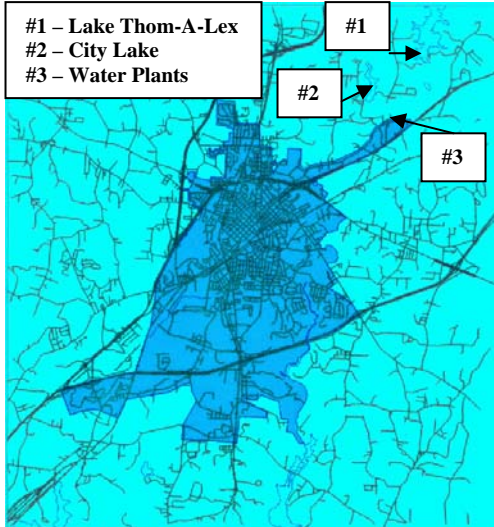


Water Quality Report

Best Tasting Water in NC in 1991 and 1995; Second Place in 2002

Information on Lexington's Drinking Water Produced in 2010
North Carolina Public Water Supply I.D. #NC0229010

This brochure is a summary of the quality of water provided by the City of Lexington to its customers from January 1 through December 31 of 2010. It is a record reflecting the hard work of the employees involved in treatment and distribution of drinking water and an affirmation of the City's commitment to provide a safe and reliable supply of water to its customers.



Sources of Lexington's drinking water: The Cities of Lexington and Thomasville share Lake Thom-A-Lex as a water supply. It is classed as a surface water supply. The lake was constructed in the 1950's and has been the regular source of Lexington's drinking water since then. The lake initially held 2.2 billion gallons of water. Since the lake was built, silt has claimed less than 10% of its capacity. The City of Lexington has installed an aeration system in the lower part of the lake to improve water quality.

In emergencies, the City has two emergency back up supplies: City Lake, which contains about 150 million gallons of water, and several interconnections with Davidson Water, Inc. Water must be pumped from City Lake to Lexington's Water Plants. The interconnections with Davidson Water, Inc. provide an opportunity for the two water systems to support each other in emergencies.

Lexington's water is treated by two plants located on the same site off Old Greensboro Road at Business I-85. The older plant was built in 1922 and has had several expansions

and upgrades over the years. The newer plant was built in 1967. Together, they are pumping an average of 3 million gallons of water a day with the capability of pumping over 7 million gallons a day. Up to 3 million gallons of treated water is stored at the water plants at any time. The quality of treated water from both plants exceeds state and federal regulations.



Questions, Complaints, Emergency's:

- Emergencies: after hours 248-2337
- Emergencies: regular hours 248-3930
- Questions: regular hours 248-3970
- Website: www.lexingtonnc.net/
- Email: rogers@lexingtonnc.net
- Complaints: regular hours 248-3970

Distribution System: City personnel maintain more than 187 miles of water lines, over 9,000 water meters, and 3 elevated storage tanks holding up to 2 million gallons of treated water. Water meters are read and billed monthly.



Public comment is welcome at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Lexington Utilities Commission and the Lexington City Council. The Utilities Commission has its regular meeting on the first Monday of each month. Its meetings are held at Lexington's City Hall located at 28 West Center Street starting at 7:00 P.M. The City Council has its regularly scheduled meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Its meetings are held at Lexington's City Hall starting at 7:00 P.M.

Water Conservation Tips:

- When you wash your car, park it in the grass, you'll wash the car and water the grass at the same time.
- Repair dripping faucets. If the faucet is dripping at the rate of one drip per second, you will lose 2,700 gallons of water in a year.
- Run the dishwasher and the clothes washer only when you have a full load. These appliances waste large volumes of water when run partially loaded.
- The toilet uses more water than anything else in the house. Check for toilet leaks by periodically putting food coloring in the tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak which needs to be repaired. Do not use the toilet as a wastebasket. Put your trash in the wastebasket.
- Set lawnmower blades 1 inch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation
- Mulch trees and plants to reduce evaporation
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean your sidewalk or driveway

Wastewater Annual Reports: Reports of the operation of the City's wastewater treatment facilities are available for inspection by the public at regular business hours. Call Roger Spach at 248-3970 for an appointment. These reports are also available on the City of Lexington's website – www.Lexingtonnc.net

Maintaining water meters



Lake Thom-A-Lex



Special notice regarding lead in your drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead in drinking water can lead to 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. The City of Lexington 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 two minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested (the City is not certified to do this testing). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps that you can take to minimize exposure is available at the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://epa.gov/safewater/lead>".

Special Info Available: All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals or radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least some of these substances. The presence of these substances does not necessarily mean that the water poses a health risk.

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 persons and infants - can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

What's in your water? 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. These may be microbial contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, organic chemicals and radioactive contaminants. Lexington's water met all state and federal standards for these. Below are levels of these contaminants found in 2010.

test	violation Y/N	level detected	average units	MCLG	MCL (*3)	Source	
<u>Microbiological Testing</u>							
Total Coliform(*4)	N	ND		0	<5% of samples	naturally present in the environment	
Fecal Coliform	N	ND		0	none	naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity	N	0.04-0.29	0.09	NTU's		soil runoff	
<u>Radiological Testing</u>							
Alpha emitters	N	ND		pC/l	0	15	erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters	N	4.26		mrem/year	0	50	erosion of natural deposits
<u>Inorganic Testing</u>							
Barium	N	ND	NA	mg/l	2	2	drilling wastes; refineries; natural deposits
Copper	N	0.05-.251 (*2)	0.125	mg/l	1.3	1.3	corrosion and leaching of metal; wood preservatives
Fluoride	N	0.19 - 1.40	1.00	mg/l	4	4	natural deposits; water treatment additive
Lead	N	<3 (*2)	<3	ppb	0	15	corrosion of plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	ND	NA	mg/l	10	10	fertilizer; treated sewage, erosion of natural deposits
<u>Organic Testing</u>							
2,4-D	N	ND	N/A	mg/l	0.007	0.007	herbicide
TTHMs (*1)	N	29 -124 1.4 -	63	ppb	0	80	by-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (*1)	N	91.5	42.9	ppb	0	60	by-product of drinking water chlorination.
IDSE TTHMs (*5)	N	27 - 118	56.8	ppb	0	80	by-product of drinking water chlorination
IDSE HAA5's (*5)	N	36.8 - 98.6	64.9	ppb	0	60	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Atrazine	N	0.00012	0.00012	mg/l	0.0002	0.003	pesticide
Dalapon	N	ND	N/A	mg/l	0.2	0.2	pesticide
Simazine	N	.0000092	.000092	mg/l	0.004	0.004	pesticide
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	N	ND	N/A	mg/l	0	0.005	pesticide

Abbreviations: **ND** - not detected; **mg/l** - milligrams per liter; **ppb** - parts per billion; **pC/l** - picoCuries per liter
TTHM - total trihalomethanes; **HAA5** - haloacetic acids; **mrem/year** - millirems/year

*1. Results reported as averages of 4 consecutive monitoring periods *2. Less than 10% of samples exceed the MCL. This defines compliance. *3. **MCL's** (maximum contaminant levels) are very stringent. A person would have to drink two quarts of water a day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one in a million chance of having the health effect ascribed to a contaminant. **MCLG's** (maximum contaminant level goals) are levels of contaminants that are targeted levels to achieve. *4. 2 positive samples were collected, neither was confirmed. *5. Special samples collected as part of a study to determine long term treatment needs

En Espanol: Para mas informacion sobre el servicio de agua potable o para informacion sobre su cuenta de agua, por favor llame a la oficina del Gerente de la ciudad durante horas de oficina al telefono 248-3910.

Allow cooking grease to congeal and dispose of it in the trash instead of flushing it down the drain. Grease will solidify in sewer lines to block them and cause them to overflow onto the ground and into streams!

The State of North Carolina published a **Source Water Assessment Program Report in 2003** for the watersheds providing Lexington's water supplies. Possible sources of contamination such as transportation incidents, chemical spills, leaking underground storage tank and old landfill sites were mentioned. For information on this, contact Roger Spach at 336-248-3970 or rogers@lexingtonnc.net.

Protect your water supply and that of others! Storm drains do not discharge into the wastewater treatment plant. They discharge into streams.



Chemicals, motor oil, trash, grass clippings, etc should not be dumped into storm drains or in locations where they may be washed into ditches or streams. Eventually these will pollute the water supply of someone downstream of you.

Be sure that your washing machine does not discharge into a creek. Its water must go into your septic tank or into the sanitary sewer system

Silt from runoff and trash thrown out onto the ground are some of the major contributors to pollution in High Rock Lake.

High Rock Lake is a recreation lake. Also, water from the lake enters public water supplies all the way from its dam to where the Pee-Dee River enters the ocean. Please make sure that what you do does not contribute to its pollution.



We at the City of Lexington work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask all our customers help us protect our water sources. These are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

