Oakdale Heights, Montville, CT
2025 Water Quality Report

Is my water safe?

The Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA) is pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality and is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact SCWA customer service at (860) 464-0232 or through our website www.WaterAuthority.org. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Authority Board meetings. They are held the second Monday of each month at 5:15 PM at 1649 Route 12, Gales Ferry, CT. The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2025 is April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 20, November 10, and December 8. Additional information on meeting dates and times can be obtained by calling SCWA customer service at (860) 464-0232.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Oakdale Heights derives its water from five deep wells: three located at the junction of Laurel Drive and Glendale Road, and two located in the fields between Laurel Drive and Chesterfield Road. The underground water is pumped into two storage tanks, one located in each of the pumphouses. Water then travels from the storage tanks to the pressure tanks to the main lines which run underground along the roads to each household line. Through valves located throughout the system, it is possible to change the source of water from one tank to another; this is done, for example, if a main line breaks, requiring the lines around it to be rerouted.

Source water assessment and its availability

The Connecticut Department of Public Health has conducted a water assessment of this well-field. This assessment found that this public drinking water source has a low susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. The assessment report can be found on the Department of Public Health's website: Source Water Assessment Program (ct.gov). The assessment report is also available at SCWA's office.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity, such as:
microbial contaminants, like viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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 (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Conservation Tips

According to the EPA the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day. Fortunately, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. For example, fix leaky toilets and faucets, or run the clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. Teach children about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Additional Information for 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. SCWA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, 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 water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Lead Service Line Inventory - The National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Lead and Copper, which went into effect in 2021, required all public water systems to develop a lead service line (LSL) inventory identifying all materials used to construct or repair all service lines connected to a public water distribution system. The completed inventories for each SCWA division can be found on the SCWA webpage at: https://www.waterauthority.org

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppb)	2000	2000	7	6	7	2024	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	ND	ND	ND	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.73	.36	.73	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Microbiological Contaminants								
E. coli (RTCR) - in the distribution system	0	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform positive and either is E. coli - positive or system fails to take repeat samples following E. coli positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform positive repeat sample for E. coli.	0	NA	NA	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform (TCR) (positive samples/month)	0	2 positive samples were identified, 1 in January and 1 in July, The wells were chlorinated and the follow-up samples passed,	0	NA	NA	2024	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	5	.4	ND	.4	2024	No	Soil runoff

Lead and Copper									
Analyte	Unit	AL	MCLG	Range of Detection		90th % Value	Sample Year	Met Drinking Water Standards	Typical Source
				Low	High				
Lead	ppb	15	0	ND	46	3.4	2024 (1 of 46 samples > AL)	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	ppb	1300	1.3	3	1570	730	2024 (2 of 46 samples > AL)	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	MCLG: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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 contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

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