2025

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

SALISBURY-ROWAN UTILITIES

NC 01-80-010

Includes Purchasing Systems:
Town of East Spencer (NC 01-80-060)
Town of China Grove (NC 01-80-040)
Northeast Rowan County (NC 20-80-082)

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Introduction

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities is 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 your source(s) of water, 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Kalah Simpson, Environmental Services Supervisor for Drinking Water: kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov or (704) 216-2731.

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 microbial 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems

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.

Lead in Drinking Water

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. Salisbury-Rowan Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Salisbury-Rowan Utilities' Environmental Services Supervisor for the drinking water division at kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. We have been working to identify service line materials throughout the water system and prepared an inventory of all service lines in our water system. To access this inventory, send a request by email to kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov**.**

Water Bills & Reconnection	(704) 638-5300
New Service Connections	(704) 638-5208
SRU Administration	(704) 638-5205
Water Treatment Supervisor	(704) 638-4480
Water Quality Team	(704) 638-5372
Line Leaks	(704) 638-5390
Water Emergencies (after 5pm)	(704) 638-5339

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The water that is used by Salisbury-Rowan Utilities is surface water and the intakes are located on the Rowan – Davie - Davidson County line at the confluence of the South Yadkin River and the Yadkin River.

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities also operates and sells treated water to the East Spencer, China Grove, and Northeast Rowan County water systems. The data tables of contaminants detected from these systems are included at the end of this report.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), 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 Salisbury-Rowan Utilities 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
Yadkin River	Moderate	September 9, 2020

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Salisbury-Rowan Utilities may be viewed on the Web at: https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600

Note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this website may differ from the results that were available at the time this CCR was prepared. If you are unable to access your SWAP report on the web, you may mail a written request for a printed copy to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email requests to swap@deq.nc.gov. Please indicate your system name, number, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions

about the SWAP report, please contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at (919) 707-9098.

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

Help Protect Your Source Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. We offer educational programs for all ages about water concerns including: water and wastewater treatment and FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease). To learn more, contact our Utilities Education & Recruitment Coordinator at (704) 216-2056.

Updates on SRU Projects

SRU utilizes Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), giving customers the ability to monitor water usage via a free web-based customer service tool called Eye on Water. For more information on how to sign up, visit www.salisburync.gov/EyeOnWater or call (704) 638-5300.

In recent years, SRU has prioritized capital reinvestment. Major facility upgrades, as well as rehabilitation and replacement projects are continuing as indicated in the 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which prioritizes and forecasts future capital needs. Complementing the CIP is an asset management program for water and wastewater treatment facilities that assists in scheduling preventive maintenance, as well as identifying necessary upgrades and replacements. SRU is expanding the asset management program to include water distribution and sanitary sewer collection assets. Additionally, the water distribution system master plan and hydraulic model further enable to SRU to plan for associated capital improvement and rehabilitation projects. In addition, a wastewater facilities master plan is near its completion.

SRU continues to safeguard and protect your water supply and has been actively involved in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of the Yadkin Hydroelectric Project. Cube Hydro Carolinas (CUBE) is required by FERC to provide safe road access and address sedimentation and flooding that occurs at SRU's river pump station facilities due to its Project. The City of Salisbury reached an agreement with Cube Yadkin Generation to fund a portion of the project to relocate the City's raw water pump station at the Yadkin River. The City was also selected as a finalist for a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant and applied for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation (HMGP) grant for this project. The new raw water intake facilities, which are expected to be constructed and operational by the end of 2029, will be located in a much more favorable location to allow access during severe flooding events. The raw water facilities are a critical part of the City's water supply infrastructure and provide drinking water for all Salisbury-Rowan Utilities' customers.

SRU also protects its customers and their water supply during periods of drought by conducting regular monitoring of the water supply to track the flow and volume of the Yadkin River and by encouraging wise use of water. A copy of the Water Shortage Response Plan can be found online at https://salisburync.gov/Government/Salisbury-Rowan-Utilities/Water-Quality.

Important Drinking Water Definitions

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

Herbicide – Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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.

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.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L) - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.

Pesticide – Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters under the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

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 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.

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.

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.

Running Annual Average (RAA) – The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

Treatment Technique (TT) **-** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exceptions – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or Treatment Technique under certain conditions.

Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for each 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, 2025.** The EPA and the State allow 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.

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities also operates and sells treated water to the East Spencer, China Grove, and Northeast Rowan County water systems. The data tables of contaminants detected from these systems are included at the end of this report.

Salisbury - Rowan

Water System Number: NC 01-80-010

Lead and Copper Contaminants

The table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90th Percentile)	Number of sites above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL (90th Percentile)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	08/2023	0.162	0	ND - 0.247	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	08/2023	< 3	0	ND - 3	0	AL=15	

This data is from the most recent lead and copper testing completed in 2023. The next round of testing will occur in 2026 and is repeated every three years.

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	54	19 - 73	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	39	22 - 48	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.06	0.38 – 1.94	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	2/5/2025	N	1.2	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	2/5/2025	N	0.017	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2/5/2025	N	0.50	N/A	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Turbidity*

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	N	0.09 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity (%) - Lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100%	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are ≤ 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.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (lowest RAA)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Removal Ratio (no units)	N	1.46	1.01 – 2.86	N/A	Removal Ratio RAA <1.00 and alternative compliance criteria was not met	Naturally present in the environment

Other Miscellaneous Water Characteristics Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range Low High	SMCL
Iron (ppm)	Daily	0.006	ND – 0.082	0.3
Manganese (ppm)	Daily	0.003	ND – 0.017	0.05
Sodium (ppm)	2/5/2025	11.4	N/A	N/A
Sulfate (ppm)	2/5/2025	3.5	N/A	250
pH	Daily	7.1	6.8 – 7.4	6.5 to 8.5
Alkalinity (ppm)	Daily	25	19 - 31	N/A
Carbon Dioxide (ppm)	Daily	11	7 – 41	N/A
Hardness (ppm)	Daily	23	17 – 28	N/A
Orthophosphate (ppm)	Daily	1.3	1.1 – 1.6	N/A

The PWS Section requires monitoring for other misc. contaminants, some for which the EPA has set national secondary drinking water standards (SMCLs) because they may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, and/or color) in drinking water. The contaminants with SMCLs normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water**.**

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities also operates and sells treated water to East Spencer, China Grove, and Northeast Rowan County water systems. The data tables of contaminants detected for these systems are included below.

East Spencer

Water System Number: NC 01-80-060

Lead and Copper Contaminants

The table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90^{th} Percentile)	Number of sites above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL (90^{th} Percentile)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	07/2025	0.12	0	0.006 – 0.130	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	07/2025	< 1	0	ND - ND	0	AL=15	

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	54	20 – 71	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	41	21 - 51	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	0.78	0.41 – 1.07	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Northeast Rowan County

Water System Number: NC 20-80-082

Lead and Copper Contaminants

The table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90th Percentile)	Number of sites above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL (90th Percentile)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	07/2025	0.158	0	0.014 – 0.270	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	07/2025	1	0	ND - 1.3	0	AL=15	

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	53	20 – 86	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	42	21 - 60	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	0.74	0.46 – 1.05	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

China Grove

Water System Number: NC 01-80-040

Lead and Copper Contaminants

The table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please email us at kalah.simpson@salisburync.gov.

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90th Percentile)	Number of sites above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL (90th Percentile)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	07/2025	0.079	0	0.016 – 0.100	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	07/2025	15	2	ND - 59	0	AL=15	

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	56	21 – 69	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	41	22 - 51	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	0.71	0.29 – 1.20	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes