

ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)
PERIOD: JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009
Harbor Island
0750013

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you everyday.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) provides our water, with its source being the Savannah River; the raw water is treated at the Chelsea Water Treatment Plant. The river water travels 18 miles via open canal to the water plant located in the Chelsea area. The Chelsea Water Treatment Plant provides up to 24 million gallons per day (mgd) to residences and businesses in northern Beaufort County. This plant can also be used to supplement water supplies in southern Beaufort County as necessary. BJWSA's annual report is available for your review at www.bjwsa.org. This report details our water quality and what it means. In addition to BJWSA testing, Harbor Island Utilities routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

All sources of drinking water both tap and bottled water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. As water travels over the surface of 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 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 storm water run-off, 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 water 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 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. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. 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 of contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to constituents 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. Guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological constituents are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We routinely monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. Lead and Copper monitoring was done in September 2009. Harbor Island Utilities, Inc., **did not** exceed the action level for lead or copper at the 90th Percentile. Therefore, we have advanced to an ultra-reduced triennial monitoring schedule. Our next sampling will take place between June 1, 2012 and September 30, 2012.

Tritium levels in the Savannah River have been declining for more than two decades. For the year 2009, the average level of tritium in the Savannah River raw water was 359 pCi/L. Tritium is a regulated constituent and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set a maximum contamination level for its occurrence in the water as 20,000 pCi/L. BJWSA levels are less than 2% of the EPA's drinking water standard. BJWSA will continue its extensive monitoring program for tritium and report to HIU any occurrence in our water.

South Carolina's Source Water Assessment Program, mandated by 1996 Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, is aimed at protecting public drinking water supplies at the source – the rivers, lakes and streams all across South Carolina. As part of this program, a source water assessment of the Savannah River Basin has been completed. This assessment is part of a program to identify what and where pollution prevention efforts are necessary to ensure the future safety of our community's drinking water and to implement those protective measures. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has compiled the assessments from all water utilities in the state into a Source Water Protection Program.

DHEC's assessment included consideration of eight categories of potential contaminants: volatile organic compounds, petroleum products, metals, nitrates, pesticides/herbicides, pathogens, radionuclides and undetermined. The assessment identified and mapped sources that could potentially release these contaminants, such as gas stations, dry cleaners, agricultural areas, automobile repair shops, landfills, septic systems, and manufacturers, businesses and facilities where potential contaminants are used or stored. DHEC compiled an initial inventory of potential contaminants at 22 sources within the Savannah River basin. Zero sources had a high susceptibility ranking; 17 had a moderate susceptibility ranking and 5 had a low susceptibility ranking. The information in the Source Water Assessment Report will be the foundation of a local effort to improve protection of our drinking water sources. A copy of the Source Water Assessment Report is available for your review at www.scdhec.net/water.

BJWSA was monitored for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation 2 (UCMR2) in 2009. No detections were noted. If you would like to receive a list of the contaminants monitored please contact Matthew Bradley in BJWSA Communications Dept. at (843) 987-9213.

Please direct specific questions regarding HIU's report to Ms. Christie Coleman, Chief Operator, (843) 982-0405; no report will be mailed unless requested.

Harbor Island Utilities (0750013)

Substance	Date Tested	MCLG	Action Level	90 th Percentile	# Of Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2009	1.3	1.3	0.09	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing; leaching from wood preservatives; erosion of natural deposits
Lead*	2009	0	15	4	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits

*If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Harbor Island Utilities, Inc. provides high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for extended periods, 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 drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize your exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Definitions:

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Water Quality Test Results:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 or 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 Residual Disinfection Level Goal or MRDLG: The level of drinking water disinfection 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level or MRDL: The highest level of disinfection allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

na: not applicable.

Avg.: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Distribution System BJWSA (0720003)

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2009	24	0 – 74.2	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	2009	39	16.7 – 83.6	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic*	2009	17	0 – 17	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Fluoride	2009	0.8	0.4 – 0.8	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2009	0.24	0 – 0.24	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits

*Some people who drink water-containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. BJWSA's water did not exceed the average MCL for arsenic and did not have a violation. While the annual average for arsenic is less than the MCL, one standby well did have a result of 17PPB in one instance of testing, thus creating the need for them to report on arsenic. Subsequent samples results were non-detect for arsenic and the Water supplied from this well represented less than ½ of one percent of the total water produced.

Turbidity (Chelsea Water Treatment Plant)

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.1 NTU	N	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. BJWSA monitors it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

Last year, BJWSA reported that TT=100% of samples <0.30 NTU. The correct treatment technique reporting should have read TT=95% of samples <0.30 NTU, this has been corrected in this year's report.

Total Organic Carbon

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