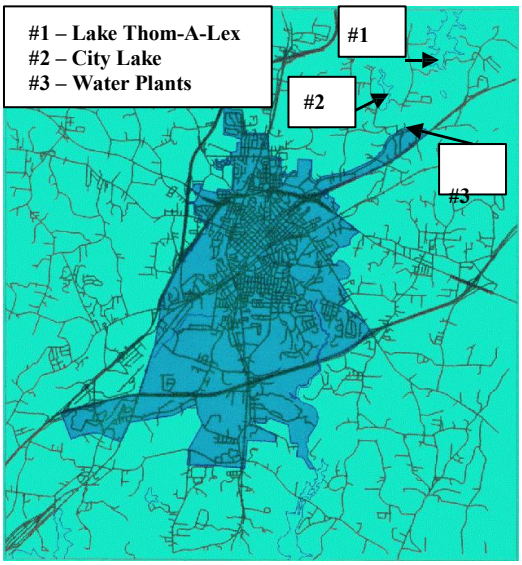
2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Lexington, NC Water System

Water System # 02-29-010

The City of Lexington operates two water treatment plant facilities. This is a summary of the quality of the drinking water provided by the City of Lexington to its customers from January 1 through December 31, 2025. This report also includes information about the source of your drinking water, what it contains, as well as how it measures up to state and federal standards. It is a record reflecting the hard work of the employees involved in treatment and distribution of drinking water and an affirmation of the City's commitment to provide a safe and reliable supply of water to its customers.



Sources of Lexington's drinking water: The Cities of Lexington and Thomasville share Lake Thom-A-Lex as a water supply. It is classed as a surface water supply. The lake was constructed in the 1950's and has been the regular source of Lexington's drinking water since then. The lake initially held 2.2 billion gallons of water. Since the lake was built, silt has claimed less than 10% of its capacity. The City of Lexington has installed an aeration system in the lower part of the lake to improve water quality.

In emergencies, the City has two emergency supplies: City Lake, which contains about 150 million gallons of water, and several interconnections with Davidson Water, Inc. Water must be pumped from City Lake to Lexington's Water Plants. The interconnections with Davidson Water, Inc. provide an opportunity for the two water systems to support each other in emergencies.

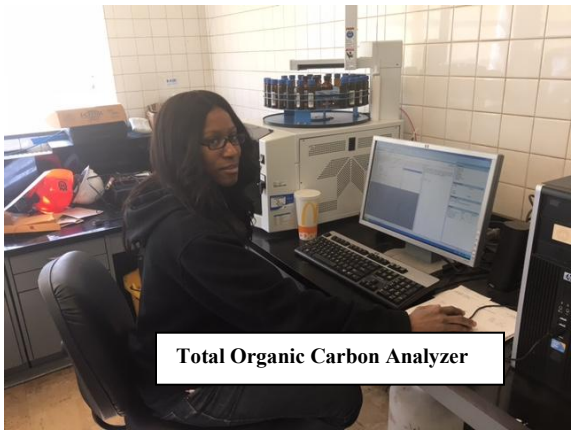
Lexington's water is treated by two plants located on the same site off Old Greensboro Road at Business I-85. The older plant was built in 1922. It has had several expansions as well as upgrades over the years. The newer plant was built in1967. Together, they are pumping an average of 3 million gallons of water a day with the capability of pumping over 9 million gallons a day. The City of Lexington ensures that up to 3 million gallons of treated water is stored at the water plants at any time for emergency use. The quality of treated water from both plants must meet state and federal regulations.

Lexington Water Treatment Plants Aerial View

Questions, Complaints, Emergency's:

Emergencies:	after hours 336-248-2337
Emergencies:	business hrs 336-248-3930
Questions:	business hrs 336-248-3930
Website	www.lexingtonnc.gov
Email:	llshoaf@lexingtonnc.gov
Complaints:	business hrs 336-248-3930

Introduction: We are 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 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.

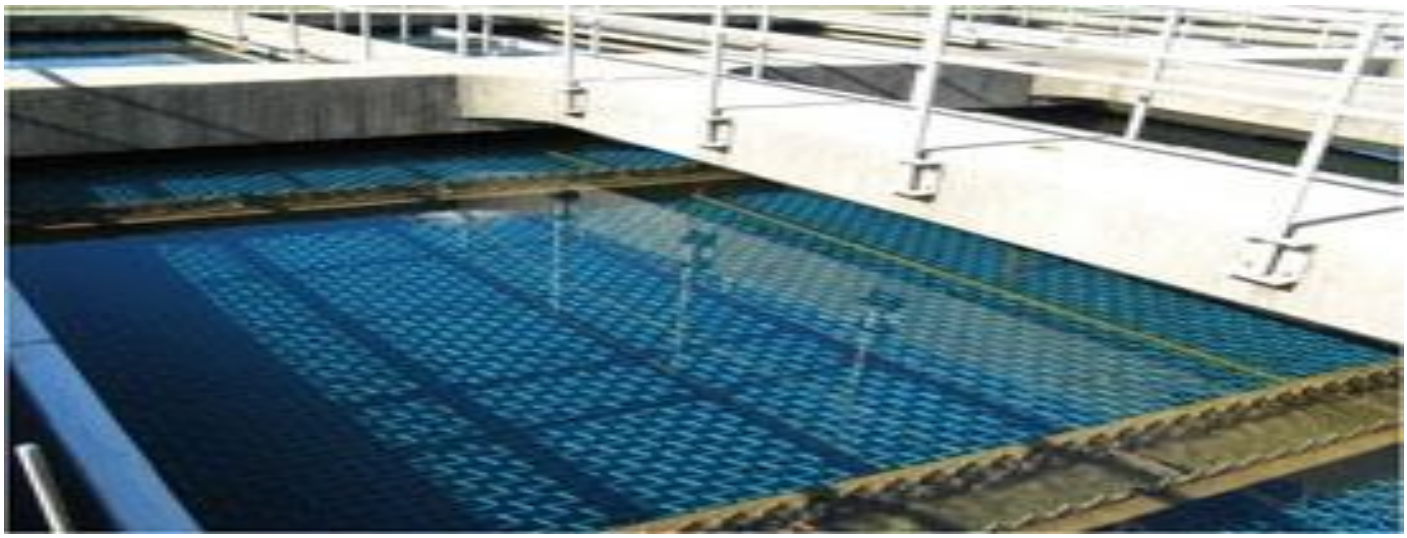


Total Organic Carbon Analyzer

Distribution System: City personnel maintain more than 192 miles of water lines, over 10,000 water meters, and 3 elevated storage tanks holding up to 2 million gallons of treated water between them. Water meters are read and billed monthly.

Public comment is welcome at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Lexington City Council. The City Council has its regularly scheduled meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month. Those meetings are held at Lexington's City Centre starting at 6:00 P.M. A calendar which provides meeting dates, times and agendas is available on the City of Lexington website at https://lexingtoncitync.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx

Back View of Lexington Water Plant



Lexington Water Treatment Plant Basins

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 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/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; and 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

- ***Not-Applicable (N/A)*** – Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.
- ***Non-Detects (ND)*** - Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.
- ***Herbicide –*** any chemical(s) used to control vegetation
- ***Pesticide-*** Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest
- ***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.

- ***Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L)*** - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.

- ***Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/L)*** - One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in $10,000,000,000,000.

- ***Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)*** - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

- ***Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)*** - Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

- ***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.

- ***Variances and Exceptions*** – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or Treatment Technique under certain conditions.

- ***Action Level (AL)*** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

- ***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.

- ***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.

- ***Level 1 Assessment -*** *A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.*

- ***Level 2 Assessment -*** *A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.*

- ***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.

Abbreviation

CCR- Consumer confidence Report
RTCR- Revised Total Coliform Rule
SOP- Standard Operating Procedure
CFR- Code of Federal Regulation
TC- Total Coliform
EC- E coli

En español: Para obtener más información sobre el agua potable o para obtener información sobre su cuenta de agua, por favor llame a la gerente de la oficina de la ciudad durante las horas de oficina en el teléfono 336-248-3910

Water Quality Data Tables of Detected Contaminants

We routinely monitor for 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 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.

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, go to the online link at LNC Address Tests.xlsx. If you are unable to access the service line inventory online, you may request to view a hard copy located within Water Resources Administration at the City Centre, 200 N. State St., Lexington, NC 27292.

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 City of Lexington is 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 . City of Lexington Water Resources Department (336)-248-3930 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*.

Lead and Copper Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water (90^{th} Percentile)	Number of sites found above the AL	Range Low High	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90^{th} percentile)	10/15/2024	.3	0	ND - 0.421	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90^{th} percentile)	10/15/2024	0	0	ND – 3.0	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 Click The hyperlink below

The 2024 Lead and Copper Report can be viewed by clicking the link below:

https://www.lexingtonnc.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/4651/638664868668770000

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)	2025	N	44	6	56	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	2025	N	40	18	54	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	MRDL Violation Y/N	Your Water (RAA)	Range Low	Range High	MRDLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	N	.79	0.2	1.58	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	2025	N	.52	N/A		4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOC) Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Simazine (ppb)	1/16/25	N	.11	N/A		4	4	Herbicide runoff

Turbidity*

Contaminant (units)	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) Violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU) - Highest single turbidity measurement	N	0.29 NTU	N/A	Turbidity > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity (%) - Lowest monthly percentage (%) of samples meeting turbidity limits	N	100%	N/A	Less than 95% of monthly turbidity measurements are ≤ 0.3 NTU	

***** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% or more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

Contaminant (units)	TT Violation Y/N	Your Water (lowest RAA)	Range Monthly Removal Ratio Low - High	MCLG	Treatment Technique (TT) violation if:	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Removal Ratio (no units)	N	1.20	0.90 – 1.61	N/A	Removal Ratio RAA <1.00 and alternative compliance criteria was not met	Naturally present in the environment

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results
The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), 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 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 Lexington Water 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 are summarized in the table below:

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating	SWAP Report Date
Lake Thom-A-Lex	Higher	9/09/2020

The complete SWAP Assessment report for Thom-A-Lex may be viewed online at: https://www.ncwater.org/?page=600. 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 CCR 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 name, 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 system's potential to become contaminated by PCSs in the assessment area.

Violations that Your Water System Received for the Report Year

No violations to Report

Water Conservation Tips:

- When you wash your car, park it in the grass. You'll wash the car and water the grass at the same time.
- Repair dripping faucets. If a faucet is dripping at the rate of one drip per second, you lose 2,700 gallons of water in a year.
- Run appliances only when you have a full load. These appliances waste large volumes of water when run partially loaded.
- The toilet uses more water than anything else in the house. Check for toilet leaks by periodically putting food coloring in the tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak which needs to be repaired.
- Do not use the toilet as a wastebasket. Put your trash in the wastebasket.
- Set lawnmower blades 1 inch higher. Longer grass means less evaporation.
- Mulch your trees and landscaping plants to reduce evaporation and reduce your irrigation water use.
- Use a broom or leaf blower rather than a hose to clean your sidewalk or driveway.

Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Storm drains do not discharge to the wastewater treatment plant, they discharge to streams

Storm Drain Pollutants include:

- Chemicals & Paint
- Motor Oils
- Bottles, Trash, & Debris
- Soaps, Detergents & Bleach
- Grass Clippings, Leaves, & Vegetation
- Washing Machine Discharge
- Sediment from Construction Runoff
- Pet wastes

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN!
NEVER POUR ANYTHING IN THE DRAIN THAT YOU DO NOT WANT IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

Report any violations immediately to City of Lexington Water Resources at (336) 248-3930.

FOG from residences, institutions, and food service establishments causes wastewater blockages and overflows of the public wastewater system each year. The City of Lexington Public Works Maintenance & Construction Department is tasked with restoring wastewater flows and cleaning up areas affected by wastewater spills. Sewer spills from FOG can flow into open storm drains or drainage ditches that discharge to fresh water streams.

What Is FOG?

F.O.G. stands for **F**ats, **O**ils, and **G**rease

FOG comes from:

Meats
Lard
Shortening & margarine
Milk, butter, & cream

Vegetable, coconut & olive oils
Baked Goods

Sauces & Dressings
Peanut Butter & Sandwich Spreads

Why Is FOG such a Problem?

When fats, oils, and grease are deposited into the sewer system, they coat the inside of pipes. Over time, FOG builds up in the pipe and creates a blockage. Clogged pipes can result in:

- Raw sewage backing up into your home, yard, or street
- Human exposure to harmful bacteria
- Expensive clean-up and repairs
- Higher sewer bills due to the City's increased repair costs
- Contamination of surface waters & harm to wildlife

Prevent FOG with these simple steps:

ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA

- ☑ For small quantities of grease after cooking, wipe cooled pots, pans & utensils with a paper towel, and throw the paper towel in the trash
- ☑ Scrape or pour grease and food scraps into a can or jar, seal the container, and throw it in the garbage
- ☑ Use a strainer in the sink to catch food scraps, then toss the scraps in the trash
- ☑ Talk to your family about FOG. Prevent costly repairs to household plumbing and future back-ups at the street

STEER CLEAR

- ☒ Never pour grease or food scraps down the sink or into the toilet
- ☒ Don't use the disposal to attempt to rid of FOG–disposals move grease down the line and spread the problem to your house drain
- ☒ Hot water poured down the drain only moves the grease further down the line and creates a more concentrated clog
- ☒ Don't expect detergents to eliminate grease. These products only spread FOG through your drains and finally, the public sewer lines

To report a sewer blockage or sanitary sewer overflow, contact Public Services at (336) 248-3930.

After hours, contact the utilities dispatcher at (336) 248-2337.

Help protect our community's drinking water sources and aid in preventing localized flooding by keeping our streams clean and unobstructed. Don't trash the creek. Report sewer spills, illegal dumping and other stormwater impacts to the City of Lexington Water Resources Department at 336-248-3930.

Lexington Utilities