City of Denmark Drinking Water
HaloSan & Disinfection Byproducts

Who regulates drinking water in South Carolina? The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) regulates public drinking water systems in South Carolina.

Is water safe for drinking, bathing, and cooking? Yes, based on the City’s drinking water being in compliance with the primary drinking water standards in the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act.

What is the water routinely sampled for? The system is routinely sampled for bacteria, metals, chemicals, chlorine residuals, and radiological constituents.

Denmark Public Water System (See Map)

- The City of Denmark Public Water System is served by three groundwater wells.
- HaloSan was intermittently used in a fourth well, the Cox Mill Well, to control iron bacteria. This well was taken offline in August 2018 and remains offline.
- Water from the three wells continues to be disinfected for bacteria using chlorine.

For more information, go to www.scdhec.gov/denmark.

Use of HaloSan at Cox Mill Well

HaloSan was used to control iron bacteria in the Cox Mill Well 300 feet below ground. A small, set amount was dispensed by an automated system designed and calibrated by the supplier. The active ingredient in HaloSan is bromochlorodimethylhydantoin.

HaloSan was approved by the American National Standards Institute/National Sanitation Foundation (ANSI/NSF) and deemed safe for its intended use. DHEC is required by State regulation to rely upon ANSI/NSF Standard 60-Health Effects for approval of chemicals added to drinking water.

In July 2018, a question was asked about whether or not HaloSan must be registered under the EPA Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). HaloSan is classified as a pesticide because it is intended to kill bacteria. It is the responsibility of the supplier to register their product(s) with FIFRA.

HaloSan is approved for its intended use as a disinfectant by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF). That approval as a drinking water additive is required by State Drinking Water Regulations.
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Chlorine is commonly used as a disinfectant to kill disease-causing bacteria in drinking water. Disinfectants like chlorine and bromine (halogens) can create disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in water when there is excess organic matter. DBPs are chemical compounds that may occur when a halogen-based disinfectant reacts with organic matter (e.g. tree leaves, insects). Regulated DBPs include Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s).

As long as the use of all disinfectants (chlorine and HaloSan) does not cause the amount of DBPs to exceed the concentrations listed in the EPA's Disinfection Byproducts Rule, there is no unacceptable risk to human health.

Note: No Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs) were detected prior to 2014 when the EPA Stage 2 DBP Rule went into effect.

Contact Us!

Please contact DHEC if you have questions or concerns about your drinking water.

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