



**2021 Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**Gaffney Board of Public Works**  
**S.C. DHEC# SC1120005**



We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. Gaffney Board of Public Works purchases its' water from Gaffney Board of Public Works.

**I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact The Gaffney Board of Public Works Water Treatment Plant at 864-488-8800. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend our board meetings held the first Tuesday of each month at 9AM at the Operations Center located at 210 East Frederick Street. Additional information can also be found at [www.gbpw.com](http://www.gbpw.com) under the Water Report Tab.

Gaffney Board of Public Works, Inc. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- *Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- *Action Level (AL)* – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- *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* – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below that there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level* - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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.

## Test Results

### LEAD AND COPPER TEST RESULTS (2018)

***Macedonia Water District had services transferred to Gaffney BPW and the Lead and Copper test was not done in 2021. The Lead and Copper sampling sites will be added to the Gaffney BPW testing done in 2024.***

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	Unit Measurement	Action Level	Sites over action level	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	N	0.049	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

<b>Inorganic Contaminants – Gaffney Board of Public Works (2021)</b>						
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Y/N</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	0.48	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic Contaminants – Gaffney Board of Public Works (2021)</b>						
Sodium	N	7.8	ppm	NA	NA	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Physical Characteristics – Gaffney Board of Public Works (2021)</b>						
Turbidity	N	AVG. 0.053 Range 0.025-0.243	NTU	<0.3	<0.1	Soil runoff

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good Indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

<b>Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products (System 1120005) (2021)</b>						
Chlorine	N	Max - 1.56 Min - 0.21 Avg. - 0.82	ppm	MRDL 4	MRDLG 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic acids (HAAs)	N	49 Highest LRAA Avg = 43 Range 18.6-53.7	ppb	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfectant
TTHM **** (Total trihalomethanes)	Y	81 Highest LRAA Avg = 70 Range 51.9-74.3	ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

\*\*\*\* Under Stage 2 DBP Rule, for TTHM and HAA5, systems with only one location with an exceedance, must report the highest LRAA and the range of quarterly results (for all locations) in their main detected contaminant table. Violation Testing results from July 2019-June 2021 Compliance Period at the DBP-20 1 Factory Blvd, Gaffney Monitoring location sampling shows that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs). The standard for TTHMs is 80 ppb averaged at an individual monitoring location over the year. During the July 2019-June 2021, our TTHM level at Site DBP-20 was 81 ppb. TTHMs, which are four volatile organic chemicals, form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water. After identifying the problem of water age at the sample location due to COVID 19 shutdown. We are working to minimize the formation of TTHMs while ensuring an adequate level of disinfection to protect customers from exposure to bacteria. We have since taken samples at this location and throughout the system and had them tested. They show that we meet the standards.

### What does this mean?

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

All sources of drinking 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. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

If present, elevated lead levels 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. Macedonia Water District 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 drinking 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>

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

**“REQUIRED SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT (SWAP) STATEMENT:**

A Source Water Assessment Plan has been completed for our system. If you would like more information on this assessment, please contact The Gaffney Board of Public Works Water Treatment Plant at 864-488-8800 to make arrangements to review this document.”

Please call our office if you have questions.