

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Blooming Grove Water District 3
P.O. Box 358, Blooming Grove, NY, 10914
(Public Water Supply ID#: 3503595)**

Introduction

To comply with State and Federal regulations, Blooming Grove Water District 3, (Tomahawk Lake) will be issuing an annual water quality 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. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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 questions concerning your drinking water, please contact Engineer for the Town, Michael Weeks, P.E., (845) 496-4177, Option #6 or the Orange County Health Department at (845) 291-2331. 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 meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 pm, at the Blooming Grove Town Hall, Horton Road & Route 94, Blooming Grove NY, 10914. The U.S.E.P.A. Drinking Water Website (www.epa.gov/safewater) also provides additional information regarding drinking water.

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 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 amount 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 provide the same protection for public health.

WATER DISTRICT 3 (Tomahawk Lake)

Our water source consists of two bedrock wells located on Shore Drive near the community beach. The water is disinfected with chlorine prior to distribution and a zinc orthophosphate is added to minimize corrosion. In 2024, our system produced 4.67 million gallons and served 210 people.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Summary

The NYS DOH 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 contaminated. See "Table of Detected Contaminants" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our wells as having a medium to medium-high susceptibility to microbials and nitrates. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of low-level residential activity and the septic system that are located in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from a confined aquifer with the estimated recharge area within the selected time of

travel and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates 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.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us, as noted in this report.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations required, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: ECOLI, total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented on the following page depicts which contaminants 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. For this reason, 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 Orange County Department of Health at (845) 291-2331. The following table summarizes the results of detected compounds and their likely source.

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 and ensuring 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 up 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.
- ♦ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	No	03/09/22	59.2	Ug/L	2,000	MCL = 2,000	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	No	06/14/23	4.73	pCi/l	0	MCL = 15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (see Note 1)	No	09/27/23	90 th = 0.372 Range = 0.052 to 0.0445	Mg/L	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (see Note 2)	No	09/27/23	90 th = 11.15 Range = 1.0 to 21.3	Ug/L	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
1,4-Dioxane	No	10/30/24	<0.200	Ug/L	N/A	MCL = 1	Release into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)/ Perfluorooctanic Acid (PFOA)	No	05/08/24	Range = ND to <1.83	Ng/L	N/A	MCL = 10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Nickel	No	03/09/22	1.67	Ug/L	100	MCL = 100	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	No	04/09/24	0.220	Mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	No	03/09/22	2.65	Ug/L	50	MCL = 50	Discharge from petroleum
Sodium	No	04/09/24	173.0	MG/L	N/A	See Note #3	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	No	03/14/19	70.4	Mg/L	N/A	MCL = 250	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	08/08/23	8.4	Ug/L	N/A	MCL = 80	By product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	08/08/23	1.1	Ug/l	N/A	MCL = 60	
Uranium	No	06/28/23	1.8	Ug/L	0	MCL = 30	Erosion of natural deposits

Coliform (see note 4)	No	01/09/23 09/12/23	1 positive sample each day	N/A	0	TT = 2 or more positive samples per month	Naturally present in the environment
------------------------------	----	----------------------	----------------------------------	-----	---	--	---

Notes:

1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the five 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest values. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the five samples collected. The action level for lead was exceeded at 1 of the sites tested. See section below "What Does This Information Mean?" for health effects language for Lead.

3 – Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

4 -All required repeats samples were collected for coliform due to the positive test, all samples were negative, this positive sample was never confirmed.

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).

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: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. We are 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

During 2024, our system was in compliance with all other applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, 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).

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. 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. Please call our office if you have questions.