2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Town of Dobson
PWS ID# 02-86-030

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 from where your water comes, 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.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the 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. 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 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.

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 surface water that comes from the Fisher River located just north of the town limits.

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 the Town of Dobson 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
Fisher River	Moderate	March 2010

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the Town of Dobson may be viewed on the Web at: http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap Please 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. To obtain a printed copy of this report, mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email request to swap@ncmail.net. Please indicate your system name, PWSID, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at 919-715-2633.

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of "higher" does not imply poor water quality, only the systems' potential to become contaminated by PCS's in the assessment area.

Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

During 2014, or during any compliance period that ended in 2014, we received no violations for the Town of Dobson. Our water quality met or exceeded the requirements that are mandated by the Public Water Supply for the state of North Carolina.

What If I Have Any Questions Or Would Like to Become More Involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact **Mr. Michael Holbrook, Water Plant Superintendent, at (336) 356-8622 or Mr. Michael Frazier, Public Works Director, at (336) 356-8962**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The Dobson Board of Commissioners meet the 4th Thursday of each month at the Town Hall located on 307 North Main Street. The meetings are open to the public and are held at 6:00 pm.

Water Quality Data Table of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for the particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not 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, 2014.** The EPA or the State requires 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, is 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 regulation is 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 system must follow.
Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
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.
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 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.

Extra Note: MCLs 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.

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	ND	0	one positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	N	ND	0	0 (Note: The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* positive)	Human and animal fecal waste

Turbidity

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	N	0.181 Max 0.048 Avg	N/A	TT = 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff
		100%		TT = percentage of samples $\leq$ 0.3 NTU	

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

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	02/18/14	N	0.516	N/A		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Secondary MCL
Sulfate (ppm)	02/18/14	<15.0	N/A		250

Lead and Copper Contaminants*

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of sites found above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90^{th} percentile)	06/13/13, 10/23/13	0.0098 - 0.087	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90^{th} percentile)	06/13/13, 10/23/13	ND - 28	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

***Town of Dobson qualified for a reduction to accelerated triennial monitoring. The next monitoring event shall take place between June 1st to September 30th of 2016, pursuant to the requirements of section 141.86 of the Lead and Copper Rule.**

Unregulated VOC Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (AVG)	Range Low	Range High
Chloroform (ppb)	03/04/14, 06/03/14, 09/02/14, 12/02/14	41.5	21.0 – 65.0	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	03/04/14, 06/03/14, 09/02/14, 12/02/14	6.0	3.6 – 10.0	

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL/MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (AVG)	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb) [Total Trihalomethanes]	N	48.3	26.0 – 76.0		N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb) [Total Haloacetic Acids]	N	21.3	11.0 – 33.0		N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.76	1.40 – 2.00		MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfection Byproduct Precursors Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL/TT Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (TOC) RAW	2014	N	1.56	ND – 2.80		N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (TOC) TREATED	2014	N	0.73	ND – 1.80		N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

Note: Depending on the TOC in our source water, the system MUST have a certain % removal of TOC or must achieve alternative compliance criteria. If we do not achieve that % removal, there is an alternative % removal. If we fail to meet the alternative % removal, we are in violation of a Treatment Technique. Our water system used Step 1 as the method to comply with the disinfectants/ disinfectant byproducts treatment technique requirements.

Secondary Contaminants, required by the NC Public Water Supply Section, are substances that affect the taste, odor, and/or color of drinking water. These aesthetic contaminants normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Water Characteristics Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Secondary MCL
Sodium (ppm)	02/18/14	3.1	N/A		N/A

Just a reminder – If you are a Town of Dobson Sewer Customer –

In an effort to reduce the potential for Sanitary Sewer Overflows, (SSO) the Public Works Staff of The Town of Dobson, N.C. has compiled the following information to help educate our water and sewer customers concerning the best management practices for the disposal of household Fats, Oils and Greases, (FOG).

FOG introduced to sanitary sewers will result in substantial accumulation to the point of blockage and could result in the overflow of untreated sewage.

You can help prevent a costly and unsanitary overflow by following a few simple steps:

- **Scrape excess grease and food scraps into waste containers and dispose of it as solid waste in the garbage.**

- **Dispose of these items through your garbage:**

Diapers	**Cotton Balls**	**Feminine Hygiene Products**
Condoms	**Paper Towels**	**Wipes**
Q-Tips	**Drinking Straws**	**Rags**
Plastics such as cups and bags		**Food Scraps and Grease**

Remember - *DO NOT USE THE SEWER AS A MEANS OF DISPOSING OF GARBAGE!*

Please keep us updated with your telephone number. This is the quickest way for our staff to contact you in case of emergencies such as a leak at your home or business and when we must shut your water off. You may call our office or write your phone number on your payment stub when you mail in your payment.