Wholesale Customers

The Commissioners of Public Works provides drinking water on a contract basis to several other utilities in the Charleston area. These utilities may use all CPW water or supplement their own sources with only a portion of CPW water.

For more information about this report contact the CPW Customer Service Department at 727-6800 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. We also have information available on our web site at www.charlestoncpw.com.

CPW's Commissioner's Meetings provide opportunities for public participation. The meetings are held monthly at 103 St Philip Street, Charleston, SC. Contact (843) 727-6856 for specific dates and times.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

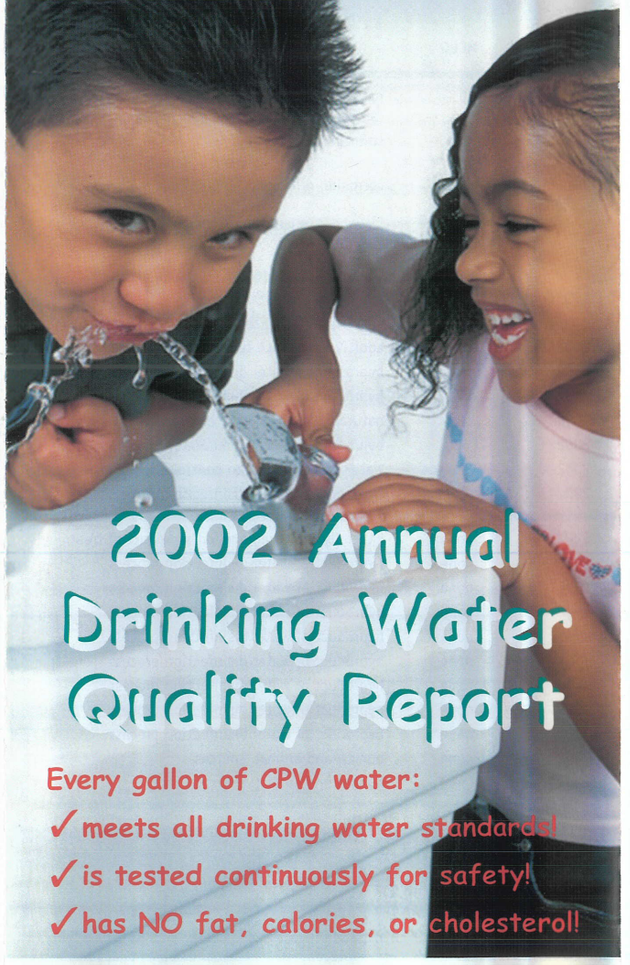
CPW Customer Service Locations:

Main Office Downtown: 103 St Philip Street
North Area Office: 6296 Rivers Avenue

PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE WATER

Photo credits: Rick Bickerstaff, Pat Block, Shawn Earl, Rebecca Freeman, Susan Meriweather

Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Charleston



2002 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Every gallon of CPW water:

✓ meets all drinking water standards!
✓ is tested continuously for safety!
✓ has NO fat, calories, or cholesterol!

Our Vision for the Future

"Our vision is to become by the year 2005, a best-in-class utility through innovation, competitiveness and quality services." CPW is in compliance with all State and Federal regulations. In 2002 we conducted over 45,000 tests for over 630 contaminants that may be found in water. The few that we found are listed in Table 1 and all of those were at safe levels. The water produced by Charleston CPW is safe to drink.

Treatment Facility

The CPW water treatment plant uses state-of-the-art technology to produce the best quality drinking water possible at a reasonable cost. The plant is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by highly trained, state licensed operators. The technical ability and expertise of CPW personnel has allowed us to surpass all state and national water quality standards and regulations. CPW has increased security at all of its facilities as well as enhancing our water quality monitoring program.

Surface Water Source

In 2002, CPW treated water from two separate rivers at the CPW water treatment plant. As rivers pass through the countryside, it is possible for contaminants to find their way into the river. 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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) prescribe regulations which ensure that water sold by public water systems contains no harmful contaminants. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations prescribe similar limits for contaminants in bottled water. The Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP) for the state of South Carolina can b viewed at the DHEC site: www.scdhec.net/water/html/srcewtr.htm The plan's main objective is to prevent contamination from occurring i watershed areas that supply drinking water.

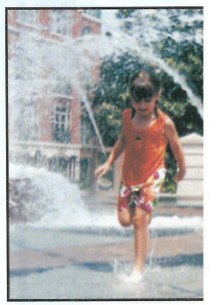
Understanding the Significance of Compounds Found in Drinking Water

Fluoride

Fluoride is added to drinking water to he prevent tooth decay. We add the amou recommended by the American Dental Ass ciation.

Microbial Testing

Giardia and *Cryptosporidium* are two types of microscopic protozoa th can cause illness in humans. There are many ways to come in conta with these parasites including contaminated foods, swimming pool recreational waters, day care centers, contact with contaminated so nursing homes, and drinking water. CPW is taking steps to ensure the organisms do not pose a problem in the drinking water. The treatme plant has multiple barriers of protection such as enhanced chemic coagulation, filtration, disinfection, and careful monitoring of turbi ity to ensure the optimum removal of these organisms. However, f people with compromised immune systems, the EPA and the US Cent for Disease Control offer the following **advisory** statement: "Some pe ple may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than t general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as perso with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, persons with canc undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ trar plants, some elderly and some infants can be particularly at risk fr infections. These people should seek advice from their health care pr viders. 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 (1-800-426-4791)."



Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the clarity of the water and is an indicator of overall water quality. CPW measures the turbidity of the water on a continuous basis and consistently produces excellent quality water.

Drinking Water Quality Report • Typical Water Quality

The information in the following Tables covers the period of **January 2002 to December 2002.** The data presented is from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations.

Charleston CPW System - Table One

	Parameter	Units	CPW Water Highest Level Detected	Range or Other Comments	MCL	Date Sampled	MCLG	Possible Sources in Water
REGULATED	Total Coliform Bacteria	% positive samples	2.1 % highest level detected in any monthly sample	0% to 2.1 %	presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples	2002	0%	naturally present in the environment (all repeat samples were satisfactory)
	Turbidity	NTU	0.18	100% lowest monthly % of samples meeting limits	TT	2002	NA	soil runoff
	Copper	ppm	0.05	no samples exceeded the action level	AL=1.3	2001	1.3	corrosion of household plumbing materials
	Lead	ppb	5	no samples exceeded the action level	AL= 15	2001	0	corrosion of household plumbing materials
	Cadmium	ppb	0.1	0.1	5	2002	5	corrosion of household plumbing materials
	Combined Radium	pCi/l	4.9	NA	5	2002	0	erosion of natural deposits
	Nitrate/Nitrogen	ppm	0.037	NA	10	2002	10	runoff from fertilizers
	Fluoride	ppm	0.88	NA	4	2002	4	additive to reduce tooth decay
	Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	RAA: 65	16 - 97	80	2002	NA	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Total Haloacetic acids	ppb	RAA: 19	10 - 28	60	2002	NA	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	2.5	1.4 to 3.7 RAA:ratio 1.33	TT	2002	NA	naturally present in the environment
	Chlorine Dioxide	ppb	380	<100 to 380	800	2002	800	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Chloramine Residual	ppm	RAA: 2.6	2.2 to 3.0	MRDL= 4	2002	MRDLG = 4	water additive used to control microbes
	Chlorite	ppm	0.43	<0.05 - 0.43	1.0	2002	0.8	byproduct of water disinfection process
UNREGULATED	Sodium	ppm	28	28	none	2002	none	naturally occurring and/or byproduct of treatment
	Bromochloroacetic Acid	ppb	6.4 average	6.0 to7.1	none	2000	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Haloacetonitriles	ppb	3.7 average	<1 to 8.7	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Haloketones	ppb	2.1 average	<1 to 10.5	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Chloropicrin	ppb	0.6 average	<0.5 to 0.8	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Chloral hydrate	ppb	2.4 average	<1 to 5.2	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Total Organic Halides	ppb	203 average	99 to 350	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Cyanogen chloride	ppb	2 average	<1 to 2.4	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Chlorate	ppb	148 average	47 to 249	none	1998	none	byproduct of water disinfection process
	Giardia in River Water	per liter	0	0	none	2002	none	human and animal sources
	Crpytosporidium in River Water	per liter	0.1	0 to 0.1	none	2002	none	human and animal sources

Abbreviations

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units **PCU** = platinum cobalt units **ppm** = parts per million (mg/l) **ppb** = parts per billion (ug/l)
umhos/cm = micromohs/centimeter **pCi/l** = picocuries per liter **C** = centigrade **RAA** = running annual average

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (**MCL**): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 Disinfectant 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 contamination.

General Interest - Table Two

Parameter	CPW Water Average	Highest Level Allowed by EPA Regulation- MCL
Alkalinity, ppm	29	No Standard
Chloride, ppm	27	250
Color, PCU	3	15
Conductivity, umhos/cm	240	No Standard
Hardness, ppm	52	No Standard
Iron, ppm	0.08	1.3
Manganese, ppm	<0.05	0.05
Ortho-phosphate, ppm	1.4	No Standard
Silica, ppm	4.7	No Standard
Temperature, C	22	No Standard
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), ppm	134	500