PWS ID# NJ1403001

Borough of Butler Water Department
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
(For the Year 2026, Results from the Year 2025)

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.

We draw our water from the Kakeout reservoir on Bubbling Brook Road in the Borough of Kinnelon. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/index.html or by contacting NJDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or watersupply@dep.nj.gov. You may also contact the Butler Water Department to obtain information regarding your water system's Source Water Assessment. The Butler Water department can be contacted at (973) 838-7208. Our water system's source water susceptibility ratings and a list of potential contaminant sources are included. A summary of this information is included at the end of this report.

The Borough of Butler encourages public participation. Members of the community are encouraged to attend the regularly scheduled Town Council meetings and participate in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Town council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at One Ace Road, within the Council Chambers, promptly at 7:00pm. Please contact the Butler Water Department if you need to request a translated copy of this report.

The Butler Water Department routinely monitors for over 80 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists only those contaminants detected and shows the results of our monitoring from January 1st to December 31st, 2025, except as noted. The state allows us to monitor 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.

Landlords must distribute this information to every tenant as soon as practicable, but no later than three business days after receipt. Delivery must be done by hand, mail, or email, and by posting the information in a prominent location at the entrance of each rental premises, pursuant to section 3 of P.L 2021, c. 82 (C.58:12A-12.4 et seq.).

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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas projection, 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, 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.

TEST RESULTS (Data for 2025)

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).

Contaminant	Violation? Y/N	Date of Sample	Highest Level Detected	Units of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Possible Source
Microbiological Contaminants:							
Turbidity	N	continuous	99.13% < 0.3 NTU Highest Detect: 0.57 NTU	NTU	N/A	**TT** = % of samples < 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	N	1/month	Running Annual Average: 1.25	ppm	N/A	**TT** = % of removal	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	10/month	no positive routine samples in 2025		0	1 positive	Naturally present in the environment; found in the intestines of mammals.
Radiological Contaminants:		*The data listed is from the most recent sampling done in accordance with EPA regulation					
Alpha Emitters	N	1/15/2024	1.22 Range: 1.22 to 1.22	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	N	1/15/2024	0.33 Range: 0.33 to 0.33	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants:		**Note:** AL is the Action Limit, The data listed is from the most recent sampling done in accordance with the regulation					
Antimony	N	07/03/2025	0.717 Range: 0.717 to 0.717	ppb	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic	N	07/03/2025	0.847 Range: 0.847 to 0.847	ppb	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	N	07/03/2025	0.0106 Range: 0.0106 to 0.0106	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes or metal refineries
Beryllium	N	07/03/2025	0.506 Range: 0.506 to 0.506	ppb	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Chromium	N	07/03/2025	0.637 Range: 0.637 to 0.637	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pump mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	07/03/2025	0.704 Range: 0.704 to 0.704	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Thallium	N	07/03/2025	0.486 Range: 0.486 to 0.486	ppb	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

Lead Result at 90th Percentile	N	Sept 2025	0 (0 samples of 20 exceeded AL) Range: <0.002 to <0.002	ppm	0	**AL** = 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting buildings to water mains, erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90th Percentile	N	Sept 2025	0.0127 (0 samples of 20 exceeded AL) Range: 0.0101 to 0.0152	ppm	0	**AL** = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts:							
TTHM	N	quarterly	LRAA: 68.2 Range (ppb): 31.2 to 79.4	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5	N	quarterly	LRAA: 26.0 Range(ppb): 0 to 40.1	ppb	N/A	60	
Regulated Disinfectants:		**Note**: Chlorine measured as free residual in distribution system; reported as monthly average					
Chlorine	N	monthly	Highest Annual Average: 0.9 ppm Range: 0.7 to 1.1	ppm	4	4	Water treatment additive used to control microbes
Perfluorinated Compounds:							
PFOA	N	quarterly	Range: 4.94 to 6.85 Average detected level: 6.16	ppt	14	N/A	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
PFOS	N	quarterly	Range: < 2 to 2.91 Average detected level: 1.93	ppt	13	N/A	Discharge from industrial, chemical factories, release of aqueous film forming foam.

Secondaries	**Date of Sample**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Units of Measure**	**Recommended Upper Limit**	**Likely Source**
Aluminum	07/03/2025	86.6	ppb	200	Erosion of natural mineral deposits; water treatment
Chloride	07/03/2025	58.5	ppm	250	Erosion of natural deposits; roadway ice and snow control
Hardness, Carbonate	07/03/2025	51.1	ppm	250	Natural characteristic
pH	2025	8.43	pH	6.5 – 8.5 (Optimum Range)	Natural characteristic
Sodium	07/03/2025	35.1	ppm	50	Erosion of natural deposits; roadway ice and snow control
Sulfate	07/03/2025	6.43	ppm	250	Natural characteristic
Total Dissolved Solids	07/03/2025	140	ppm	500	Erosion of natural mineral deposits

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 Compound	**Range Detected**	**Average Detected**	**Units of Measurement**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	5.5 – 9	7.2	ppt	PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including: non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals and in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and the world.
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	6.4	6.4	ppt	

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).

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the 01/01/2025 – 03/31/2025 compliance period, results from monitoring for regulated PFAS were submitted after the reporting deadline by the laboratory. During the 01/01/2025 – 06/30/2025 compliance period, results from water quality parameters monitoring were submitted after the reporting deadline.

We have also received a violation for the 12/01/2025 – 12/31/2025 compliance period, stating we did not complete all monitoring or testing for chlorine; however, Butler conducted the required chlorine testing during this period and chlorine residuals were maintained above state requirements. The Butler Water Department is currently discussing this violation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

The Butler Water Department is strengthening its sampling and reporting protocol to correct these violations and improve its monitoring in the future.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

***Lead*:**
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. The Butler Water Department 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 for lead, contact Butler Water Department at (973) 838-7200. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water. 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*.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effect in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

***Turbidity*:**
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it as a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

***Sodium*:**
For healthy individuals, the sodium intake from water is not important because a much greater intake of sodium takes place salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the MCL may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet.

Definitions:
In the previous 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.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

- We are required to remove a certain percentage of (TOC) from our drinking water on a monthly basis. Total Organic Carbon has no adverse health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts.

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

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 using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - 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.

Treatment description:
We treat our water in several ways. We add a coagulant and provide filtration to promote clarity, and sodium hydroxide to control pH levels. We also add chlorine to disinfect (as a DEP required precautionary measure) and add a blended orthopolyphosphate to protect distribution system piping and residential plumbing. All chemical additives are NSF approved.

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 a monitoring waiver for synthetic organic chemicals in the past and expects to receive one for this coming monitoring period

Water Service Line Inventory:
A water service line inventory has been prepared for the Butler Water Department. This inventory can be accessed by going to the Water and Sewer Department Home page at the Borough website. 1403001_LSL_Inventory_July2025.pdf

We at the Butler Water Department work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our residents 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.

For additional information:
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact the Butler Water Department at (973) 838-7200. If you want to learn more about the Butler Water Department, 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 7:00 p.m.

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants in 2023 as required by the EPA. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these

contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please refer to the table above.

Source Water Assessment Information

Butler Water Department is a public community water system consisting of one surface water intake at Kakeout Reservoir. The table below illustrates the **susceptibility ratings** for the seven contaminant categories (and radon) for this intake. The table provides the ratings of high (H), medium (M), or low (L) for each contaminant category. The seven contaminant categories are defined at the bottom of this page. DEP considered all surface water highly susceptible to pathogens, therefore all intakes received a high rating for the pathogen category. Radionuclides are more of a concern for ground water than surface water, therefore all intakes received a low rating.

If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination.

	Pathogens			**Nutrients**			**Pesticides**			**Volatile Organic Compounds**			**Inorganics**			**Radionuclides**			**Radon**			**Disinfection Byproduct Precursors**		
Sources	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Surface water intakes - 1	**1**					**1**			**1**		**1**			**1**				**1**			**1**	**1**		

Pathogens: Disease-causing organisms such as bacteria and viruses. Common sources are animal and human fecal wastes.
Nutrients: Compounds, minerals and elements that aid growth, that are naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.
Volatile Organic Compounds: Man-made chemicals used as solvents, degreasers, and gasoline components. Examples include benzene, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), and vinyl chloride.
Pesticides: Man-made chemicals used to control pests, weeds, and fungus. Common sources include land application and manufacturing centers of pesticides. Examples include herbicides such as atrazine, and insecticides such as chlordane.
Inorganics: Mineral-based compounds that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include arsenic, asbestos, copper, lead, and nitrate.
Radionuclides: Radioactive substances that are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include radium and uranium.
Radon: Colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas that occurs naturally in the environment. For more information go to http://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/index.html or call (800) 648-0394.
Disinfection Byproduct Precursors: A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection byproducts are formed when the disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.