

## **2024 Consumer Confidence Report**

### **Grassy Pond Water Corporation**

Water System Number: SC 11-20-002

#### **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:**

You may contact one of the following people 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 month.
- 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](http://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:

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. For access to our inventory, please use the following link to email your request:

<https://www.grassypondwatercompany.com/contact-us>

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 and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of 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 your water tested, please use the following link to email your request:

<https://www.grassypondwatercompany.com/contact-us>

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Water Quality Data Tables:**

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 tables below list 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 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 at the end of the report.

**Chemical Contaminates: Gaffney Board of Public Works**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	2024	No	0.44	0.44	0.44	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

*\*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 Water Corporation – SC sites: next sampling due in 2026**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	Number of sites found above the AL	Range		MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Copper (ppm) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2023	0.091	0	0.009	0.122	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	2023	ND	0	No Detections	0 - 0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

The table above summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email your request using the following link: <https://www.grassypondwatercompany.com/contact-us>

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 and Disinfection Byproduct Compliance: Grassy Pond SC**

Contaminants (unit of measure)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect in Your Water	Range	Violation (Yes or No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.0 (RAA)	1.0 – 1.0	No	2024	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	38 (LRAA)	27.74 – 55.58	No	2024	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	40 (LRAA)	18.49 – 60.17	No	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

**Inorganic Contaminants: Broad River Water Authority**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Fluoride (ppm)	February 2024	N	0.53	0.04	0.78	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Note: The Fluoride level is controlled at approximately 0.70 ppm with the annual average being 0.69 ppm.

**Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants:**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range		SMCL
			Low	High	
Sodium (ppm) Gaffney Board of Public Works	2024	9.9	N/A		N/A
Sodium (ppm) Broad River Water Authority	2024	4.7	N/A		N/A
pH Broad River Water Authority	Hourly	7.3	N/A		6.5 to 8.5

**Unregulated Contaminants:**

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (average)	Range	
			Low	High
PFHpA (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.0044	0.0044 – 0.0044	
PFHxA (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.0045	0.0045 – 0.0045	
PFHxS (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.0044	0.0044 – 0.0044	
PFOA (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.015	0.015 – 0.015	
PFOS (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.018	0.018 – 0.018	
PFPeA (ppb)	March 19, 2024	0.0056	0.0056 – 0.0056	

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. 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. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact us using the following link:

<https://www.grassypondwatercompany.com/contact-us>

**Tables for Unit Descriptions and Important Drinking Water Definitions**

Unit 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.

<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
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:**

Phillip Sarratt at the Grassy Pond Water Corporation (SC 11-20-002) Office at (864) 489-7777. The office is located at 626 Chesnee Hwy, Gaffney, SC 29341.