

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 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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 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.

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.

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. Your water system 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 drinking 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>.

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).

This report prepared by:



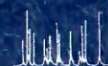
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DRINKING WATER

Annual Report on Water Purity
from Your Water Supplier



REPORT PREPARED BY



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2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Canaan Water Department

PWSID: CT0210011

Is my water safe?

This brochure is a summary of the quality of the water that was provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are providing you with this information to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The purpose of this report is to advance your understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants.

Where does my water come from?

The water in our system comes from five active ground water wells. These wells tap into a fractured bedrock aquifer located within the Housatonic River drainage basin. Our water system consists of wells, storage tanks, distribution system piping and associated pumps, valves and gauges.

Source water assessment and its availability

A water assessment was recently completed by the Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Division. The updated assessment report can be found on the Department of Public Health's website:

http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/Source_Protection/Assessments/Community/Community.htm

How can I get involved?

For more information about our water system or for the location, date and time of our association meetings dealing with water system issues, please contact Dennis Jacobs at 860 824-7893. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants we detected that are applicable for the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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 change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Low	High	Sam- ple Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Asbestos (MFL)	7	7	0	NA	2012	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits	
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	0.01 – 0.02	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.001	0–0.002	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.00	0	2019	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth	
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.0	0.4–1.6	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion	
Lead (ppm)	0	15	0	0	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Sulfate (ppm)	MNR	250	19	18–20	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Chloride (ppm)	MPL	250	44	14–73	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Sodium (ppm)	MPL	28	18	7–29	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching	
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	1	NA	2020	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	5	0.1	0.02–0.39	2020	No	Soil runoff	
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.89	0.69–4.66	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	3.54	2.95–4.39	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	10.3	10.5–10.5	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Inorganic Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.2	2018	0	No	Corrosion of plumbing; Erosion	
Lead (ppb)	0	15	3.5	2018	0	No	Corrosion of plumbing; Erosion	

Term	Unit Descriptions
ppm	Definition parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
MFL	million fibers per liter, used to measure asbestos concentration
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 system.
positive samples/month	Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	not applicable
ND	Not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
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	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	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances/Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
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	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	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

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