ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITY
2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

For the Year 2022

CONSERVING WATER TODAY FOR TOMORROW

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility is proud to present our 2023 Water Quality Report for drinking water analysis conducted during the 2022 calendar year. Annually we provide this report to you with valuable information about your drinking water. This report demonstrates that Rockaway Township continues to produce safe high-quality drinking water for our consumers.

Where does your water come from?

The Utility currently operates three groundwater treatment plants that draw water from the Stratified Drift Aquifer. Four of the wells are located along Green Pond Road. We also have four wells located within the Fox Hills Senior Development on Mt. Hope Avenue. Over the past five years, the Utility has averaged pumping 1.50 million gallons of water per day through our treatment plants into our distribution system and water storage tanks as well. We bulk purchase water daily from the Town of Dover to supplement our Fleetwood Pressure zone as needed.

Just as bottled water can contain contaminants, so can our wells. As it is well known, two of the three township wells were contaminated with volatile organics by private industry back in the early 1980's. Be assured the Township has continued to provide excellent safe drinking water by utilizing treatment techniques that include air stripping, carbon filtration and chlorine disinfection. These treatment techniques allow the Utility to provide high quality drinking water which more than satisfies all State and Federal Standards.

Security

It is important for the Utility to protect the water supply for our customers. The Utility has made every effort to secure its facilities from local vandalism, as well as terrorist incidents. If you have any security concerns, see any unauthorized persons utilizing fire hydrants, anyone approaching your house as a Township employee without providing proper ID, or if you see any suspicious persons around our facilities, please contact the Utility at 1-973-983-2825 or the Police Department at 1-973-625-4000.

Periodic Fire Hydrant Flushing

The Municipal Utility conducts a fire hydrant flushing program throughout the water distribution system. Fire hydrant flushing helps remove any sediment from the water mains, which assures consistent water quality. The flushing program also ensures that fire hydrants are checked for proper operation in case of a fire.

HYDRANT FLUSHING WILL OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP DURING SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER. WE WILL POST VARIOUS SECTIONS ON THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AS WE MOVE THROUGH THE AREA

Educational Information

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 salts 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 may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants include 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 that 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 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)

Special Considerations Regarding Children, Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers, and other Children may receive a slightly higher amount of a contaminant present in the drinking water than do adults, based on body weight, because they may drink a greater amount of water per pound of body weight than adults. For this reason, reproductive or developmental effects are used for calculating a drinking water standard, if these effects occur at lower levels than other health effects of concern, if there is insufficient toxicity information for a chemical (for example, lack of data on reproductive or developmental effects), an extra uncertainty factor may be incorporated into the calculation of the drinking water standard, thus making the standard more stringent, to account for additional uncertainties regarding these effects. In cases of lead and nitrate, effects on infants and children are the health endpoints upon which the standards are based.

Landlords must distribute this information to every tenant as soon as practical, 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).

Waivers

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations allow monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate the monitoring requirements for asbestos, volatile organics, and synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs). Rockaway Township has received monitoring waivers for asbestos and synthetic organic chemicals.

Council Meetings & Information Sites

Rockaway Township Council Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday and the Fourth Tuesday of every month, except for Holidays and special Election Days. For more information on Council Meetings, visit the link below, or call our Township Clerk at (973) 983-2838

https://www.rockawaytownship.org/157/Township-Council

Water System Improvements

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility continually strives to improve the water quality and service to our customers.

The Utility has completed another inspection of all Potable Water storage tanks. A bid has been proposed for contracting repairs/refurbishments. We anticipate the work to begin 2023 once negotiations have subsided and the contract awarded. The proposed plan addresses maintenance issues and suggested improvements.

Progress continues on the development of a backup well for Well 8. Test bores and sampling will begin soon.

We are moving forward with treatment installation at the centralized treatment plant for Fox Hills, which will improve water quality and production for the system.

We have upgraded our centralized SCADA software; obtained a fully functional GIS system and hydraulic model; and we are engaged in several infrastructure projects to improve water mains. We have reduced water loss in the system from 40% to 18 %.

The Utility continues to upgrade and enhance our Meter Reading Equipment by replacing its ERTs (Electronic Radio Transmitters) and meters when needed. Additionally, new software and equipment was purchased to improve and enhance the meter reading process.

Violations

Our water system received two (2) violations in 2022. The first was for a PFOS exceedance at our Fox Hills treatment plant during the first quarter compliance period. We are moving forward with treatment installation to address this issue. The second violation was for failure to submit to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), a Public Notice (PN) pertaining to the above violation. We are presently working with the NJDEP to resolve this issue.

Thank you to all our customers for your continued support of our Water Treatment and Supply

Terminology

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

EPA
Environmental Protection Agency

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 (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 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 contaminants."

NJDEP
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

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 $10,000,000.00 dollars.

Part 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 $10,000.00 dollars.

Part Per Trillion
(ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/l)- one part per trillion corresponds to a single drop of water in an 20 Olympic size swimming pools. Note 1 Olympic Pool = 660,000 Gallons.

Recommended Upper Limit (RUL)
Secondary contaminants are regulated but do not have enforceable standards, but instead have an RUL.

Treatment Technique
A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water, such as air stripping.

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility 2022 Water Quality Data

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 C*ryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)

Contaminant	*Violation*	*Level Detected*	*Units of Measurement*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Likely Source of Contamination and Health Effects Language*
TTHM's Total Trihalomethanes	**No**	Highest LRAA: 23 Individual Range 7-23	ppb	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA's Total Haloacetic Acid	**No**	Highest LRAA: 3 Individual Range 2-4	ppb	n/a	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Nitrate (as nitrogen)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 1.6 Range: 1.3 – 1.6	ppm	10	10	Run off from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 0.07 Range ND – 0.07	ppm	4.0	4.0	Erosion of Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (2020)	**No**	Result at 90th Percentile 0.00303 2 sites out of 30 exceeded the Action Level	ppm	0	Action Level: 0.015	If present, 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. Rockaway Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been setting for several hours, you can minimize your potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.
Copper (2020)	**No**	Result at 90th Percentile 0.0766	ppm	1.3	Action Level – 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
PFOA TP013029 TP010016 TP001002	**No**	**High LRAA /Range** 4 / 4-4 8 / 7-9 9 / 9-9	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
PFOS TP013029 TP010016 TP001002	**No**	**High LRAA/Range** 13 / ND-9 4 / 3-4 9 / 5-9	ppt	N/A	13	Discharge from industrial, chemical, and manufacturing factories, release of aqueous film forming foam
Combined Radium (2017-2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 1.5 Range 1.35-1.5	pCi/l	0	5 pCi/l	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increase of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.
Chlorine Residuals	**No**	Average: 0.37 Range: 0.07-1.1	ppm	MRDLG 4.0 ppm	MRDL 4.0ppm	Calcium Hypochlorite, Tablet Chlorine utilized for Disinfection

Special note regarding Lead: Call us at (973) 627-7200 to find out how to get our water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility 2020 Secondary Contaminants Data

Contaminant	*Violation*	*Level Detected*	*Units of Measurement*		*RUL*	*Likely Source of Contamination and Health Effects Language*
Sodium (2020)	**Yes**	Highest Level Detected: **105** Range 19.4-**105**	ppm	N/A	50	FOR SODIUM: For healthy individuals, the sodium intake from water is not important, because a much greater intake of sodium takes place from salt in the diet. However, sodium levels above the recommended upper limit may be of concern to individuals on a sodium restricted diet."
Chloride (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 195 Range 93-195	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally Occurring; Seasonal road treatment for inclement weather
Sulfate (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 23 Range 9-23	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally Occurring
Manganese (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 0.03 Range ND-0.03	ppm	N/A	0.05	Naturally Occurring
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: **508** Range 308-**508**	ppm	N/A	500	Naturally Occurring
Surfactants (Foaming Agents) (2020)	**No**	Highest Level Detected: 0.21 Range ND-0.21	ppm	N/A	0.5	Treatment Process

Health Effects:

Chloride: Chloride occurs naturally in water and is monitored as a secondary contaminant. Secondary contaminants are aesthetic (taste and odor) rather than health risks; however, in high concentrations sulfate can cause Diarrhea in some people.

Chlorine: Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water that contains copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water that contains copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Fluoride: Infants and children: Delays in physical or mental development; children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults: Kidney problems; high blood pressure.

HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids): Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Lead: If present, 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. Hawthorne Water is responsible for providing high water quality but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30

seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Manganese: The recommended upper limit for manganese is based on staining of laundry. Manganese is an essential nutrient, and toxicity is not expected from levels which would be encountered in drinking water.

PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic Acid): Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanoic acid in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their blood serum cholesterol levels, liver, kidney, immune system, or, in males, reproductive system. Drinking water containing perfluorooctanoic acid in excess of the MCL over many years may also increase the risk of testicular and kidney cancer. For females, drinking water containing perfluorooctanoic acid in excess of the MCL over many years may cause developmental delays in a fetus and/or an infant.

PFOS (Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid): Some people who drink water containing perfluorooctanesulfonic acid in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their immune system, kidney, liver, or endocrine system. For females, drinking water containing perfluorooctanesulfonic acid in excess of the MCL over many years may cause developmental effects and problems with the immune system, liver, or endocrine system in a fetus and/or an infant. Some of these developmental effects can persist through childhood.

Radium: Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Secondary Contaminant: These parameters do not have an impact on health. Secondary Contaminants affect aesthetic qualities such as odor, taste, or appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

Sodium: Naturally occurring mineral. Sodium is essential for good health. Certain medical conditions, however, require sodium intake monitoring. Excessive sodium can adversely affect high blood pressure, heart disease or diabetes. Contact your physician for further information.

Sulfate: Sulfate occurs naturally in water and is monitored as a secondary contaminant. Secondary contaminants are aesthetic (taste and odor) rather than health risks; however, in high concentrations sulfate can cause Diarrhea in some people.

Surfactants/Foaming Agents: In general, prolonged exposure of skin to surfactants in excess of the RUL can cause chafing.

Total Dissolved Solids: (TDS) in drinking water is not a health hazard. The recommended upper limit has been established based on the aesthetic properties of water. Water high in TDS may taste salty or brackish. High TDS may also indicate that other ions naturally present in water may be above established regulatory levels.

Trihalomethanes: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Source Water Assessment

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed and issued the Source Water Protection Report and Summary for this public water system, which is available at www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/swap/creport.htm or by contacting the NJDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at 609-292-5550.

The table below illustrates the susceptibility rating for each individual source for each of the contaminant categories at this water system.

Source Name	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			VOCs			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			DBPs		
	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L
Wells - 6		4	2	6					6	3		3		2	4		3	3	3	3		2	4	

Susceptibility ratings for a public water system are based on the potential for a contaminant to be:

- At or above 50% of the Drinking Water Standard (MCL) = **(H) High**
- Between 10 and 50% of the Drinking Water Standard (MCL) = **(M) Medium**
- Less than 10% of the Drinking Water Standard (MCL) = **(L) Low**

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, and are both naturally occurring and man-made. Examples include nitrogen and phosphorus.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): 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.htm or call 800-648-0394.

(DBPs) Disinfectant Byproduct Precursors: A common source is naturally occurring organic matter in surface water. Disinfection byproducts are formed when other disinfectants (usually chlorine) used to kill pathogens react with dissolved organic material (for example leaves) present in surface water.

The public may review any of the Utilities water testing results by going to the NJDEP –Drinking Water Watch Website below.

https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/
Under the PWSID #, please type 1435002

The Rockaway Township Municipal Utility News Page

In the News, Rockaway Township has developed and published a new web site, this allows for more detailed information to be obtained more quickly, it also allows residents to send in Service Requests. Information may also be found on the township Facebook Page https://www.Facebook.com/RockawayTownship/ .Along with the new web site the **Municipal Utility** has several pages on The Water Utility and WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.
www.rockawaytownship.org

Rockaway Township Municipal Utility Water@rockawaytownship.org Rockaway Township Public Water Supply PWSID = 1435002	New Jersey Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (1-609-292-5550)

Sweep your driveway, do not wash it

Use automatic nozzles on hoses

Water plants with rain water

Check your toilets for leaks by putting food coloring into the closet (back of toilet).

If the water in the bowl changes color, you have a leak.

Remember, you do not have to water your lawn every day.

Only water when your lawn shows signs of needing water or every other day

CONSERVE WATER TODAY FOR TOMORROW
REMEMBER WATER IS FOR LIFE

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