

2024 drinking water quality report

SMITHTOWN WATER DISTRICT
TOWN OF SMITHTOWN

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IDENTIFICATION NO. 5105656

ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT

SPRING 2025

The Smithtown Water District is pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report. The report is required to be delivered to all residents of our district in compliance with Federal and State regulations. Our goal is to provide you with safe and dependable supply of drinking water everyday. We also want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The Board of Water Commissioners and District employees are committed to ensuring that you and your family receive the highest quality of water.

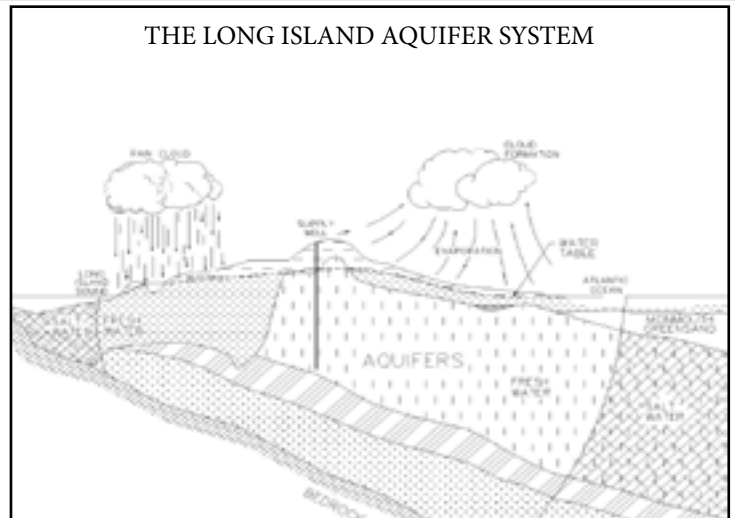
We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Superintendent Christopher Nustad at the Smithtown Water District at (631) 269-9202. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Water Commissioners meetings. Please call this office for a schedule of meetings and locations.

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the USEPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the USEPA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

All of the water the District supplies you comes from beneath the ground and is referred to as groundwater. Your water is stored beneath the ground in a sandy geological formation known as the Aquifer System. Water in the Aquifer System originates as precipitation, which slowly percolates down through the soil. There are three primary formations that lie one on the other to make up the Long Island Aquifer System. These formations in order are: Glacial – which contains the newest water to the groundwater system, Magothy – this is the largest of the three formations and holds the most water, most of it being hundreds of years old and Lloyd – which is a largely untapped layer, containing the oldest water, some that has been held in the system more than 5,000 years. The depth of the Long Island Aquifer System is approximately 600 feet on the north shore, and approximately 2,000 feet on the south shore. Most of our drinking water comes from the Glacial and Magothy formations.

THE LONG ISLAND AQUIFER SYSTEM



The Smithtown Water District purchases its water from the Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA). SCWA maintains over 500 public supply wells throughout Suffolk County. We have ten (10) interconnections with Suffolk County Water Authority where water supplied by SCWA enters our distribution system. During 2024, our system did not experience any restriction of our water service.

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

The Smithtown Water District spends some money each year upgrading the infrastructure. We also put some money away each year so major renovations will not affect the overall budget. We own all fire hydrants, and rent them to the fire districts. We are on call 24/7. 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 Smithtown Water District was organized in 1948 as a municipal water district, and serves about 20,611 people through 5,889 connections. We have about 84 miles of water main, and 583 fire hydrants (which are painted red and silver). The total amount of water withdrawn in 2024 was 937 million gallons, of which approximately 97% was billed directly to the customers. The non-revenue water is mainly attributed to water main flushing, fire fighting, and water main breaks. The District utilizes a unit price billing schedule with the consumer being billed at \$2.92 per 1,000 gallons with a quarterly base fee of \$31.38 plus a \$20 per quarter 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 healthcare 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).

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 36ppm. 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 Smithtown 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 or www.epa.gov/safewater.

ADDITIONAL TESTING

The District was not required to take radiological samples. Also, because of past testing, Suffolk County Water Authority has been waived from testing for the following SOCs and Pesticides; Aldicarb, Aldicarb sulfone, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Carbaryl, Carbofuran, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, methomyl, oxamyl, alachlor, aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, enfrin, 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 2.7 ppb, and for copper it was 0.23 ppm. The range for lead was ND (not detectable) to 5.8 ppb. The range for copper was 0.024 to 0.46 ppm.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT

In 2024, the Smithtown 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. We also ask consumers to repair leaks, install water conservation fixtures and maintain a constant awareness of water conservation in their personal habits.

Automatic sprinkler systems draw a tremendous amount of water. We ask you to refrain from watering between the hours of 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	July 2022	0.024 - 0.46 0.23 ⁽¹⁾	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	July 2022	ND -5.8 2.7 ⁽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	03/12/24	0.0069 - 0.017	mg/l	2	MCL = 2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	9.8 - 13.2	mg/l	n/a	No MCL ⁽²⁾	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Odor	No	03/12/24 07/10/24	ND - 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	16.9 - 26.0	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Nitrate	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	2.3 - 3.7	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer and leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Field pH	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	7.1 - 7.5	pH Units	n/a	n/a	Measure of water acidity or alkalinity
Calcium Hardness	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	46.4 - 51.9	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Total Hardness	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	55.4 - 65.4	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Specific Conductance	No	07/10/24 03/12/24	169.0 - 207.0	umhos/cm	n/a	No MCL	Naturally occurring
Chlorate	No	07/10/24	95.0 - 106.0	ug/l	n/a	No MCL	By-Product of chlorination
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides							
None Detected	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Disinfection By-Products							
Chloroform	No	07/10/24	0.69 - 1.2	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽³⁾	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter
Bromodichloromethane	No	07/10/24	0.53 - 0.84	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽³⁾	
Dibromochloromethane	No	7/10/24	0.65 - 0.69	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽³⁾	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	07/10/24	1.9 - 2.7	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 80 ⁽³⁾	
Disinfectants							
Chlorine Residual	No	Continuous	0.4 - 1.2	mg/l	n/a	MRDL = 4.0	Measure of disinfectant

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⁾ - MCL of 80 is for total sum of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs).

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 breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. *The Smithtown 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/716/Lead-Service-Line-Inventory>.

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