Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District
(System #3220001)
2009 Consumer Confidence Report

THE WATER WE DRINK

April 1, 2010

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our 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. Our water source consists of eight wells permitted by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). They are located at a specific depth within the Middendorf Aquifer. This aquifer lies in the Coastal Plain of our state.

The 1986 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act established a Wellhead Protection (WHP) Program to serve as a proactive approach to drinking water protection. The WHP Program, being fundamentally proactive, is designed to protect the areas surrounding drinking water wells from contaminants that may be anthropogenic in nature. A Source Water Assessment was completed in April 2003 by SCDHEC. This was done to identify potential contaminant sources (PCS). This revealed 13 PCS. A copy of this assessment is available for your review at www.scdhec.gov/water/html/srcewtr.html. If you do not have internet access, please contact Mark Forrester at (803) 892-5544 to make arrangements to review this document.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mark Forrester at (803) 892-5544. 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. They are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District Office, 136 Hampton Street, Gilbert, SC.

The Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District 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 to December 31, 2009. 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, and more information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791:

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

Action Level (AL) - The level at which action is taken to mitigate the contaminant.
Highest Detected Level (HDL)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/l) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of 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 contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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 contaminants.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM): A group of four organic compounds that may form when natural organic matter reacts with chlorine.

CONTAMINANT (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL DETECTED		VIOLATION YES/NO	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	YEAR SAMPLED
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	4.4 (Range = 0 – 4.4)		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	2009
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.1 (Range = 0 – 1.1)		No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth.	2009
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.064 (Range = 0 – 0.064)		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	2009
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	0.91 (Range = 0.05- 1.50)		No	Water additive used to control microbes	2009
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL = 1.3	90^{th}% = 0.37 0 > AL (Range = ND – 0.85)		No	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits	2008
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5	Site B32003	7.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2009
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	0	15		10	No	Erosion of natural deposits	2009

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 materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Gilbert-Summit Rural 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.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for your understanding.

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).

Should you have any further questions, please contact our office at (803) 892-5544.

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