2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Town of Biltmore Forest

Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID): 01-11-030

The Town of Biltmore Forest 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 being made to continually improve drinking water quality and to 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 Town of Biltmore Forest Public Works Department Director, Harry B. Buckner, PE, at 828-274-3919. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.**

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 (EPA') 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/Centers for Disease Control (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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The Town of Biltmore Forest purchases all its water treated from the City of Asheville and re-sells it to its residents. We operate and maintain the distribution system in Town, but the source of your water is managed and operated by the City of Asheville. The Town does not provide any additional treatment of the water; but we do provide some additional water quality monitoring. A full copy of the City of Asheville's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be found at https://www.ashevillenc.gov/wqr.

The City of Asheville has three main water sources. Water flows from pure mountain springs and streams in eastern Buncombe County into two pristine reservoirs that are surrounded by 20,000 acres of protected mountain forests owned by the City of Asheville. These reservoirs are known as the North Fork and Bee Tree Reservoirs located in Black Mountain and Swannanoa, respectively, and are the water sources for the North Fork and William Debruhl Water Treatment Facilities. These treatment facilities provide water to the majority of the City of Asheville distribution system. Mills River treatment facility is located in Henderson County, with 75 percent of the watershed being in the Pisgah National Forest. The rest of the watershed is a mixture of farmland and low-density development. Along with being an invaluable water source, Mills River also provides multiple uses to the community such as trout fisheries, fish and wildlife habitat, and a recreational resource. Only during extreme drought conditions, water would be taken from the French Broad River in Henderson County. These are the water sources to the Mills River Water Treatment Facility.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Public Water Supply Section (PWSS), 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 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 the City of Asheville is determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCSs within the assessment area) and the inherent vulnerability rating (i.e., geologic characteristics of the surface water source and the watershed area). The assessment findings are summarized in the table below:

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs)			
Source Name	**Susceptibility Rating**	**Source Name**	**Susceptibility Rating**
North Fork Reservoir	Higher	**Bee Tree Reservoir**	Moderate
Mills River	Moderate	**French Broad River***	Higher

(Found in SWAP Report Table 2, dated September 9, 2020) **French Broad River Intake is only used during extreme drought conditions.*

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the City of Asheville's Water Resources Department may be viewed on the Web at: www.ncwater.org/?page=600. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email request to swap@ncdenr.gov. Please indicate the system name (City of Asheville), PWSID (01-11-010), 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 Moderate or Higher does not imply poor water quality, only the systems' potential to become contaminated by PCS's in the assessment area.

Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

The City of Asheville and the Town of Biltmore Forest routinely monitor 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 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, 2024. 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.

Please note that the data below only represents data gathered by the Town of Biltmore Forest. The City of Asheville also collects data which can be obtained in their Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. A full copy of the City of Asheville's report can be found at https://www.ashevillenc.gov/wqr.

Disinfectant Residuals Summary – Town of Biltmore Forest Testing

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low - High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	No	1.23	0.8 – 1.6	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) – Town of Biltmore Forest Testing

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (Highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	Site B01 - 48	30-57	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	Site B02 - 29	24-33	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper Contaminants – Town of Biltmore Forest Testing

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90th Percentile)	Number of sites found above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	2024	.054	0	<.05 to 0.085	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	2024	3	0	<.3 to 6	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

The table above summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please call the Biltmore Foerst Public Works Department at 828-274-3919 or email us at publicworks@biltmoreforest.org.

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. The Town of Biltmore Forest and the City of Asheville are 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 the Town of Biltmore Forest at 828-274-3919. 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, please call the Biltmore Forest Public Works Department at 828-274-3919 or email us at publicworks@biltmoreforest.org.

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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.

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.

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.

Not-Applicable (N/A) – Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.

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.

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.

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.

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

< - Less than