

# TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK

## 2002 Water Quality Report

Water System ID# 01-95-020  
Developed April 2003

We're pleased to present to you our 2002 annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that 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 that 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 National Park Service. The water is treated at the Blowing Rock Water Treatment Plant.

The Town of Blowing Rock routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. We are pleased to report that for the calendar year of 2002, the water delivered to your home 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 1 and December 31, 2002 and the last test results that were not due to be tested in 2002. The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>					
Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>TEST RESULTS TAKEN FROM ENTRY POINT</b>					
Turbidity, NTU	*1.65	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
*Average for the year. (6.12 was the highest for the year.)					
Fluoride, mg/L Sampled: 10-24-02	0.843	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
<b>Unregulated Volatile Chemicals (Sampled 03-19-02)</b>					
CHEMICAL	DETECT (Yes/No)		RESULT		UNIT OF MEASUREMENT
Chloroform	Yes		27.30		ppb
Bromodichloromethane	Yes		2.50		ppb
<b>TEST RESULTS TAKEN FROM THE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM</b>					
Beta/photon emitters, pCi/L Sample Date: 2-1-00 Due: 2-1-04	0.72	mrem/yr	0	4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters, pCi/L Sample Date: 2-1-00 Due: 2-1-04	0.00	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper, mg/L Sample Date: 9-00 Due between: June-Sept, 2003	0.089 90 <sup>th</sup> % no sites above AL	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead, mg/L Sample Date: 12-00 Due between: June-Sept, 2003	6.0 90 <sup>th</sup> % no sites above AL	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes], mg/L Sampled: 3-19-02	40.0	ppb	0	100	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### **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 contaminant that is allowed in drinking water

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; the level of a contaminant 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 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 describe 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. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control 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.