



2024 Annual Water Quality Report for the Town of North East Water Department MD0070016



This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The source of drinking water used by THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST is surface water.

If you want to learn more please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the North East Town Hall Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m.

Rolling Mill Water Treatment Plant
Ron Carter
39 Rolling Mill Lane
North East, MD 21901
410-287-8102

Leslie Water Treatment Plant
Ron Carter
39 Leslie Road
North East, MD 21901
410-287-8102

Source of Drinking Water

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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally – occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health side effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

A source water assessment was performed by MDE and is available on their website, mde.maryland.gov.

Regulations and Contaminants

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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>.

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 for drinking or cooking

Use Water Wisely

Think about your water-use habits. Make every drop count.

In the Bathroom

Your toilet is the biggest water user in the house. It uses 1.6 to 5 gallons down the drain per flush.

Your shower uses 2-5 gallons per minute.

Your sink faucet uses about 2.5 gallons per minutes.

Think about turning the water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.



In the Kitchen

Only run the dishwasher when it is full.

At the sink, use a basin for washing and rinsing dishes or washing vegetable instead of letting the water run.

Only run the dishwasher when it is full.

In the Laundry

Adjust the washing machine setting to match the amount of clothes being washed.

Outdoors

Use a bucket rather than running a hose to wash your car.

Water plants in early morning.

By reducing your outdoor water use, either by cutting back on irrigation or planting more drought tolerant landscaping, you can dramatically reduce your overall water use.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
TOWN OF NORTH EAST
Public Water System ID: MD0070016

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for the year, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report, contact: **Ron Carter at 410-287-8102**

Sources of Drinking Water: TOWN OF NORTH EAST is Surface water.

Our water source(s) and source water assessment information are listed below:

Source Name		Type of Water	Report Status	Location
NORTH EAST CREEK	01-ROLLING MILL FTP LITTLE NECK	Surface Water		
NORTH EAST CREEK	02-LESLIE FILT PLT NORTH EAST CK	Surface Water		
NORTH EAST RIVER				

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 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.

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 at (800) 426-4791. 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 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not

necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 Town of North East 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, contact Ron Carter at the Town of North East. 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>.

An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment on October 16, 2024. An initial inventory of service line pipe materials located within our service area was required to be submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) by October 16, 2024. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. The report is available upon request.

Source water assessment has been performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment and is accessible on their website at: https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx

In the tables below, 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:

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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 goal or 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 contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or 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.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

- Avg:** Average - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
- LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average
- mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- ppt:** one part per trillion is equivalent to one nanogram (ng/L) per liter. A single drop of food coloring in 18 million gallons of water.
- ppb:** micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
- ppm:** milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
- pCi/L:** picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- na:** not applicable.
- Nd:** non-detect

Our water system tested a minimum of 10 sample(s) per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2024	1.3	ppm	-	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead and Copper	Period	90TH Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low - high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2020 - 2023	0.061	<.0.2-4	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2020 - 2023	1	<2-5	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	FLYING J TRAVEL PLAZA	2023 - 2024	44	3.28 - 45.6	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	IRISHTOWN ROAD	2023 - 2024	62	32.3 - 82.3	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	RED TOAD ROAD	2023 - 2024	55	1.2 - 57.2	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	FLYING J TRAVEL PLAZA	2023 - 2024	55	30.7 - 80.5	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	IRISHTOWN ROAD	2023 - 2024	73	36.3 - 77.3	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	RED TOAD ROAD	2023 - 2024	83	33.8 - 84.6	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ATRAZINE	3/24/2024	0.08	0 - 0.08	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
BARIUM	3/24/2024	0.023	0 - 0.023	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
DIBROMOCHLOROME THANE	5/13/2024	0.00269	0.0024 8 - 0.0026 9	MG/L	0.1	0.06	
FLUORIDE	3/24/2024	0.57	0.14 - 0.57	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL	3/24/2024	0.001	0.001	MG/L	0.1	0.1	
NITRATE	3/24/2024	2.93	2.71 - 2.93	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE	5/13/2024	2.8	2.6 - 2.8	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)	Collection Date of HV	Highest Value (HV)	Range of Sampled Result(s)	Unit

WHAT IS PFAS?

PFAS - short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances - refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human-made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in a range of products, including stain- and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging and fire-fighting foams. These uses of PFAS have led to PFAS entering our environment, where they have been measured by several states in soil, surface water, groundwater, and seafood. Some PFAS can last a long time in the environment and in the human body and can accumulate in the food chain.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a PFAS monitoring program for Community Water Systems from 2020 to 2022. The results are available on MDE's website:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx>.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in April 2024. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are each 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The MCLs for PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) are each 10 ppt. Additionally, a mixture of two or more of the following chemicals (PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS) will be regulated with a Hazard Index of 1 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

Percentage of samples in compliance with Std	Months Occurred	Violation	Highest Single Measurement	Month Occurred	Sources	Level Indicator
100.00	12	NO	0.27	July	LESLIE FILT PLT NORTH EAST CK	Yes
100.00	12	NO	0.27	November	ROLLING MILL FTP LITTLE NECK	Yes

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

TOC	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	8/11/2024	9.16	1.31 - 9.16		0	Naturally present in the environment

Violations

During this period covered by this report we had the below noted violations:

Violation Period	Analyte	Violation Type	Violation Explanation
12/31/2023 - 3/30/2024	TTHM	MCL, LRAA	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL
3/31/2024 - 6/29/2024	TTHM	MCL, LRAA	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL
3/31/2024 - 6/29/2024	TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	MCL, LRAA	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL
9/30/2024 - 12/30/2024	CARBON, TOTAL	INADEQUATE DBP PRECURSOR REMOVAL	Inadequate disinfection by-product precursor removal

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

- Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- 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.
- Additional Required Health Effects Violation notices:
- Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts (DBPs). These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and Haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increase risk of getting cancer.

Reseller Violations and Health Effects Information