# **2020 WATER QUALITY REPORT**



SPARTANBURG WATER ID#4210003

Cherokee Co.

## **Spartanburg Water is pleased** to present you with our 2020 Landrum Water Quality Report.

In order to protect you, our valued customer, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), have established strict standards for drinking water. These standards protect consumers from waterborne disease organisms and harmful chemicals. On an annual basis, the EPA requires all public water systems to provide customers with information about water quality and compliance with environmental standards.

Throughout the year, we conduct hundreds of tests in our DHEC-certified laboratory to ensure that our water supply meets all EPA and DHEC eansville-Riley standards. These tests are conducted at every stage of the treatment process and at many locations throughout the nearly 30-mile distribution system. In addition, on a regular basis DHEC performs other independent analyses. Landrum's drinking water meets drinking water quality that goes beyond regulatory requirements. This notable performance is due in part to the participation by the Landrum Water Treatment Facility in the South Carolina Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP), which focuses on treatment enhancements. The Landrum facility received an AWOP award as well as the AWOP 10 Year Award for achieving the program goals.

**Communities Served by** Spartamburg Water System Wholesale Water Service Retail Water Service

Gouche

Jonesville

In our dedication to providing our customers with a plentiful, reliable, and economical source of clean, safe drinking water, we have enhanced our Landrum watershed protection program. In addition, we continue to partner with the EPA and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) as member of the Partnership of Safe Water. The Landrum Water Treatment Facility has received the Director's Award for this program. We invite you to learn more about us by visiting our website at www.spartanburgwater.org/water-quality.

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## Where Does Our Water Come from?

Our Landrum Water Treatment Facility uses surface water from Hogback Creek, located near the top of Hogback Mountain, as well as Vaughn's Creek, located near Lake Lanier. The source water is located in Greenville County within the Broad River Basin. The system serves a primary population of 4,000 people.

The Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 required DHEC to perform a source water assessment for all drinking water supplies in South Carolina. This assessment consists of the following key elements: determining the geographic boundaries for each water supply, preparing a list of potential contamination sources within each area and assessing the potential for pollutants to enter the water supply.

DHEC has completed the source water assessment for Landrum's source waters. Potential contaminants identified in the report include volatile organic compounds (VOCs), petroleum products, metals, nitrates, pesticides/herbicides and pathogens. Potential sources of these contaminants include gas stations, dry cleaners, agricultural areas, automobile repair shops, septic systems and facilities where potential contaminants are used or stored.

Spartanburg Water tests Landrum's drinking water for more than 100 substances. Most of the results show that contaminants are not present in our

drinking water, but there are some exceptions. The following tables list the contaminants that were found in Landrum's drinking water. Most samples were taken at the treatment plant at a point just before the water enters our distribution system, but trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and lead and copper compliance samples were monitored from customer taps throughout the distribution system. The regulations do not require us to monitor Landrum's water for every contaminant every year. The information in the tables is for the most recent samples taken in accordance with the applicable regulations.

For more information about the state's source water assessment program or watersheds, visit www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/source-water-protection. Please contact Bryan Bates at bbates@spartanburgwater.org or 864-580-5691 for more information about our source water assessment.

## What's in Our 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. These substances are called "contaminants."

## CONTAMINANTS THAT CAN BE PRESENT IN WATER INCLUDE:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming;
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm runoff and residential use;
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also

come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems;

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

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). The EPA and DHEC prescribe strict regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants allowed in tap water to ensure that it is safe to drink. The FDA establishes limit regulations for contaminants present in bottled water and also must provide protection for the public health.

## IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

Certain individuals can be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer and who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplant, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS MEASURED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Substance	MRDLG MCLG	MRDL MCL	Highest Level Found	Range of Levels Found	Date of Sample	Was MRDL or MCL Exceeded?	Typical Source
Chlorine	4	4 ppm	1.51 ppm	1.28 — 1.51	2020	No	Added for disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	0	80 ppb*	LRAA=35 ppb	14 - 44	2020	No	By-product of disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids	0	60 ppb*	LRAA=24 ppb	17 – 26	2020	No	By-product of disinfection

\*Compliance for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are based on Locational Running Annual Averages (LRAA), not individual sample values. The calculated LRAA may include data from 2019 not reported on this table while range of levels found represents samples collected during 2020 only.

COLIFORM BACTERIA MEASURED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM								
Contaminant	ontaminant MCLG TT Result		Result	Date of Sample	Was TT exceeded?	Typical Source		
Total Coliform	NA	Π*	No positive E. coli results	2020	No	Naturally present in the environment		



#### Units of Measurement

- ppm (Parts per Million): This is the same as milligrams per liter, or the equivalent of one penny out of ten thousand dollars.
- ppb (Parts per Billion): This is the same as micrograms per liter, or the equivalent of one penny out of ten million dollars.
- SU (Standard Units): Unit of measure to indicate how acidic or basic water is on the pH scale.
- NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Units of measure to indicate water clarity.

#### On April 1, 2016 SCDHEC required Public Water Systems to implement the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR).

\*Under RTCR a Treatment Technique violation is defined as any of the following:

- E. Coli-positive repeat sample following a total coliformpositive routine sample
- Total coliform-positive repeat sample following an E. coli routine sample
- Failure to take all required repeat samples following an E. coli-positive routine sample
- Failure to test for E. coli when any repeat sample test positive for total coliform



## Lead and Copper

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. Spartanburg Water 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may want to consider having 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

L	LEAD AND COPPER MEASURED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (REQUIRED EVERY 3 YEARS)									
Contaminant	Action Level (90%)	Landrum 2019 (90%)	Number over Action Level	Date of Sample	Typical Source					
Copper	1.3 ppm	0.124 ppm	0	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives					
Lead	15 ppb	ND	0	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits					

REGU	REGULATED SUBSTANCES DETECTED IN FINISHED DRINKING WATER/DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM								
Substance	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Found	Range of Levels Found	Date of Sample	Was MCL Exceeded?	Typical Source		
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.092 ppm	NA	2020	No	Naturally occurring and fertilizer runoff		
		$\mathrm{TT}=1.0~\mathrm{NTU}$	0.09	0.03 - 0.09					
Turbidity	NA	TT = percentage of samples equal to or below 0.3 NTU	100%	NA	2020	No	Soil runoff		
Total Organic Carbon	NA	Π = removal ratio of 1 or greater	Removal Ratio Avg. = 1.11	1.0 - 2.22	2020	No	Naturally occurring		

SUBSTANCES MONITORED FOR THE SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS (SAMPLES TAKEN AT THE LANDRUM TREATMENT PLANT)									
Substance	MCLG	Secondary MCL	Average Level Found	Range of Levels Found	Date of Sample	Was MCL Exceeded?	Typical Source		
Chloride	No MCLG	250 ppm	5.3 ppm	4.8 - 5.8	2020	No	Naturally occurring		
рН	No MCLG	6.5 — 8.5 SU	7.3 SU	7.1 – 7.7	2020	No	Naturally occurring		
Sulfate	No MCLG	250 ppm	3.1 ppm	2.8 - 3.4	2020	No	Naturally occurring		



UNREGULATED INORGANIC SUBSTANCES MONITORED

Substance	MCLG	Secondary MCL	Level Found	Range of Levels Found	Date of Sample	Was MCL Exceeded?	Typical Source
Sodium	NA	NA	6 ppm	NA	2020	No	Naturally occurring

## WATER QUALITY TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS:

- AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- 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 disinfectant in drinking water 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.
- LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average concentration at a particular location for four consecutive quarters.
- NA (Not Applicable): Does not apply.
- ND (Not Detected): Not detected or below detection limits.
- **TT (Treatment Technique)**: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**OUR MISSION** is to provide quality water and wastewater services to our region in a reliable manner.

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Please contact the Spartanburg Water Customer Service Department at 1-877-797-7773 if you have any questions about Spartanburg Water or this report. Learn more about Spartanburg Water by visiting our website at www.spartanburgwater.org.

#### **COMMISSION MEETINGS**

The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC, meet regularly throughout the year. The meetings are held at: Spartanburg Water Main Office, 200 Commerce Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306. For more information and a meeting schedule, please contact Trish Heatherington at 864-580-5643.

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON DRINKING WATER

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791

www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline

#### National Sanitation Foundation 1-800-673-6275

www.nsf.org/knowledge-library/topic/consumer-resources/drinking-water

### SCDHEC

www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-home/drinking-water

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION ACERCA DEL AGUA POTABLE.** Si usted desea recibir una copia de este informe en idioma español, communiqués con Atencion al Cliente at 1-864-582-6375.

## SPARTANBURG WATER

P.O. Box 251, Spartanburg, SC 29304

