

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Borough of Butler Water Department

For the Year 2004, Results from the Year 2003

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The Butler Water Department routinely monitors for over 80 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table lists only those contaminants detected, and shows the results of our monitoring from January 1st to December 31st, 2003.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant:	Violati on Y/N	Level Detected	Units of Measur -ement	MC LG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants:						
Turbidity Test results Yr. 2003	No	Highest single Measurement = 0.96 NTU, August 2003 = 96.24% Lowest monthly %	NTU	n/a	TT=0.3 NTU TT=% of samples <0.3NTU	Soil runoff
Radioactive Contaminants:						
Alpha emitters Test results Yr. 2003	No	0.05	pCi/1	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants:						
Barium Test results Yr. 2003	No	0.050	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Test results Yr. 2003	No	0.19 No samples exceeded the action level	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead Test results Yr. 2003	No	<5 No samples exceeded the action level.	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Test results Yr. 2003	No	<0.2	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] Test results Yr. 2003	No	Rolling Annual Average = 31 Highest Quarterly Average = 35 Range= 14 to 55	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Disinfectants Test results Yr. 2003	Level detected	MRDL	MRDLG
Chlorine	Range = 0.3 – 0.8 Highest result: 0.80	4 Ppm	4 ppm

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 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

Our water source:

We draw our water from the Kakeout reservoir on Bubbling Brook Road in the Borough of Kinnelon, Morris County. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is preparing Source Water Assessment Reports and Summaries for all public water systems, which are expected to be complete in 2004. Further information on the Source Water Assessment Program can be obtained by logging onto NJDEP's source water assessment web site at WWW.state.nj.us/dep/swap or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550. You may also contact your public water system at 973-838-0063

Potential sources of contamination:

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 activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as nitrates and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

For additional information:

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ed Becker, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator at 973-838-0063. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are held at Borough Hall, 1 Ace Road, on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Definitions:

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal -The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

To ensure the continued quality of your water:

We treat our water in several ways. We add alum and lime to promote clarity and control pH, and we add a small amount of chlorine to disinfect, as a precautionary measure. We use polyphosphate to protect residential plumbing.

Waivers:

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organic chemicals and synthetic organic chemicals. Our system received monitoring waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals.

We at the Butler Water Department work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.