

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2023
T. Monroe Water District # 14, Orchard Hills
Public Water Supply ID # 3503540
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 questions about this report or concerning your drinking water contact Town of Monroe Water Department at 845-782-8583.

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 and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. The water comes from one municipal well sunk about 300 feet into an underground source. After the water comes out of the wells the water is disinfected to protect residents from microbial contaminants.

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 of 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 assessment provides resource managers with additional information for protecting source water into the future.

Our water is derived from two drilled in ground wells 300 feet deep. The source water assessment has rated the well as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials and petroleum products. These rating is 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

The Town of Monroe Water Department serves 60 accounts. In 2023, consumers paid \$166. quarterly.

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, 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.

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 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or the Orange County Department of Health at 291-2331.

Sampling Results

The table below depicts contaminants that were detected in the water. All substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

3503540 – Orchard Hill Estates 2023 AQWR

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	4/9/19	0.023	mg/l	2	MCL = 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (See Note 1)	No	6/10/21	90 th = 0.14 Range = 0.013 to 0.17	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Nitrate	No	1/24/23	0.44	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	By product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Sodium (See Note 2)	No	1/24/23	26	mg/l	N/A	See Note 2	Road salt
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	9/5/23	2.5	ug/L	NA	MCL = 80	By product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Coliform Bacteria (see note 3)	No	6/14/23	1 positive sample	ug/L	NA	TT = 2 or more positive samples per month	Naturally present in the environment

Notes:

1 –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 was the **average of the two highest values**. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2 - 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.

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

Definitions:

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

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

Level Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible,

why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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).