

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
T. Monroe Water District #12 Monroe Hills
(Public Water Supply ID 3503539)
Town of Monroe Water Department
87 Mine Road
Monroe, New York 10950

Introduction

The Town of Monroe Water Department annually issues a water quality report in compliance with state and federal regulations. This edition covers testing completed from January 1 2023 through December 31, 2023. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge; we are vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection and conservation.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact the Town of Monroe Water Department at 845-782-8583. We want you to be informed about your drinking water and encourage you to call to discuss any drinking water issues. You may also contact the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Orange County Department of Health at 845-291-2331.

Where Does Are Water Come From?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap 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 and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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.

Our water is derived from two drilled in ground wells 183 and 330 feet deep respectively. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials and petroleum products. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the low-level residential activity and the underground storage tank that is located in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and a confined aquifer with the estimated recharge area with the selected time of travel and the over lying soils are not known to provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates our well 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 above.

Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations?

During 2023, our system was in compliance with applicable state drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Facts and Figures

There are 41 accounts in the district. In 2023, consumers paid \$10.00 per 1000 gallons.

Water Conservation

You play a vital role in water conservation. You also save yourself money in the process by being conscientious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever possible. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. Load it to capacity to save money.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Repair it and you can save almost 6000 gallons per year.
- Check toilets for leaks by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color appears in the bowl. You can lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Repair it and you can save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Turn off all taps and water using appliances. Check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved you have a leak.

Important Health Information

Some individuals may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. 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. We cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. You can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water have it tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Are There Contaminants in Our Drinking Water?

As state regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, and synthetic organic compounds. The table below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The state permits us to test for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

During the past year water samples were taken to detect the presence of radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below depicts contaminants that were detected in the water. All substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

3503539 – Monroe WD #12, Monroe Hills Estates, 2023

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	3/31/21	0.03	mg/l	2	MCL = 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	No	1/24/23	1	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use
Copper (See Note 1)	No	6/10/21	90 th = 0.115 Range = to 0.058 to 0.14	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Total Trihalomethanes	No	9/3/21	5.4	ug/l	NA	MCL = 80	By products of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Sodium	No	6/16/20	28	mg/l	NA	See Note 3	Road salt
Gross Alpha	No	3/31/21	6.19	pCi/l	0	MCL = 15	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	No	3/31/21	6.14	ug/l	0	MCL = 30	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	9/23/21	7.91	ug/l	NA	MCL = 60	By products of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Coliform Bacteria (note 5)	No	6/14/23	1 positive sample	NA	0	TT = 2 or more positive samples per month	Naturally present in the environment
Nickel	No	3/31/21	3	ug/l	100	MCL = 100	Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (note 6)	No	11/9/23	5	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) (note 6)	No	11/9/23	7.6	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
1,4-Dioxane	No	11/9/23	0.02	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 1	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.

Notes

1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 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 – Please note that in addition to PFOS and PFOA, the lab ran the analysis for the entire EPA method 537.1, which includes 16 additional perfluorinated chemicals, 4 of these additional chemicals were detected, the highest of which was 4.19 ng/l. These additional analytes are not currently regulated and do not have an MCL.

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 – The following contaminants were detected when we sampled for Voc's:
Please note that the reporting limit for these contaminants is 0.50 ug/l

- Bromoform 1.2 ug/l
- Chlorodibromomethane 2.5 ug/l
- Chloroform 0.85 ug/l
- Dichlorobromomethane Trihalomethanes 5.8 ug/l

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

6 - Please note that in addition to PFOS and PFOA, the lab ran the analysis for the entire EPA method 537.1 which includes 16 additional perfluorinated chemicals, 1 of these additional chemicals was detected, PFHXS at 2.3 ng/L. These additional analytes are not currently regulated and do not have an MCL.

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.

Definitions:

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).

Nanograms per liter (ng/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt)

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