

Borough of Butler Water Department
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
(For the Year 2024, Results from the Year 2023)

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).

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. 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 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, 2023. 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 our data, though representative, are 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, 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, 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.

TEST RESULTS (Data for 2023)							
Contaminant	Violation? Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Units of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Possible Source
Microbiological Contaminants:							
Turbidity	N	continuous	99.92% < 0.3 NTU Highest Detect = 0.92 NTU	NTU	N/A	TT = % of samples < 0.3 NTU	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	N	1/month	Running Annual Average = 1.20	ppm	N/A	TT = % of removal	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	10/month	no positive routine samples in 2023		0	1 positive	Naturally present in the environment; found in the intestines of mammals.
Radiological Contaminants:							
Gross Alpha	N	1/15/2024	1.22	piCu/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	N	1/15/2024	0.33	piCu/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants:		Note: RUL is the Recommended Upper Limit					
Barium	N	7/10/2023	0.00821	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes or metal refineries
Chloride	N	7/10/2023	51.6	ppm	N/A	RUL = 250	Agricultural runoff; road salting
Chromium	N	7/10/2023	0.541	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipe
Nickel	N	7/10/2023	0.575	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	7/10/2023	27.3	ppm	N/A	RUL = 50	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N	7/10/2023	6.03	ppm	N/A	RUL = 250	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead Result at 90th Percentile	N	June 2023	1.71 0 samples of 40 exceeded AL	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper Result at 90th Percentile	N	June 2023	0.080 0 samples of 40 exceeded AL	ppm	0	AL = 1.3	
Disinfection Byproducts:							
TTHM	N	quarterly	Range = 20.8 to 59.4	ppb	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAAS	N	quarterly	Range = 6.0 to 35.2	ppb	N/A	60	
Regulated Disinfectants:		Note: Chlorine measured as free residual in distribution system; reported as monthly average					
Chlorine	N	monthly	Range = 0.68 to 1.15	ppm	4	4	Water treatment additive
Perfluorinated Compounds:							
PFOA	N	quarterly	Range = <2.00 to 6.01	ppt	14	N/A	Discharge from industrial facilities
PFOS	N	quarterly	Range = <2.00 to 3.78	ppt	13	N/A	Discharge from industrial facilities
PFOA (UCMR5)	N	quarterly	Range=5.50 to 9.00, Average=7.23	ppt	N/A	N/A	Discharge from industrial facilities

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.

Lead: Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Butler Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but can't control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. 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 tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Call us at 973-838-7200 x.413 to find out how to get your water tested for lead. Testing is essential because you cannot see, taste, or smell lead in drinking water.

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 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.

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 orthophosphate 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.

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 Keith Smith, Licensed Water Treatment Plant Operator at 973-838-7200 x. 413. 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 contact Keith Smith, Licensed Water Treatment Plant Operator at 973-838-7200 x. 413 or Butler Borough Hall, 1 Ace Road, Butler, NJ 07405.

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.

Sources	Pathogens			Nutrients			Pesticides			Volatile Organic Compounds			Inorganics			Radionuclides			Radon			Disinfection Byproduct Precursors		
	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 both 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.