

# The Cliffs at Glassy Water System Passes all Water Quality Testing for Year Ending 2020

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) set restrictions and monitor public water systems for compliance with all drinking water standards. The Cliffs at Glassy Water System has been in compliance on every standard monitored. In addition to testing performed by these agencies, The Cliffs at Glassy Water System performs over 75 tests each year on a monthly basis. This is done to ensure compliance with all standards and to protect the system's users from bacteria and water-borne illness.

The Cliffs at Glassy Water System was one of the first deep-well systems to have an approved Wellhead Protection Program. This program allows us to set parameters on chemical discharges from homeowners and golf course maintenance procedures to protect drinking water from contamination. This was accomplished through a joint venture with SCDHEC, S.C. Rural Water Association, The Cliffs at Glassy Homeowners Association, and Blue Ridge Rural Water Company.

We have added a state-of-the-art control system to The Cliffs system, which allows us to control pumping, tank levels, and well run-times on a 24-hour basis. It can be controlled from various areas of the Upstate. The system sounds an alarm if we are having low water problems and appries us of malfunctioning mechanical systems well before the customers realize a problem is occurring. This system allows us to control, monitor, and respond much quicker to problems than ever before. We also have an on-site alternative generating system in case of power outages, which allows for water service even during prolonged power problems or natural disasters.



Please recycle this report when finished.



## Explanation Of Technical Terms Used In This Report

MCL	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level</b> 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	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</b> 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.
TT	<b>Treatment Technique</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	<b>Action Level</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ppm mg/L	<b>Parts per Million or Milligrams per Liter</b> This corresponds to one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water; one minute in two years; or a single penny in \$10,000.
ppb ug/L	<b>Parts per Billion or Micrograms per Liter</b> This corresponds to one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water; one minute in 2,000 years; or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
ND	<b>Not Detected</b> The constituent is not detected or is below detection limits.
NTU	<b>Nephelometric Turbidity Unit</b> Nephelometric turbidity is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
pCi/L	<b>Pico Curies per Liter</b> A measure of radioactivity in water.
ALG	<b>Action Level Goal</b> 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.
MRDL	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level</b> 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	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal</b> The level of 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.
N/A	<b>Not applicable</b>
AVG	<b>Average</b> Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

*For Service, Not-For-Profit*

## Year Ending 2020

In 1996, the Federal Government reauthorized the Safe Drinking Water Act, which requires that all public water systems report annually on their compliance with the Act. This Water Quality Performance Report shows that The Cliffs at Glassy Water System met all standards of the Act for 2020. It is designed to communicate those standards to you, our valued customers, and to inform you about your drinking water and the advancements we have made in the past year in the pursuit of continued safe drinking water.

## Need To Know More?

If you would like more information about water treatment or quality, simply call the Blue Ridge Rural Water Company at (864) 895-1719 and ask for the Water Quality Supervisor or the General Manager. We will be happy to talk with you. For public participation information, call the same number.

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# 2020 Water Quality Performance Report

## The Cliffs at Glassy Water System



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## Where does the water come from and what are its limits?

The Cliffs at Glassy is a deep-well system drilled into the water-bearing fractures of Glassy Mountain. The water is pumped from an average depth of 600 feet below the surface. Due to the elevation of the system, no upstream contamination from industrial spills or farming has affected the water supply; therefore, it is one of the cleanest sources of water in the state. We are in the process of exploring for more potential well sites to increase the system's water production.

The system is permitted to distribute 350,000 gallons of water per day to the residents of The Cliffs at Glassy development; currently, we average 139,000 gallons per day. The system includes 24 square miles of pipeline, seven deep wells, and 13 pressure-reducing stations that allow safe distribution of the water from an elevation of 2,900 feet to 1,300 feet above sea level. We continue to add new wells to increase delivery capacity.

## What about chemical treatment of my water?

The Cliffs at Glassy Water System has added a hypochlorite solution for disinfection and chlorine residual requirements, and a soda ash solution for pH control. In addition, the system has a 70/30 percent solution of an organic-based polyphosphate for corrosion control.



## The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that annual Water Quality Reports contain the following statements:

- All 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/Centers for Disease Control 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.
- Unfiltered water may contain organisms such as viruses, bacteria, and giardia. When they are present in sufficient number, these organisms can cause symptoms such as diarrhea, cramps, headaches, and fatigue. EPA has determined that requiring water systems to filter this water rather than set a MCL can control these organisms more effectively.
- 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. Blue Ridge Rural Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.
- 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.

**Blue Ridge Rural Water Company's Cliffs at Glassy Water System has a Source Water Assessment Program and Plan.**  
For more information, please call (864) 895-1719 or download a copy of the plan from the web at [www.scdhec.net/eqc/water/html/srcewtr.html](http://www.scdhec.net/eqc/water/html/srcewtr.html).

## The Cliffs at Glassy (2350023)

The table to the right lists all the drinking water contaminants detected during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, testing was conducted during the January 1 to December 31, 2020 period. The state requires us to monitor for these contaminants, but they are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though more than one year old, is representative of the system's compliance based on EPA's sampling frequency requirement.

Visit [www.brrwc.org/water-quality-report](http://www.brrwc.org/water-quality-report)

SC2350023 THE CLIFFS AT GLASSY (2350023)

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine*	2020	1.00	1.0 – 1.0	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2020	1.5	1.1 - 1.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)*	2020	5.8	5.0- 5.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2020	1.0	0.71	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead – Customer Plumbing	2020	15	15	ND	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper – Customer Plumbing	2020	1.3	1.3	0.20	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

\*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.