



## **City of Denmark Public Water System Information March 2018**

The City of Denmark Public Water System is a small rural water system served by four active groundwater wells and three elevated storage tanks. The system serves a population of approximately 4,900 customers (which includes residents, students attending two local colleges, commercial and industrial properties). The wells pull groundwater from a deep aquifer (approximately 300 feet deep), and the water is treated with chlorine to kill bacteria.

The City of Denmark's drinking water currently meets the requirements of all EPA health-based standards, including those for lead and copper. DHEC has worked with the City of Denmark for several years to address concerns over iron and manganese. Iron can cause an orange or brown stain in sinks and in the laundry. While there are no health-based standards for these metals, which are naturally-occurring, DHEC provides recommendations to minimize the nuisance effects of iron and manganese.

### **Enforcement History**

DHEC conducts annual inspections and frequent sampling of the water system in the City of Denmark. In 2010, DHEC took an enforcement action against the City of Denmark to address operational and maintenance issues including deficiencies in its flushing plan, record keeping and hydrant and valve program. The City of Denmark took appropriate action to address the deficiencies.

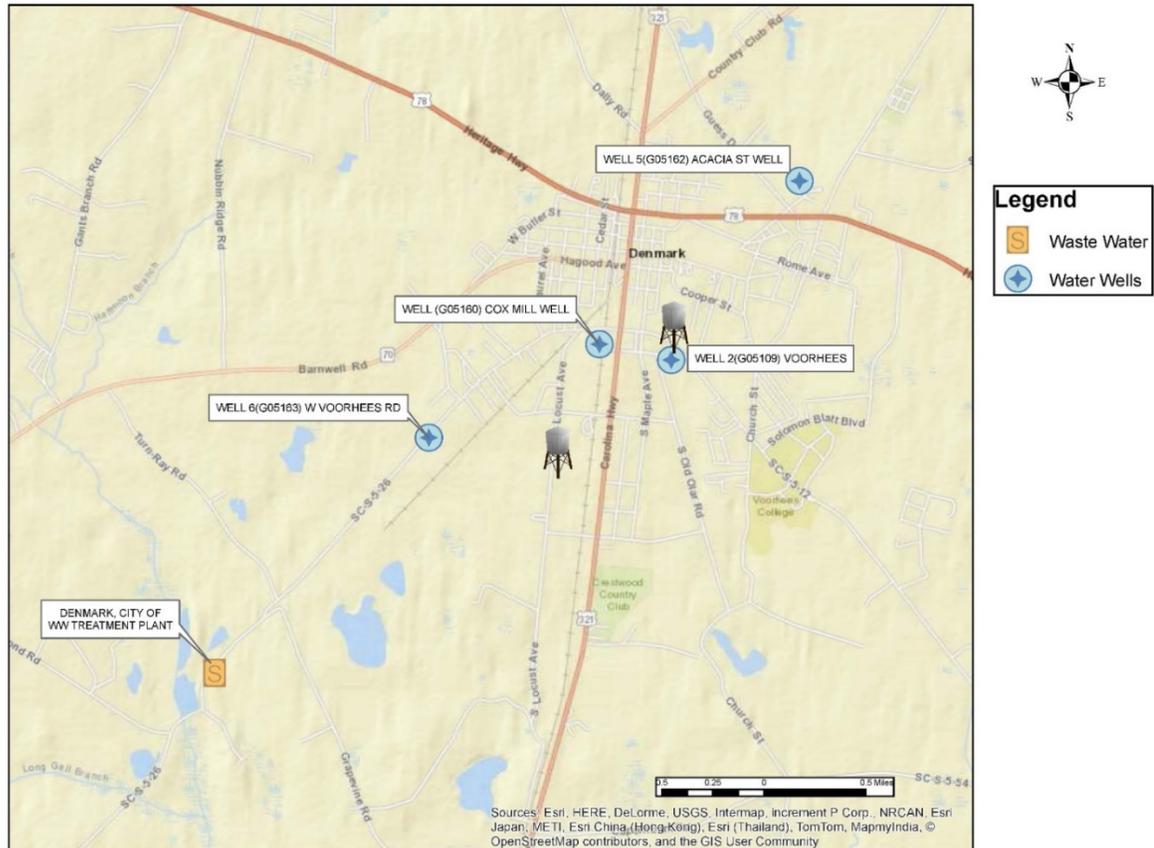
The City of Denmark currently meets the drinking water standards and requirements of the lead and copper rule. DHEC continues to receive concerns and complaints of water color and staining created by the levels of iron and manganese found in the water, and we will continue to provide technical assistance to the City to address these concerns.

### **Recent Inspections**

On January 29, 2018, DHEC conducted sampling at wells and points in the distribution system for iron, manganese, chlorine and bacteria. All iron and manganese sample results were within the recommended EPA limits. DHEC recommended flushing at or near one location due to low chlorine levels. Chlorine is added to kill any bacteria that may be present in the water. It is important to note that bacteria were not present in any of the samples.

On February 23, 2018, DHEC conducted a sanitary system inspection on the public water system serving the City of Denmark. The intent of the sanitary survey is to evaluate the public water system's ability to provide a continuous supply of safe drinking water to its customers. The City of Denmark received an overall rating of "Needs Improvement" for operational procedures and storage tank maintenance. This rating is not related to water quality but to equipment maintenance that if not

City of Denmark water supply wells and waste water treatment plant locations



corrected could lead to water quality issues. DHEC is working with the City of Denmark to address these concerns promptly.

### Ongoing Engagement

DHEC has been, and continues to be, very engaged with the City of Denmark to ensure the public water system meets all state and federal drinking water regulations and is providing safe water to their customers. DHEC will continue to answer questions and address drinking water quality concerns from the community.

To ask a question or report a complaint related to drinking water quality, please contact DHEC's Orangeburg office at (803) 533-5490. DHEC responds to all complaints within 24 hours.