

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IDENTIFICATION NO. 5103266

Occasionally, a surge of rusty water enters our system. We flush the affected area immediately, and flush the entire system once a year, at night, during a two week period in April. Post cards are sent out prior to each flushing. Our staff attends educational seminars each year to keep pace with the increasing standards imposed on the water industry, and are members of the Long Island Water Conference and American Water Works Association.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The St. James Water District was formed in 1945 as a municipal water district, and roughly covers the same boundaries as the St James Fire District. We have about 59 miles of water main, and 460 fire hydrants (our hydrants are painted red and silver). We serve about 11,742 people through 3,355 connections. The total amount of water withdrawn in 2024 was 596 million gallons, of which approximately 98% was billed directly to the customers. The non-revenue water is mainly attributed to water main breaks, the annual water main flushing program, and fire fighting. The District utilizes a unit price quarterly billing schedule with the consumer being billed at \$2.92 per 1,000 gallons and a quarterly base fee of \$31.38 plus a \$20 quarterly water treatment charge. Water bills are mailed quarterly.

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). The EPA's website is www.epa.gov/safewater/, and the NY State Department of Health's website is www.health.state.ny.us/

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, bacteria, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, 26 metals including lead and copper, 85 volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds which include 22 pesticides. The table of detected contaminants describes compounds that were detected in your drinking water. We have also tested for other contaminants that were not found in your drinking water. A complete list can be obtained from our office. The State allows 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 a year old.

SCWA provides treatment at all wells to improve the quality of the water pumped prior to distribution to the consumer. The pH of the pumped water is adjusted upward to about 7.2 to reduce corrosive action between the water and water mains and in-house plumbing by the addition of lime (calcium hydroxide). Chlorine is also added to the water for disinfecting purposes.

The hardness of our water is considered low (soft). We average 48 ppm. Hardness expressed as calcium carbonate (CaCO₃), increases the consumption of soap.

SCWA provides the water for quality test results by distribution area as well as by individual well. The St. James Water District conducts water quality testing from the distribution system.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be 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 (1-800-426-4791) or the Suffolk County Health Department at (631) 852-5810.

ADDITIONAL TESTING

The District was not required to take radiological samples. Also, because of past testing, Suffolk County Water Authority has been waived testing for the following compounds; Aldicarb, Aldicarb sulfone, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Carbaryl, Carbofuran, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, methomyl, oxamyl, alachlor, aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, lindane, methoxychlor, dibromochloropropane, and ethylene dibromide.

Every three years we are required to perform lead and copper water sampling from specific houses. Houses are chosen according to the NYS Health Department regulations. There are no houses with lead services in our District, so houses were chosen from those built just before the lead solder ban went into effect in the Town of Smithtown (1982). We thank those houses that participate in the testing program. In our 2022 sampling program, no samples exceeded the lead Action Level Limit of 15 ug/L (ppb) and no samples exceeded the copper Action Level Limit of 1.3 mg/L (ppm). In 2022, the 90th percentile result for lead was ND, and for copper it was 0.26 ppm. The range for lead was ND (not detectable) to 4.5 ppb. The range for copper was 0.043 to 0.43 ppm.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT

In 2024, the St. James Water District continued to implement a water conservation program in order to minimize any unnecessary water use. Residents of the District can implement their own water conservation measures such as retrofitting plumbing fixtures with flow restrictors, adding rain sensors to automatic lawn sprinklers, and by installing water saving toilets. The highest water users get a separate letter.

Automatic sprinkler systems draw a tremendous amount of water. Please refrain from watering between 4am and 8am, and run only every third day. This will help alleviate problems of low pressure during peak morning hours. Sprinklers might have to run more often during July and August, and much less during the spring and fall.

2024 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT - TABLE OF DETECTED PARAMETERS

Contaminants	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Maximum Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper	No	June 2022	0.043 - 0.43 0.26 ⁽¹⁾	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	June 2022	ND -4.5 ND ⁽¹⁾	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting building to water mains, erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	0.0043 - 0.0065	mg/l	2	MCL = 2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	0.11 - 0.14	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 2.2	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	15.1 - 19.4	mg/l	n/a	No MCL ⁽²⁾	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Color	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	ND - 9.0	Units	n/a	MCL = 15	Naturally occurring
Odor	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	1.0	---	n/a	MCL = 3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources.
Chloride	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	22.8 - 32.2	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Nitrate	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	1.5 - 2.4	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer and leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Iron	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	ND - 0.035	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 300	Naturally occurring
Manganese	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	0.032 - 0.061	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 300	Naturally occurring
Total Hardness	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	98.8 - 127.0	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Chlorate	No	7/10/24	97.9 - 163.0	ug/l	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Specific Conductance	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	266.0 - 348.0	umhos/cm	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Field pH	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	7.2 - 7.7	pH units	n/a	n/a	Measure of water acidity or alkalinity
Calcium Hardness	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	67.7 - 87.9	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides							
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) ⁽³⁾	No	08/13/24	ND - 4.1	ng/l	0	MCL = 10.0 ⁽⁴⁾	Industrial discharge ⁽⁵⁾
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) ⁽³⁾	No	08/13/24	ND - 6.5	ng/l	0	MCL = 10.0 ⁽⁴⁾	
Disinfection By-Products							
Chloroform	No	7/10/24	ND - 0.76	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽⁶⁾	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. THMs are formed when source water contains organic matter
Bromodichloromethane	No	07/10/24	ND - 0.75	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽⁶⁾	
Total Trihalomethanes (THMs)	No	07/10/24	ND - 1.5	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽⁶⁾	
Disinfectants							
Chlorine Residual	No	Continuous	0.42 - 2.1	mg/l	n/a	MRDL = 4.0	Measure of disinfectant
Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances (UCMR5) ⁽⁷⁾⁽⁸⁾							
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA)	No	08/13/24	ND - 5.1	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	No	08/13/24	ND - 3.4	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA)	No	08/13/24	ND - 6.6	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA)	No	08/13/24	ND - 5.6	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	

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.

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

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).

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

pCi/L - pico Curies per Liter is a measure of radioactivity in water.

⁽¹⁾ - During 2022, the District collected 33 samples for lead and copper. The 90% level is presented in the table as the maximum result.

⁽²⁾ - No MCL has been established for sodium. However, 20 mg/l is a recommended guideline for people on high restricted sodium diets and 270 mg/l for those on moderate sodium diets.

⁽³⁾ - PFOS/PFOA has been used to make carpets, leathers, textiles, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging, and other materials that are resistant to water, grease, or stains. It is also used in firefighting foams at airfields. Many of these uses have been phased out by its primary U.S. manufacturer; however, there are still some ongoing uses.

⁽⁴⁾ - The New York State (NYS) has established a maximum contaminant level (MCL) at 10 ppt for PFOA and 10ppt for PFOS effective August 26, 2020.

Definitions (cont'd.):

⁽⁵⁾ - It is used as a solvent for cellulose formulations, resins, oils, waxes and other organic substances. It is also used in wood pulping, textile processing, degreasing, in lacquers, paints, varnishes, and stains; and in paint and varnish removers.

⁽⁶⁾ - MCL of 80 ug/l is for the combined Total Trihalomethanes (THMs).

⁽⁷⁾ - USEPA Health Advisory Levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Advisory Levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.

⁽⁸⁾ - All Perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered Unspecified Organic Contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 50,000 ng/l.

INFORMATION ON LEAD AND LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breast-fed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. *The St. James 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, you can have your water tested by a New York State certified laboratory for lead in drinking water. 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>.

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.smithtownny.gov/717/Lead-Service-Line-Inventory>.

St. James Water District

90 E. Main Street

Kings Park, New York 11754

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

EDWARD R. WEHRHEIM, SUPERVISOR

THOMAS J. MCCARTHY, COUNCILMAN

LYNNE C. NOWICK, COUNCILWOMAN

LISA M. INZERILLO, COUNCILWOMAN

THOMAS W. LOHMANN, COUNCILMAN

WATER DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

CHRISTOPHER NUSTAD

PRESORT STD.

US POSTAGE

PAID

ST. JAMES, N.Y.

PERMIT #28