# 2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Grassy Pond Water Corporation

Water System Number: NC 20-23-003

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 Phillip Sarratt at the Grassy Pond Water Company's office at (864) 489-7777. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. The Grassy Pond Water Company Board members meet monthly at the Grassy Pond Water Company's office which is located at 626 Chesnee Hwy, Gaffney, SC 29341. Please contact the Grassy Pond Water Corporation's office at (864) 489-7777 to obtain meeting times.

#### 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. [Name of Utility] 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 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</a>.

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 water that is used by this system is purchased from multiple sources. Approximately 25% of Grassy Pond Water Company's water comes from the Gaffney Board of Public Works which uses surface water from both the Broad River and Cherokee Creek. This water is treated at the Gaffney Water Treatment Plant. Approximately 75 % of our water is purchased from the Broad River Water Authority, who also uses surface water from the Broad River and then treats it at the Rutherford County Water Treatment Facility located in Rutherford County, North Carolina. The Broad River originates above Lake Lure, NC in the Hickory Nut Gorge area, flowing southeast through Rutherford County, North Carolina.

# Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), 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 Broad River Water Authority 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
Broad River Water Authority	Moderate	August 31, 2017

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Broad River Water Authority (NC 01-81-035) may be viewed on the Web at: <a href="https://www.ncwater.org/files/swap/SWAP\_Reports/0181035\_8\_31\_2017\_85\_11.pdf">https://www.ncwater.org/files/swap/SWAP\_Reports/0181035\_8\_31\_2017\_85\_11.pdf</a>. 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. 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.

The complete SWAR reports for Grassy Pond Water Company and the Gaffney Board of Public Works can be found on the web at <a href="https://www.scdhec.gov/HomeandEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/">www.scdhec.gov/HomeandEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/</a> Or you may contact the persons named below to review the South Carolina Swap Reports, Phillip Sarratt of Grassy Pond Water Company at (864) 489-7777 or Kim Fortner of the Gaffney Board of Public Works at (864) 488-8800.

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. 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. You can help protect your community's drinking water source(s) in several ways: dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center, volunteer in your community to participate in group efforts to protect your water source, pick up after your pets, eliminate or strictly limit the use of harsh lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides etc.

# Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

We are pleased to report that during 2019, or any compliance period ending in 2019, we received no violations.

# 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 <u>detected</u> in the last round of sampling for each particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does <u>not</u> 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, 2019.** 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, may be more than one year old.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

### 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water

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. 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,

**Tables of Detected Contaminants** 

Microbiological Contaminants in the Distribution System - Broad River Water Authority: 2019

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	NO	0	0	1 positive sample / month*  Note: If either an original routine sample and/or its repeat	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	NO	0	0	samples(s) are fecal coliform or E. coli positive, a Tier I violation exists.	Human and animal fecal waste

If a system collecting fewer than 40 samples per month has two or more positive samples in one month, the system has a MCL violation.

Turbidity\* Broad River Water Authority: 2019

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	No	Avg. 0.05 NTU Max. 0.09 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	***************************************
Furbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	No	100 %	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are < 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff

Turbidity\* Gaffney Board of Public Works: 2018

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	No	0.350 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	
Turbidity (NTU) - Lowest monthly	No	0.021 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff

\* 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.

Inorganic Contaminants: Broad River Water Authority

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm) te: The Fluoride level is co	February 2017	И	0.70	0.00 - 0.91	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants: Gaffney Board of Public Works

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	2019	No	0.55	0.55 - 0.55	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Broad River Water Authority (next samples due in 2020)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2017	0.09	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	2017	ND	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Grassy Pond SC: (next samples due in 2020)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	2017	0.075	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	2017	0.001	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Grassy Pond NC (next samples due in 2021)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	June 2018	0	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	June 2018	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Gaffney Board of Public Works

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL.	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	Aug & Sept 2018	0.085	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	Aug & Sept 2018	0	Ő	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Broad River Water Authority

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low - High	MCLG	ТТ	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) – RAW	Monthly 2019	No	.91	<1.0 - 1.29	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)-TREATED	Monthly 2019	No	ND	<1.0 - ND	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

Note: Depending on the TOC in our source water the system MUST have a certain % of removal of TOC or must achieve alternative compliance criteria. If we do not achieve that % of removal there is an alternative % of removal. If we fail to meet that requirement, we are then in violation of a Treatment Technique. Our water contains very little Total Organic Carbon (TOC) so instead of using the % of removal criteria, we use an alternative (Alt 2), treated water TOC <2.0 mg/l as the method to comply with DBP treatment technique requirements.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Gaffney Board of Public Works: 2019

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA Removal Ratio)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	TT	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio) (TOC)-TREATED	No	47.8%	25.4 % 63.3 %	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Disinfectant Residuals Summary: Broad River Water Authority

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	N	1.81	1.30 - 2.14	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfectant Residuals Summary: Grassy Pond Water SC

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL.	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	N	1,33	1.24 - 1,42	4	4.0	. Water additive used to

Disinfectant Residuals Summary: Grassy Pond Water NC

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL.	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	N	0.94	0.5 - 1.3	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfectant Residuals Summary: Gaffney Board of Public Works

	Year Sampled	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	N	1.35	1.03 - 1.69	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance - Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)
Grassv Pond Water Corporation - NC

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (B01 location)	2019	N	35 ppb	10.3 / 53.1	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (B02 location)	2019	N	34 ppb	11.8 / 43.7	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (B01 location)	2019	N	30 ppb	10.6/42.3	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (B02 location)	2019	N	31 ppb	13.1 / 50.2	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfection Byproduct Compliance: Broad River Water Authority

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM	2019	N	24	5 - 40	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5	2019	N	19	7 - 37	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfection Byproduct Compliance: Gaffney Board of Public Works

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM	2019	N	66	36.3 – 92.4	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5	2019	N	36	23.5 – 49.4	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfection Byproduct Compliance: Grassy Pond SC

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Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM - 403 Oak ridge Rd, Gaffney, SC	2019	N	64.50	36.00 - 57.00	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 – 403 Oak Ridge Rd, Gaffney, SC	2019	N	28.00	23.00 - 33,00	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM - 234 Oak Forest Cir, Gaffney, SC	2019	N	21,00	17.00 - 25.00	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 – 234 Oak Forest Cir, Gaffney, SC	2019	N	18.00	15.00 - 21.00	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

For TTHM: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

For HAA5: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The PWS Section requires monitoring for other misc. contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, and/or color) in drinking water. The contaminants with SMCLs normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water. These are listed on the following page.

#### Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants:

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	SMCL	
Sodium (ppm) Gaffney Board of Public Works	2019	7.2	N/A	N/A	
pH Broad River Water Authority	Hourly	7.2	N/A	6.5 to 8.5	

#### Cryptosporidium

The Broad River Water Authority monitored for *Cryptosporidium* monthly (Jan - Sept) in 2018 and found an average level of 0.04. The highest level detected was 0.19 and the lowest level detected was 0.00.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

# **Grassy Pond Water Corporation**

Water System Number: SC 11-20-002

## **Consumer Confidence Report 2019**

#### Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

#### Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Where does my water come from?

The water that is used by this system is purchased from multiple sources. Approximately 25% of Grassy Pond Water Company's water comes from the Gaffney Board of Public Works which uses surface water from both the Broad River and Cherokee Creek. This water is treated at the Gaffney Water Treatment Plant. Approximately 75 % of our water is purchased from the Broad River Water Authority, who also uses surface water from the Broad River and then treats it at the Rutherford County Water Treatment Facility located in Rutherford County, North Carolina. The Broad River originates above Lake Lure, NC in the Hickory Nut Gorge area, flowing southeast through Rutherford County, North Carolina.

# Source water assessment and its availability

The complete SWAR reports for Grassy Pond Water Company and the Gaffney Board of Public Works can be found on the web at <a href="https://www.scdhec.gov/HomeandEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/">www.scdhec.gov/HomeandEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/</a> Or you may contact the persons named below to review the South Carolina Swap Reports, Phillip Sarratt of Grassy Pond Water Company at (864) 489-7777 or Kim Fortner of the Gaffney Board of Public Works at (864) 488-8800.

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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.

#### How can I get involved?

#### Water Conservation Tips:

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

#### Source Water Protection Tips:

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

#### Additional Information for Lead

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. Grassy Pond Water Corporation 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.

#### Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed

below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants: Gaffney Board of Public Works

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	2019	No	0.55	0.55 – 0.55	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Lead and Copper Contaminants: Grassy Pond SC: (next samples due in 2020)

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Number of sites found above the AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2017	0.075	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2017	0.98	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the  $20^{th}$  century.

# Disinfectant Residuals Summary: Grassy Pond Water SC and Disinfection Byproduct Compliance: Grassy Pond SC

Contaminants (unit of measure)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect in Your Water	Range	Violatio n (Yes or No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.336 (RAA)	1.24 – 1.42	No	2019	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	30 (LRAA)	15 - 33	No	2019	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	52 (LRAA)	17 - 57	No	2019	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

### Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants:

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	SMCL
Godium (ppm) Gaffney Board of Public Works	2019	7.2	N/A	N/A

Tables for Unit Descriptions and Important Drinking Water Definitions

nit Descript	it Descriptions				
Term	Definition				
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)				
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)				
NA	NA: not applicable				
ND	ND: Not detected				
NR	NR: Monitoring not required but recommended.				

mportant Drinking Water Definitions				
Term	Definition			
MCLG	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.			
MCL	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.			
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.			
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.			
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.			
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.			
MRDL	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.			
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated			
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level			

# For more information please contact:

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