

2025 Annual Water Quality Report
PWSID#:0363151

Oakwood Hills is pleased to present to our customers its 2025 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and service we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Betty O. McDuffie (Town Clerk) or Mayor Ronald L. McDonald at 910-281-3124. The monthly Town meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Pinebluff Town Hall. If you would like to learn more about your community, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings.

Source of Your Drinking Water

Your water comes is purchased from the Town of Southern Pines, which draws surface water from Drowning Creek. The water quality for the Town of Southern Pines can be viewed at the following website:
www.sopinesnc.info/water-quality-report.

EPA Wants You To Know

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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:

- A. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife
- B. 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
- C. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses
- D. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production.
- E. 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, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Special notice from EPA for the elderly, infants, cancer patients and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system problems

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised person such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems 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)

Information Concerning Lead In Drinking Water

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. Oakwood Hills is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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, please contact us at 910-281-3124. 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. Contact us at 910-281-3124 for access to the inventory.

Source Water Assessment

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Public Water Supply (PWS) Section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) conducted a source water assessment

| Source Name | Susceptibility Rating | SWAP Report Date |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Drowning Creek | Moderate | 9/10/2020 |

for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments are 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 Oakwood Hills and the Town of Southern Pines was determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCSs within the assessment area)

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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.

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Oakwood Hills may be viewed on the Web at:

https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600&Action=Swap_Search. 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 Water Quality Report 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 the water system name and 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 systems’ potential to become contaminated by PCS’s in the assessment area.

Water Conservation

Water is a limited resource and we all need water for life. Water conservation provides us all with a way to manage and maintain this valuable resource. North Carolina legislative passed a bill which requires the Environmental Management Commission to develop and implement rules governing water conservation and water reuse during drought and water emergency situations. Please be reminded that our water systems in North Carolina are always in some stage of either voluntary or mandatory water conservation restriction. The following websites are good resources to help with water conservation tips:

<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-planning/water-supply-planning/water-conservation/save-water-1>

Understanding This Report In order to help you understand this report, we want you to understand a few terms and abbreviations that are contained in it

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|--|---|
| AL | The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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 “goal” is 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. |
| Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) | The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. |
| Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL) | The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. |
| Not-Applicable (N/A) | Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule. |

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| Not Detected (ND) | This means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis |
| 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. |
| Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/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 |
| Running Annual Average (RAA) | The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters. |

Monitoring Your Water

We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table lists 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.

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WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

| Contaminant (units) | Year Sampled | MCL Violation Y/N | Your Water (RAA) | Range Low High | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|------|-----|--|
| Chlorine (ppm) | 2025 | N | 1.05 | 1.05 - 1.05 | 4 | 4 | Water additives used to control microbes |
| Chloramines (ppm) | 2025 | N | 2.34 | 1.8 - 3.11 | 4 | 4 | Water additives used to control microbes |

Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance – Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

| Contaminant (units) | Year Sampled | MCL Violation Y/N | Your Water (RAA) | Range Low High | MCLG | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|------|-----|--|
| TTHM (ppb) B01 | 2025 | N | 10.0 | 8.2 - 14.5 | N/A | 80 | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| TTHM (ppb) B02 | 2025 | N | 15.0 | 10.4 - 21.2 | | | |
| HAA5 (ppb) B01 | 2025 | N | 27.0 | 16.8 - 38.1 | N/A | 60 | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| HAA5 (ppb) B02 | 2025 | N | 32.0 | 19.2 - 41.3 | | | |

Violations: In 2025, all of the required monitoring and reporting was completed to meet State and Federal regulations. There were no exceedances of Federal and State water quality standards.