

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Town of Red Hook Water District No. 1
7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571
(Public Water Supply ID#1302788)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Town of Red Hook Water District No. 1, will be annual issuing a report that describes 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. 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 concerning your drinking water, please contact Red Hook Water Department at 845-758-4608. 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 on the second Monday of the month at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

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.

Our water source is a well field consisting of two gravel wells properly sealed and protected from contamination, which is located at the end of Willow Brook Lane. In 2023, our system did not experience any restrictions of our water source. Our water is filtered by a two-train cartridge filtration system and then chlorinated with sodium hypochlorite prior to distribution. A 920,000-gallon storage tank is located off of Kelly Road. This tank provides storage and pressure for the system during off pumping times.

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this water source were evaluated. The State source water assessments include 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 be contaminated. See section "Are there** contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters in the future.

The source water assessment has rated our water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and the residential and agricultural land use and related activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from a gravel water bearing soil and overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination due to flooding. The county and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. The source water assessment summary for your system is available by calling the Water Department office at 845-758-4608 and requesting a copy.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 1,600 people through 488 service connections. The total water produced in 2023 was 24,289,200 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 66,546 gallons per day. Normal un-billed for water is attributed to water used to flush mains, clean streets and leakage. January - September 2023, water customers were charged \$49.48 per quarter for the first 9,000 gallons. Each additional 1,000 gallons is charged at a rate of \$4.95. In October 2023 rates were increased, water customers were charged \$52.00 per quarter for the first 9,000 gallons. Each additional 1,000 gallons is charged at a rate of \$5.20. The annual average water charge per user was \$294.87.

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, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. 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 the data, though representative, is 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 Department of Behavioral Community and Health at 486-3404.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate	No	11/28/2022	0.33	mg/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	No	11/28/2022	0.120	mg/L	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (1)	No	September 2021	2.9 (ND – 4.4)	ug/L	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (2)	No	September 2021	0.0915 (ND – 0.1)	mg/L	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Nickel	No	12/20/2023	0.003	mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring.
Barium	No	12/20/2023	0.053	mg/L	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	No	12/20/2023	2.0	mg/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha	No	11/28/2022	2.09	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta	No	11/28/2022	0.332	pCi/L	0	50 (3)	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Combined Radium 226 & 228	No	11/28/2022	0.895	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes	No	9/12/2023	1.1	ug/L	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	9/12/2023	1.3	ug/L	n/a	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

Footnotes:

(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, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 0.0915 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

(2) - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

(3) - The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

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.

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

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).

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

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.

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

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.

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. [Town of Red Hook Water District #1](#) 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 [Town of Red Hook Water District #1 845-244-0129](#). 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>.

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.

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 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).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

It is important to conserve water since it is one of our most valuable resources

- 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 so that essential firefighting 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 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. We ask that all our customers help us conserve water and protect our water sources (aquifer).