compliance period, the sample location with the highest average level of HAA5 had a concentration of 0.077 mg/L.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. HAA5s are five haloacetic acid compounds which form when disinfectants react with natural organic material in the water. However, ***some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.***

What is being done?

Establish a new standard operating procedure to optimize the finished water free chlorine levels and pH as well as flushing the distribution system more frequently when students are not present and using water. We anticipate resolving the problem within the next 7 days.

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:

Responsible Person	System Name	System Address (Street)
Jason Harkey	**APPALACHIAN STATE UNIV WTP**	800 Rainbow Trail
Phone Number	System Number:	System Address (City, State, Zip)
828-262-3197	**NC0195101**	Boone, NC 28607

Violation Awareness Date: January 31, 2025

Date Notice Distributed: 1/29/2025 Method of Distribution: Public posting

Public Notification Certification:

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

Owner/Operator: _____ Daniel Gryder 1/29/2025

(Signature) (Print Name) (Date)

Since exceeding the HAA5 maximum contaminant level (MCL) is a **Tier 2** violation, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within **30 days** after you learn of the violation [40 CFR 141.203(b)]. You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists.

Community systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:
- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems must use one of the following methods [40 CFR 141.203(c)]:
- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others **IF** they would not be reached by the first method [40 CFR 141.203(c)]. Such methods could include newspapers, email, or delivery to community organizations.

You must also perform the following:
- If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on your system's 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.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for mailing, posting, or hand delivery. If you modify the notice, you must still include all required PN elements from 40 CFR 141.205(a), and the standard language (including the health effects language) in ***bold italics*** must not be changed. This language is mandatory [40 CFR 141.205(d)].

Corrective Action
In your notice, describe correction actions you are taking. Do not use overly technical terminology when describing treatment methods. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with chemical or radiological violations. Depending on the corrective action you are taking, you can use one or more of the following statements, if appropriate, or develop your own text:

- We are working with [local/state agency] to evaluate the water supply and are researching options to correct the problem. These options may include treating the water to remove HAA5 or connecting to [system]'s water supply.
- We have stopped using the contaminated well. We have increased pumping from other wells, and we are investigating drilling a new well.
- We have increased the frequency that we will test the water for HAA5.
- We have since taken samples at this location and had them tested. These samples show that we meet the standards.

Repeat Notices
If this is an ongoing violation and/or you fluctuate above and below the MCL, you should give the history behind the violation, including the source of contamination, if known. List the date of the initial detection, as well as how levels have changed over time. If levels are changing as a result of treatment, you can indicate this.

After Issuing the Notice [40 CFR 141.31(d)]
After issuing the "Notice to the Public" to your customers, sign and date the "Public Notification Certification" at the bottom of the notice. Within ten days after issuing the notice [CFR 141.31(d)], use our on-line ECERT application located on our website at: https://pws.ncwater.org/ECERT to submit your completed Notice/Certification to the Public Water Supply Section. If you do not have access to the internet, mail your completed Notice/Certification to: Public Water Supply Section, ATTN: Public Notification Rule Manager, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634. Keep a copy for your files.

It is a good idea to inform your consumers when the violation is resolved.

(06/2019)

JOSH STEIN
Governor
D. REID WILSON
Secretary
RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.
Director

NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

NC0195101_20250729_TOC_MON_2Q2025_A01.pdf

July 29, 2025

TO: STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
ATTN: DANIEL GRYDER
265 DALE STREET
BOONE, NC 28608

RE: APPALACHIAN STATE UNIV WTP
WATER SYSTEM NUMBER: NC0195101
COUNTY: WATAUGA
FACILITY ID / SAMPLE POINT ID: A01/CF1 and RW1/RW1

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Disinfection Byproducts Precursors (DBPP) Monitoring and Reporting Violation: Your system was required to collect one set of "paired" water samples (one source water sample analyzed for total organic carbon (TOC) and alkalinity, and one treated water sample analyzed for TOC) per plant on the same day during the quarterly compliance period beginning April 1, 2025. Our records indicate that valid DBPP analytical results for that compliance period have not been reported to this agency within the required timeframe. Failure to monitor is a violation of 15A NCAC 18C Section .2008 and the failure to timely report analytical results is a violation of 15A NCAC 18C .1525.

You will receive an administrative penalty, assessed under G.S. 130A-22(b), for a confirmed monitoring and reporting violation for the compliance period cited above.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA shall return to compliance as follows:

1. **Resume monitoring:** If you have not already done so, collect water samples for DBPPs during the current quarterly compliance period and continue sampling as required by 15A NCAC 18C .2008. Water samples must be analyzed by a North Carolina certified laboratory. (See Web page: https://slphreporting.dph.ncdhhs.gov/Certification/CertifiedLaboratory.asp for a list of NC certified laboratories.) Your laboratory is responsible for electronically reporting your analytical results to the Public Water Supply Section. We recommend that you check our website links to "Sampling Status" and/or "Drinking Water Watch" and follow-up with your laboratory, as necessary, to ensure we receive your sample results; and

2. **Provide Public Notification:** Provide public notification of the monitoring/reporting violation cited above as required by 15A NCAC 18C .1523. See the enclosed sample notice with instructions. Failure to provide public notification as required is a violation of 15A NCAC 18C .1523; and

3. **Submit a Copy of your Completed Notice to the Public and Public Notification Certification to the Public Water Supply Section:** Immediately after you have distributed the notices to your customers, use our web-based certification process "ECERT" to submit a copy of the completed notice with your signature and date on the Public Notification Certification (located at the bottom of our template notice) indicating full compliance with all the public notification requirements. Access to ECERT is available from our website at: https://pws.ncwater.org/ECERT. If you do not have internet access, mail the completed notice to Bethany Goodwin at 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634. Retain a copy of these documents for your files.

   Note: If you do not provide the required public notification to your customers and submit a signed certification with the notice to the Public Water Supply Section, you may be subject to an additional administrative penalty.

For a Reporting Violation:

If monitoring **was performed** during the quarterly compliance period beginning April 1, 2025, but valid analytical results were not properly reported to the Public Water Supply Section, STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA shall:

1. **Immediately contact your laboratory** to confirm that your laboratory was properly certified for the analysis performed. Then have the laboratory electronically upload the analytical results and notify Chi Smalls, DBP Rule Manager, by August 12, 2025; and
2. **Contact** Chi Smalls using the contact information below to confirm that the analytical report has been uploaded by the laboratory and that it is complete. If the Rule Manager determines that your system properly completed the required monitoring, your system will be returned to compliance for the monitoring violation.

   Note: If the Rule Manager determines that valid analytical results were received for the quarterly compliance period beginning April 1, 2025, no public notification is required, and no penalty will be issued for the monitoring and reporting violation cited above.

ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

This Notice of Violation and Administrative Order are issued pursuant to authority in G.S. 130A-325 and G.S. 130A-326. Any person who violates, fails to comply or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this Order is subject to an administrative penalty under G.S. 130A-22(b). The agency reserves the right to take enforcement action for any new or additional violations of the North Carolina Drinking Water Act or North Carolina's Rules Governing Public Water Systems, 15A NCAC 18C.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please include your water system's name and number on all correspondence. Our website contains links to "Sampling Status" which allows systems to view their current monitoring schedules for each contaminant group and to "Drinking Water Watch" which allows systems to view their monitoring results and other system information. Copies of North Carolina's Rules Governing Public Water Systems can be found on our website at www.ncwater.org/pws.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions or need assistance regarding this violation, contact Chi Smalls, DBP Rule Manager, at (919) 707-9085 or by email at Chi.Smalls@deq.nc.gov.

If you have questions or need assistance regarding public notification, please email the Public Notification Team at PWSS.PN@deq.nc.gov, or call Bethany Goodwin at (919) 707-9079.

Sincerely,

RBSadosky

Rebecca Sadosky, Ph.D., Chief
Public Water Supply Section
Division of Water Resources, NCDEQ

Enclosures: Notice to the Public/Public Notification Certification

cc: WINSTON-SALEM REGIONAL OFFICE
Administrative Contact: GRYDER, DANIEL

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIV WTP 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 specified in the table below, we ['did not monitor or test' or 'did not complete all monitoring or testing'] for the contaminants listed and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

CONTAMINANT GROUP**	FACILITY ID NO. /SAMPLE POINT ID	COMPLIANCE PERIOD BEGIN DATE	SAMPLING FREQUENCY	WHEN SAMPLES WERE OR WILL BE TAKEN (Water System to Complete)
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (TOC)	A01/CF1 and RW1/RW1	April 1, 2025	Quarterly	7/1/2025

**** See back of this notice for further information on contaminants.**

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What is being done? [Describe corrective action.]

We will collect samples during the next quarter on July 1, 2025

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:

Responsible Person Jason Harkey	System Name APPALACHIAN STATE UNIV WTP	System Address (Street) 800 Rainbow Trail
Phone Number 828-262-3197	System Number **NC0195101**	System Address (City/State/Zip) Boone, NC 28607

Violation Awareness Date: **July 29, 2025**

Date Notice Distributed: 6/2026 **Method of Distribution:** Email (2025 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: _____ (Signature) Jason Harkey (Print Name) 6/2026 (Date)

Contaminant Group List

(AS) Asbestos - includes testing for Total Asbestos.
(BA) Total Coliform Bacteria – includes testing for Total Coliform bacteria and *E.coli* bacteria. Testing for *E.coli* bacteria is required if total coliform is present in the sample.
(B) Bromate – includes testing for Bromate.
(CD) Chlorine Dioxide/Chlorite – includes testing for Chlorine Dioxide and/or Chlorite.
(DI) Disinfectant Residual must be tested with the collection of each compliance bacteriological sample, at the same time and site.
Fecal Indicators – includes *E.coli*, enterococci or coliphage.
(HAA5)- Haloacetic Acids - includes Monochloroacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dibromoacetic Acid.
(IOC) 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 the required number of samples and testing each of the samples 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, Potassium 40 (Total), Gross Beta, Tritium, Strontium 89, Strontium 90, Iodine 131, and Cesium 134.
(SOC) – Synthetic Organic Chemicals/Pesticides – includes 2,4-D, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), Alachlor (Lasso), Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), Dinoseb, Endrin, Ethylene dibromide (EDB), Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane (BHC-Gamma), Methoxychlor, Oxamyl (Vydate), PCBs, Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Simazine, and Toxaphene.
(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.
(TTHM) - Total Trihalomethanes - includes Chloroform, Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, and Dibromochloromethane.
(VOC) - Volatile Organic Chemicals - includes 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Xylenes (Total), Dichloromethane, o-Dichlorobenzene, p-Dichlorobenzene, Vinyl Chloride, 1,1,-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2,-Dichloroethylene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, Carbon Tetrachloride, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Tetrachloroethylene, Chlorobenzene, Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Styrene.
(WQP) Water Quality Parameters (for Lead and Copper Rule) - includes Calcium, Orthophosphate (as PO_4), Silica, Conductivity, pH, Alkalinity and Water Temperature.

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 is being done?" 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 [contaminant] 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 as soon as reasonably possible 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	**Non-community** systems must use one of the following: • Posting in conspicuous locations • Hand delivery • Mail
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 [CFR 141.204(d)].	**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. [CFR 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 [CFR 141.204(c)]. Such methods could include newspapers, email, 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.
   - Should you decide not to use this 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 CFR 141.205. The certification located at the bottom of this sample notice MUST also be submitted.

3. **After issuing the "Notice to the Public" to your customers, sign and date the "Public Notification Certification" at the bottom of the notice. Within ten days after issuing the notice [CFR 141.31(d)], use our on-line ECERT application located on our website at: https://pws.ncwater.org/ECERT to submit your completed Notice/Certification to the Public Water Supply Section. If you do not have access to the internet, mail your completed Notice/Certification to: Public Water Supply Section, ATTN: Public Notification Rule Manager, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634.**

Keep a copy for your files.