

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Brinkerhoff Water District
Fishkill, New York 12524
Public Water Supply ID# NY1302766

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Brinkerhoff Water District is issuing an annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact CAMO Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 463-7310. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings. The time and place of regularly scheduled Town Board meetings may be obtained from Becki Tompkins, Town Clerk, at (845) 831-7800 x3338.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, 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 activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves 3,788 customers through 950 service connections. Our water source is groundwater drawn from two gravel wells. The two wells have submersible pumps that pump to a pneumatic tank in order to maintain system pressure. The supply of water fully met all demands in 2024.

Since the abandonment of Well #3 for ground water under the influence, the system has been in violation of the sanitary code for lack of well production and adequate storage. To satisfy these concerns the Town is installing a Dutchess County Health Department approved emergency interconnection with Merrit Water. This will provide adequate water during an emergency. The estimated hardness of your water is between 22-24 grains per gallon.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The New York State Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The State source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become, infected. See the section “What’s in My Water?” for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our water as having an elevated susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the State or Federal government) and to residential land use and related activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock, and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment has rated our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State’s drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

The County and State health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us at (845) 463-7310.

WE ASK THAT ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS BE VIGILANT IN REGARD TO SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF OUR WATER TREATMENT PLANTS.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. In 2020, PFOA, PFOS and 1,4 Dioxane was added to the requirements. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 (800-426-4791) or the Dutchess County Health Department at (845) 486-3404.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected Max/Avg (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganics							
Barium	No	10/2024	0.0256	mg/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chloride See footnote 4	NO	2024	199.2 (171 – 229)	mg/l	NA	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Copper See footnote 2	No	08/2024	0.19 (0.0462-0.0.212)	mg/l	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead See footnote 2	No	08/2024	0.0069 (ND –0.0078)	mg/l	0	0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	NO	10/2024	0.0018	mg/l	0.10	0.10	Naturally occurring and released into environment from commercial and industrial discharge
Nickel	No	10/2024	0.0005	mg/l	NA	0.1	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	10/2024	2.3	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium See footnote 1	No	2024	121.2 (100-139)	mg/l	NA	See footnote 1	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners; animal waste
Sulfate	No	10/2024	27.4	mg/l	NA	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	10/2024	ND	mg/l	NA	5	Naturally occurring, mining waste
Cyanide	No	10/2024	ND	Ug/l'	NA	200	Discharge from steel/metal

Synthetic Organic Chemicals								
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)		Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
			Well 1	Well 2				
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	6.79 6.67 6.26 6.16	7.29 7.18 5.67 6.86	Ng/l	10	AL	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	5.15 5.05 5.34 5.23	7.16 5.29 5.73 5.93	Ng/l	10	AL	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
Disinfection Byproducts								
Haloacetic Acid\ 1 Summit Ct. Job Lot	No	07/2024	2.7		ug/l	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
See Footnote 3	No	07/2024	4.9		ug/l	NA	60	
Total Trihalomethanes 1 Summit Ct'	No	07/2024	9.6		ug/l	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Job Lot See Footnote 3	No	07/2024	21.7		ug/l	NA	80	
Table of Unregulated Contaminants								
Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected		Unit Measurement	MCLG or Health Advisory Level 1, 2	Likely Source of Contamination	
			Well 1	Well 2				
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	7.14 6.35 6.18 5.18	7.25 6.94 6.48 ND	Ng/l	NA	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications	
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	5.34 3.68 3.69 3.27	6.15 4.63 3.55 3.68	Ng/l	NA	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications	

Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected Well 1	Level detected Well 2	Unit Measurement	MCLG or Health Advisory Level 1, 2	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	2.22 1.68 1.44 ND	2.91 2.02 1.61 ND	Ng/l	10 Ng/l	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (ng/l)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	1.04 1.20 1.43 ND	1.81 1.27 1.66 ND	Ng/l	10 Ng/l	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoro-n-butanoic acid (PFBA)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	11.7 4.21 3.77 4.55	11.8 3.98 3.58 4.59	Ng/l	10 Ng/l	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	6.92 4.23 3.68 4.35	7.47 4.64 3.63 3.74	Ng/l	10 Ng/l	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications
HFPO-DA(Gen-X)	No	03/2024 06/2024 08/2024 10/2024	ND ND ND ND	ND ND ND ND	Ng/l	10 Ng/l	Released into environment from use in commercial and industrial applications

Notes:

1 – This is the average of the 24 yearly samples. The test results show acceptable levels of sodium in the water. However, as operators we are concerned with maintaining these levels. Sodium does not have a maximum contaminant level. Sodium levels in the well water are at a level of 140 milligrams per liter. This level will be increased by a water softener, if you have one. Water containing more than 20 milligrams of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 milligrams per liter of sodium should not be used by people on moderately restricted sodium diets. It is the recommendation of the Town that you consult your physician regarding these levels if you are on sodium restricted diet.

2 – The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system. The Maximum Contaminant Level was exceeded by one sample.

3 – Haloacetic Acid and Total Trihalomethanes are sampled at two locations.

4 -This is the average of the 24 yearly samples. As operators we are concerned with maintaining these levels as low as possible. The average chloride level in the water samples collected was 259.5 milligrams per liter. The presence of chloride ions in the drinking water above the maximum contaminant level of 250 milligrams per liter can result in two undesirable aesthetic effects. First, you may detect an objectionable taste of the water. Second, the higher level of chloride may cause corrosion of the pipes within the water system. Softener backwash into septic systems is contributing to the elevated levels of sodium and chlorides in the well water. All homeowners with softeners should check and adjust their softeners in order to limit the amount of brine solution discharged into septic systems and groundwater.

Definitions:

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.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 Disinfectant 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 contamination.

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

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

Micrograms per liter (ug/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Brinkerhoff Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact CAMO Pollution Control Inc. 845-463-7310. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

Our water quality was in complete compliance with Health Department requirements. However, with Well #3 not in operation the system fails to meet the Health Department requirements of being able to meet peak system demands with the largest well out of service.

In 2016 the Town of Fishkill enacted local law for cross-connection control. This law enabled the Town to implement a program to prevent possible contamination through distribution connections.

Currently there is no storage tank at this facility. The Health Department is requiring a storage tank be incorporated into the system, as the regulations call for it. The Town Engineer is currently designing various alternatives to provide storage.

In 2018 the Town underwent a meter change out program. This will insure accurate and fair billings done efficiently. You will be contacted as it is necessary to gain access to your home.

There are parts of the distribution system that pressures exceed 85 lbs. It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain a pressure reducing valve if required. The newer version of these valves are not as robust as the older ones. When they fail water service can be depleted to the home or the homes over pressurized. It is plumbing code as well as critical that each home have a working shut off valve inside the home. This valve should be a ball valve. This valve can prevent flooding and water damage if there is plumbing issue within the home. Many times, the outside buried curb valves are not locatable or functioning and time consuming to operate.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/service_line/NY1302766.htm.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens 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 from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential fire fighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In 2024 new transmission valves were installed on the lines under Route 52. This allows the transmission lines to be isolated if they fail. Additionally, construction has begun in 2024 of the Interconnect with Merrit Water. This will satisfy the Dutchess County Health Department's concerns and be an improvement for the district. A new salting program was implemented by the Highway Superintendent in 2024 for Dutchess Park roads. This has drastically reduced the chloride content in the wells which enables us to be in compliance and is great improvement.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 463-7310** if you have questions.

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Watch Hill Water District
(Water Purchased from Town of Fishkill)
Wappingers Falls, New York 12590
Public Water Supply ID# 1302766***

To comply with State regulations, please find attached the Annual Water Quality Report for the Brinkerhoff Water District in the Town of Fishkill. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

The Watch Hill water system serves 137 residences. Our water source is purchased from the Town of Fishkill. The source is three gravel wells in the Brinkerhoff Water District in the Town of Fishkill. During 2024, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

There are parts of the distribution system that pressures exceed 85 lbs. It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain a pressure reducing valve if required. The newer version of these valves are not as robust as the older ones. When they fail water service can be depleted to the home or the homes over pressurized. It is plumbing code as well as critical that each home have a working shut off valve inside the home. This valve should be a ball valve. This valve can prevent flooding and water damage if there is plumbing issue within the home. Many times, the outside buried curb valves are not locatable or functioning and time consuming to operate. By the Town water code, the property owner is responsible for the service lateral from the main to the home, including the curb valve.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by visiting our website at: https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/service_line/NY1302766.htm.

We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board meetings. The time and place of the meetings may be obtained from **Joseph Paoloni, Town Clerk, at (845) 297-5772**.

**WE ASK THAT ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS BE VIGILANT AND
REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF OUR
WATER TREATMENT PLANT. PLEASE CONTACT LAW
ENFORCEMENT AT 911.**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 463-7310.**