

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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 operation, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water (Indoor savings are based on a family of two adults and one child). Here are a few tips;

- Run only full loads in dishwasher and washing machine. Saves 300-800 gallons per month
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth. Saves three gallons each day
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15-20 gallons a day
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak
- Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. Saves 400-600 gallons per month
- Don't run the hose while washing your car. Use a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse at the end. Saves 150 gallons each time
- Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn or garden where it belongs – and only there. Saves 150 gallons per month
- Water your lawn during the cool parts of the day. Saves 300 gallons

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Robert Lowder (EMD) at (910) 451-5068.

MCIEAST-MCB CAMLEJ



2011 Annual Water Quality Report

Onslow Beach Water Treatment System



PWSID# 04-67-048



Supplementary Constituents Sampling

In addition to what is required by regulation, and as part of our commitment to ensure that we are providing the safest, most reliable drinking water possible to our Base population, MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ has monitored drinking water for compounds found in explosives (nitroaromatics, nitramines, nitrate esters) and perchlorate, in finished water since 2004., and raw groundwater starting in 2011. These compounds, commonly known as "munitions constituents," are used in the manufacture of explosives or are the breakdown products of compounds used in explosives. Routine monthly sampling in 2011 detected a trace of one munition's constituent within the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System.

Additionally, MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ sampled raw groundwater semiannually and finished water monthly for listed Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs), and Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOCs) including herbicides. This sampling was done voluntarily above what is required by current regulations. Detections of these constituents were well below the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) at the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System in 2011.

Lead and 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. MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ - Onslow Beach is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, on the other hand, any older, commonly used plumbing materials and components can contribute to lead. When your water has settled for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may choose to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at their website <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Meeting the Challenge

Marine Corps Installations East - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune (MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ) is committed to providing you with drinking water that is safe and reliable. We believe that providing you with accurate information about your water is the best way to assure you that your water is safe. This 2011 Water Quality Report for the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from 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. In 2011, the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State drinking water health standards.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Sampling Results

We routinely monitor for more than 150 contaminants in accordance with federal and State laws that could potentially be in your drinking water. 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, 2011. The EPA or the State requires 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. In order to ensure the safety of your drinking water, although it is not required, MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ sampled raw groundwater semiannually and finished (distributed) water monthly for Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs), Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOCs) including herbicides, and munitions constituents. The table below indicates the detected drinking water contaminants for voluntary sampling only since no detections occurred during the required routine compliance sampling.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS - Voluntary Monitoring							
Voluntary Sampling Results (Detections) for Raw Groundwater Drinking Water Supply Wells (Pre-Treatment)							
Substance (Unit of Measure = ppb)	Year Sampled	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Amount Detected	Range Low-High ¹	Violation	Typical Source
Chloroform	2011	NE	NE	Range of values for three samples	0.34(JB) - 0.46(JB)	No	Discharge from industrial activities
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2011	6*	0	4.2**	Only value	No	Plastics
Perchlorate	2011	NE	NE	Range of values for two samples	0.022(JB) - 0.035(JB)	No	Munitions constituent
Voluntary Sampling Results (Detections) for Finished Drinking Water (Post Treatment)							
Perchlorate	2011	NE	NE	7.9***	Only value	No	Munitions constituent

Footnotes:

¹ JB = estimated value; substance was also in the blank sample

* Finished water EPA standard

** Subsequent (May 2011) sampling result indicated a "No Detection" for same constituent

*** Subsequent (December 2011) sampling result indicated a "No Detection" for same constituent

Definitions

MCIEAST - MCB CAMLEJ: Marine Corps Installations East – Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NE (Not Established): No standard is established for this contaminant based on the type of sampling performed.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR), 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 reports that include maps, background information, and a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate or Lower. The relative susceptibility rating of each source for the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System 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 based on the SWAP report completed on March 15, 2010, are summarized in the table below:

The complete SWAP report for the Onslow Beach Water Treatment System may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ncwater.org/pws/swap/pages/swap.htm>. Please 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 report was prepared. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to Source Water Assessment Program Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634, or email the request to swap@ncdenr.gov. Please indicate your system name, PWSID, 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.

Onslow Beach Drinking Water Supply Wells	
Source Name	Susceptibility Rating
BA 145	Lower
BA 164	Moderate
BA 190	Moderate

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The Onslow Beach recreational community water system is supplied with drinking water from three (3) groundwater wells. Groundwater is pumped from the Castle Hayne aquifer approximately 180 feet below the ground.

Water Treatment Process

Groundwater is pumped from the wells through pressure filters to remove suspended solids and then to ion exchange softeners to remove minerals. The water is then blended with sodium hypochlorite, which is used to protect against microbial contamination. It is then stored in a finished water reservoir tank. When water is needed by customers, it is pumped from the reservoir and phosphate is added for corrosion control, and distributed throughout the Onslow Beach recreational community water system.

