

# Town of Hickory Grove

P.O. BOX 126

HICKORY GROVE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29717

June 8,2026

HICKORY GROVE WATER CUSTOMER;

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform our customers of water quality. The Town will continue to strive to monitor its water quality and keep rates affordable and the lowest possible.

WATER RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST.

Limits	Inside town	Outside town
Base	\$16.50	\$18.50
Per 1,000 gallon (used)	\$4.15	\$4.15

**The Town of Hickory Grove can not carry water bills. ALL WATER BILLS MUST BE PAID IN MONTH DUE. ANY BILL NOT PAID BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH WILL BE CHARGED A \$5.00 LATE FEE. ANY BILL NOT PAID BY FIRST OF THE FOLLOWING MONTH WILL BE CUT OFF. (NO EXCEPTIONS, A \$25.00 RECONNECTION FEE WILL BE CHARGED)**

**Your water bill can be paid in the following ways:**

1. TOWN HALL --Saturdays -- 9:00am till 11:30 am
2. MAIL-- PO BOX 126, Hickory Grove, SC 29717
3. FIRST CITIZENS BANK (**York Branch**) during regular business hours  
(Bring water bill)
4. DROP BOX AT TOWN HALL – Anytime
5. CREDIT CARDS: Will take at office, over phone or online. (Customers need to give email address for security reasons)
6. BANK DRAFT (Inquire at office)

**We are requesting customers to sign up to receive water bills by email.** If you have any question concerning your bill, or any problems, please contact Town Hall.

**THE COUNCIL APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT, HOPES THAT YOU WILL CONSERVE WATER AND PLEDGES TO GIVE YOU THE PUREST WATER AT AN AFFORDABLE RATE.**

TOWN OF HICKORY GROVE  
(803) 925-2625

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**TOWN OF HICKORY GROVE**  
**System No. 4610004**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. Our water source is from well(s) at: 1) well one -behind FireDept. 2) Well two - at Tank, 3) Well three-behind Oxford Textile.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ken Smart. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Although we do not have regularly scheduled meetings, feel free to contact Ken Smart at 803 517-2578 for explanation of any part of this report.

Raw water sources are most susceptible to contamination from runoff or environmental conditions. The Town of Hickory Grove routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. 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. Some the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. 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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 Contaminant Level or 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 residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or 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.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

na: not applicable.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

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

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONSTITUENTS  
(Regulated)  
TOWN OF HICKORY GROVE  
SYSTEM # 4610004**

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	1.0	1.0-1.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminants (unit of measure)	MCLG or MRDLG	AL	Your Water	Range	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical Source
Copper-action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.840	ND-1.44	1	NO	2024	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead-action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0	15	2.00	ND-4.0	0	NO	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2025	4.0	1.6- 4.1	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (unregulated)	2024	10.0	7.8 - 10	NA	NA	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2025	.0605	0-.605	0	5	pCi/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	2025	0.746	0-0.746	0	15	pCi/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

As you can see from the table we had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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.

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).

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. Town of Hickory Grove 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 Town of Hickory Grove, Ken Smart at 803 517-2578. 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>

Town of Hickory Grove completed the required service line inventory in 2024. The inventory found only non-lead lines. If you would like to access the inventory, contact Ken Smart at 803 517-2578

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 2 liters 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.

We at the Town of Hickory Grove work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap, said Ken Smart. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.