

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Clove Branch Apartments Water System
Clove Branch Road, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
(Public Water Supply ID# 1303217)

INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Este informe contiene importante información sobre su agua potable. Para una copia electrónica de este informe, por favor escanee el código QR a continuación. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Clove Branch Apartments 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, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We detected two of those contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at the time, our water has exceeded two drinking water standard and we are trying to rectify the problem with the regulatory agencies. This report is 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. We are pleased to provide you with this information because informed customers are our best customers.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact SEBI Environmental Services at (845) 789-1307. We want you to be informed about your 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, 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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that 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 protections for public health.

Our water system serves 50 people through 24-unit service connections. Our water source is a groundwater well located in a pit within the treatment plant. Raw water is disinfected with a sodium hypochlorite solution before entering a storage tank located inside the treatment plant. Water is then pumped to two pressure tanks and then the distribution system via a booster pump.

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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, synthetic organic compounds, and radiological. 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 Department of Behavioral and Community Health at (845) 486-3404.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure- ment	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL, AL or TT)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper *	No	8/16/23	0.098 Range 0.0584 – 0.112	mg/L	1.3	1.3	<i>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.</i>
Lead **	No	7/28/2020 7/29/2020 8/1/2020	0.003 Range 0.001- 0.0029	mg/L	0	0.015	<i>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
Nitrate	No	1/12/23 2/07/23 3/08/23 4/13/23 5/11/23 6/15/23 7/06/23 7/26/23 8/10/23 9/14/23 10/19/23 11/15/23 12/14/23	5.87 Range 4.3 – 7.2	mg/L	10	10	<i>Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
Chloride	No	3/8/23 5/11/23 6/15/23 7/6/23 7/26/23 8/10/23 9/14/23 10/19/23 11/15/23 12/14/23	143.1 Range 91.9 – 210	mg/L	n/a	250	<i>Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.</i>
Gross Alpha	No	5/16/2019	2.93	pCi/L	0	50	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>
Gross Beta	No	5/16/2019	2.43	pCi/L	0	50	<i>Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.</i>
Combined Radium 226 & 228	No	5/16/2019	1.12	pCi/L	0	5	<i>Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
Uranium	No	5/16/2019	0.262	ug/L	0	30	<i>Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
Sodium***	No	3/8/23 5/11/23 6/15/23 7/6/23 7/26/23 8/10/23 9/14/23 10/19/23 11/15/23 12/14/23	88.7 Range 66.3 – 124	mg/L	n/a	See health effects ***	<i>Naturally occurring; Road Salt; Water Softeners; Animal waste.</i>

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Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure- ment	MCL G	Regulatory Limit (MCL, AL or TT)	Likely Source of Contamination
Antimony	No	7/14/2021	.00041	mg/L	.006	.006	<i>Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder</i>
Barium	No	7/14/2021	.026	mg/L	2	2	<i>Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
Nickel	No	7/14/2021	0.0038	mg/L	n/a	n/a	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>
Total Trihalomethanes	No	08/10/2023	6.53	ug/L	n/a	80	<i>By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.</i>
Haloacetic Acids	No	08/10/2023	1.09	ug/L	n/a	60	<i>Byproduct of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.</i>
PFOA	Yes	02/23/2023 06/15/2023 10/31/2023 12/14/2023	9.55 Range 5.97-13.6	ng/L	n/a	10	<i>Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications</i>
PFOS	Yes	02/23/2023 06/15/2023 10/31/2023 12/14/2023	10.20 Range 9.23-12.9	ng/L	n/a	10	<i>Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications</i>

Footnotes:

* The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value is the reported value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

** The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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 values detected at your water system. In this case, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value is the reported value. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

*** 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 should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

Definitions:

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).

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

Nanograms per liter ng/l corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion-ppt).

N/a – not applicable

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see from the table, our system had violations for PFOA and PFOS throughout the year according to the NYS regulations. It is important to understand:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers PFOA/PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer, based on studies of animals exposed to high levels of these chemicals over their entire lifetimes. Studies of high-level exposures of PFOA/PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The most consistent findings in animals were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development.

As you can see from the table, nitrate was detected at an average for the year below the MCL, at 5.87 mg/L. Because the results are often over 5mg/L (more than one half the MCL), the supply is required to test more often.

“Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause the blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.”

The public water supply owner has hired an engineer to evaluate the water system and make recommendations for Nitrate, PFOAs, and PFOS removal. A stipulated agreement was issued requiring that an NYS licensed professional engineer submit plans and report to include a schedule of completion to the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health for approval of a nitrate removal system. A commissioner’s order was issued on August 7, 2018. Another possible solution would be to connecting to the Town of East Fishkill’s public water supply.

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. Clove Branch is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family’s risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact SEBI Environmental Services at 845-789-1307. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

In August 2018, Clove Branch Apartments was submitted with a Commissioner’s Order for failure to provide treatment or other engineered solution to remove Nitrates to levels below the maximum containment level (MCL) while operating a Public Water Supply.

In 2020 Clove Branch Apartments was submitted with a Commissioner’s Order for prevention of pollution and depletion for having an unsecured door at the facility. That situation was corrected in January of 2021 by installing a new door and lock on the facility.

In 2021 Clove Branch Apartments was submitted with a violation for exceedance of MCL for PFOA and PFOS compounds by the Commissioner's Office. The situation is still ongoing and alternative means of a new well installation is under development to address 3 areas of concern the nitrate violation, PFOA/PFOS violation and also well source redundancy. In 2022 Clove Branch Apartments was submitted with a violation for exceedance of MCL for PFOA and PFOS compounds by the Commissioner's Office. The situation is still ongoing and alternative means of a new well installation is under development to address 3 areas of concern the nitrate violation, PFOA/PFOS violation and also well source redundancy. In 2023 Clove Branch Apartments was submitted with a violation for exceedance of MCL for PFOA and PFOS compounds by the Commissioner's Office. The situation is still ongoing and alternative means of a new well installation is under development to address 3 areas of concern the nitrate violation, PFOA/PFOS violation and also well source redundancy.

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 who have 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 State Drinking Water Hotline.

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 plenty of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ♦ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both 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 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.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. To maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary 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 our office at 845-789-1307 if you have any questions.