



7525 Broad River Rd.
Irmo, SC 29063

**RCU Gadsden Elementary Water System – System No. SC4070100
2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

We are very pleased to provide you with the 2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal has always been to provide to you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The source of your water is groundwater from one well located by the ground storage tank. Below you will find information about regulated detections for the Gadsden Elementary water system that are reported by Richland County Utilities.

A Source Water Assessment Plan has been prepared for our system. Our sourcewater assessment is available at the SCDHEC website www.scdhec.gov/HomeAndEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/mindex.htm. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, or if you do not have internet access, please contact the Adam Frick at (803) 576-1380. We want you, our neighbors and valued customers, to be informed about your water utility. Customers may attend the regularly scheduled monthly county council meeting on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 PM at 2020 Hampton St., Columbia, SC 29201.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. Richland County Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes and chemicals. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Inorganic Contaminants

SC4070100 - Gadsden Elementary Water System

Regulated Contaminants	Year	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation	Possible Source
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2016	10	10	1.00	1.3-1.3	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Regulated Contaminants

Regulated Contaminants	Year	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation	Possible Source
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2014	60	No goal for the total	3.19	0.09-3.1900	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Regulated Contaminants	Year	MRDL	MRDLG	Level Detected	Range	Units	Violation	Possible Source
Chlorine	2016	4	4	1.21	0.89-2.12	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2016	1.3	1.3	.048	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2016	0	15	5.00	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – (mandatory language) the “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – (mandatory language) The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - (mandatory language) 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 Goal (MRDLG) - (mandatory language) The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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

ppm – milligrams per liter or 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 of water

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.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced, or reduced. 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 minerals and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Richland County Utilities 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 (800) 426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.