Town of Blowing Rock

2003 Water Quality Report

Water System ID# 01-95-020

Developed April 2004

We're pleased to present to you our 2003 annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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 a surface water system. Our water is drawn from the town reservoir, which is located on land that is leased from the Park Service. The water is treated at the Town of Blowing Rock Water Treatment Facility.

The Town of Blowing Rock routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. We are pleased to report that for the calendar year of 2003, the water delivered to your homes complied with all State and Federal requirements. Blowing Rock wants its citizens to know that your drinking water is safe to drink.

The following constituents were detected in our drinking water as analyzed between January 1st and December 31st of 2003 and the last test results that were not due to be tested in 2003. The EPA has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

TEST RESULTS					
Contaminant	**Level Detected**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
TEST RESULTS TAKEN FROM ENTRY POINT					
Turbidity, NTU	*0.10	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
*Average for the year. (0.30 NTU – Highest for the year)					
Nitrate, ppm Sampled- 3-11-03	0.210	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants					

Fluoride, ppm Sampled- 10-9-03	0.843	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits: water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	
Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants						
Sulfate, ppm Sampled- 10-9-03	7.48	ppm	N/A	250.0	Natural deposits	
Unregulated Volatile Organic Chemicals						
CHEMICAL	**DETECT(YES/NO)**		**RESULT**		**UNIT OF MEASUREMENT**	
Chloroform Sampled- 3-11-03	Yes		28.4		ppb	
Bromodichloromethane Sampled- 3-11-03	Yes		2.1		ppb	
Radiological Contaminants						
Alpha emitters, pCi/L Sample Date: 10-9-03	GA - 5.9 226 – 1.5	pCi/L	0 0	15 3	Erosion of natural deposits.	

TEST RESULTS TAKEN FROM THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM					
Copper, ppm Sample Date: 9-03 Due between: June-Sept 2006	<0.050 90th % no sites above AL	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead, ppb Sample Date: 9-03 Due between: June-Sept 2006	<3 90th % no sites above AL	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
TTHM[Total	40.0	ppb	0	100	By-product of drinking water chlorination

trihalomethanes], ppb Sampled- 3-11-02					
Water Characteristics Contaminants					
Contaminant **(Units)**	**Sample Date**	**Your Water**	**Range** **Low** **High**		**Secondary MCL**
Iron. Ppm	10-9-03	0.202	N/A		0.30
Manganese, ppm	10-9-03	0.034	N/A		0.05
Sodium, ppm	10-9-03	12.0	N/A		N/A
pH, ppm	10-9-03	7.32	N/A		6.5 to 8.5

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.

Key to Unit Abbreviations

ppm = Parts per million or milligrams per liter

ppb = Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; the highest level of a contaminate that is allowed in

drinking water.

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; the level of a contaminate in drinking water below

which there is no known or expected risk to health.

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measure of the clarity of water.

TT = Treatment Technique

mrem/yr = Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

pCi/L = Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity of water.

AL = The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded , triggers treatment or other requirements which a

water system must follow.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. 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. 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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink more than a half gallon 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.

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.

The Town of Blowing Rock works continuously to provide quality water to every tap. We ask that all our citizens help us protect our water sources, so that we can retain an abundant and safe supply of water. If you have any questions about this report, please contact Tom McRary at (828) 295-5225. Our regularly scheduled Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.