

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Consumer Confidence Report

EDGEWATER ACRES/ NANTUCKET POINT SERVICE AREA
2025 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWSID # 023-0020

INTRODUCTION

The Water & Wastewater Division of the Worcester County Department of Public Works is responsible for the provision of the safest possible drinking water to its customers in the Nantucket Point Service Area. During the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024, we conducted tests for drinking water contaminants and tested at least once every month for Total Coliform and Fecal Coliform Bacteria as required by Federal and State law. We detected several contaminants and all were found to be significantly below established standards.

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that was provided to you in 2024. Included are details about the source of your water, what your water contains, and how your water compares with the standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). If you have any questions about this report or need additional information concerning the drinking water being supplied to you, please call Andy Glenn at 410-641-5251, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. any weekday.

OUR WATER IS SAFE, HOWEVER

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are 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 risks of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

SOURCE OF WATER

We purchased water from Artesian Water Company of Delaware in 2022 and we were supplied by both their South Bethany and Bayville water plants.

INFORMATION

While we do not have regularly scheduled meetings with your community, our personnel are available to answer any questions that you may have or to provide information concerning the operation of the water treatment system. To contact us, you can call Andy Glenn at 410-641-5251, or you can write to us at 1000 Shore Lane, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

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. Worcester County 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

GENERAL

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 the water before we treat it include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wild life.
- *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 storm water runoff and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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 (800-426-4791).

PFAS

PFAS –or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – refers to a large group of more than 4000 human- made chemicals that have been used since the 1940’s 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-Landings-Page.aspx>.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in March 2023. The MCLs for PFOA and PFOS are proposed to be 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt). The proposal for HFPO-DA (GenX), PFBS, PFNA and PFHxS is to use a Hazard index of 1.0 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

The 5th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) began testing for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium in 2023, and testing will run through 2025. The UCMR5 should test all community water systems with populations of at least 3300 people. Three randomly selected systems in Maryland with populations less than 3300 people will also be tested under the UCMR5. Detections greater than the minimum reporting levels for each constituent should be reported in the CCR.

EDGEWATER ACRES / NANTUCKET POINT WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these 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 January 1-December 31, 2024. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms & abbreviations used below:

- **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 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.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when 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
- **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.
- **Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running average of monthly samples.
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons • **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water • **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
- **mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- **na:** not applicable.
- **Treatment Technique or TT:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **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.

TEST RESULTS OF REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE MARYLAND PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	Collection date	Highest level detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	19	19-19	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	52	52.4-52.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	2024	1.1	1-1.1	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

An initial Service Line Inventory was submitted by 10/16/2024 to the Maryland Department of the Environment. As a result, the Service Line Inventory requirement was fulfilled. The report is available upon request

TEST RESULTS OF REGULATED AND UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE DELAWARE PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	Highest level detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) 2024	42.31 *	16.93-54.28	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) 2024	58.63 *	25.80-109.74	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine 2024	3.20	ND-3.20	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Barium 2023	0.059	0.059	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling waste, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride 2024	1.23	0.56-1.23	2	2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel 2023	5	ND - 5	100	100	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate 2024	2.77	ND -2.77	100	100	ppb	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

LEAD AND COPPER	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Range of Tap Sampling	Violation	Likely source of contamination.
Copper 2022	1.3	1.3	0.131	0	ppm	<0.01-1.07	N	Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives, or corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead 2022	0	15	4.0	2	ppb	<0.001-0.032	N	Erosion of natural deposits, or corrosion of household plumbing systems

*Highest 4-quarter average of samples collected and used by the Delaware State Division of Public Health for compliance for HAA5 and TTHM samples

EDGEWATER ACRES / NANTUCKET POINT WATER QUALITY DATA

TEST RESULTS OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE DELAWARE PORTION OF THE WATER SYSTEM

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS	Average level detected	Range of levels detected	MCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alkalinity, Total	99	33 -176	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Conductivity	332	241 - 410	N/A	umhos	N/A	
Hardness, Calcium	60	40 - 82	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Hardness, Total	79	52 - 100	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Phosphate, Total	0.95	0.16-1.83	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Sodium	39.6	26.3-50.8	N/A	ppm	N/A	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	3.71	2.12 – 5.77	N/A	ppm	N/A	

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS	Average level detected	Range of levels detected	SMCL	Units	Violation	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chloride	36.8	23.7 – 58.1	250	ppm	N/A	
Iron	0.05	nd – 0.42	0.3	ppm	N/A	
Manganese	0.008	nd – 0.025	0.05	ppm	N/A	Short term fluctuations due to iron/ manganese removal
pH, field	7.14	6.59 – 8.44	6.5 – 8.5	0 – 14 scale	N/A	
Silver	0.001	Nd – 0.002	0.1	ppm	N/A	
Solids, total dissolved	211	149 - 269	500	ppm	N/A	
Sulfate	5.97	Nd – 17.9	250	ppm	N/A	
Zinc	0.032	Nd – 0.096	5	ppm	N/A	



Artesian Southern Sussex Regional Water Quality Report for 2024

PWSID# DE00A0323

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during 2024. 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 actually 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.

	Unit of Measure	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	ppm	2	2 ¹	0.059	0.059	2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	2	2 ¹	1.23	0.56 – 1.23	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel	ppb	100	100 ¹	5	nd – 5	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	ppb	10	10 ¹	2.77	nd – 2.77	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection/Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine (free and total)	ppm	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG) ²	3.20	nd – 3.20	2024	No	Disinfectant used in drinking water industry. Low Levels were a onetime occurrence. Follow up samples showed normal levels.
Haloacetic Acids, total	ppb	60		42.31	16.93 – 54.28	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, total	ppb	80		58.63	25.80 – 109.74	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

	Unit of Measure	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile	No. of Sites Over AL	Year Sampled	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead & Copper⁵								
90th Percentile Lead	ppb	15	0	4	2	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
90th Percentile Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3 ¹	0.131	0	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.



Artesian Southern Sussex Regional Water Quality Report for 2024

PWSID# DE00A0323

	Unit of Measure	MCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Unregulated Contaminants							
Alkalinity, total	ppm	n/r	99	33 – 176	2023	n/a	
Conductivity	umhos	n/r	332	241 – 410	2023	n/a	
Hardness, Calcium	ppm	n/r	60	40 – 82	2023	n/a	
Hardness, Total	ppm	n/r	79	52 – 100	2023	n/a	
Perfluorooctance sulfonate (PFHxS) ⁶	ppt	n/r	1.73	1.73	2023	n/a	
Perfluorooctance sulfonate (PFOS) ⁶	ppt	n/r	3.61	3.61	2023	n/a	
Phosphate, total	ppm	n/r	0.95	0.16 – 1.83	2024	n/a	
Sodium	ppm	n/r	39.6	26.3 – 50.8	2024	n/a	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	n/r	3.71	2.12 – 5.77	2023	n/a	

	Unit of Measure	State SMCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Delaware Secondary Contaminants							
Chloride	ppm	250	36.8	23.7 – 58.1	2023	n/a	
Iron	ppm	0.3	0.05	nd – 0.42	2024	n/a	Short-term fluctuations related to treatment process.
Manganese	ppm	0.05	0.008	nd – 0.025	2023	n/a	
pH, Field	0 - 14 scale	6.5 – 8.5	7.14	6.59 – 8.44	2024	n/a	Short-term fluctuations related to treatment process.
Solids, total dissolved	ppm	500	211	149 – 269	2023	n/a	
Sulfate	ppm	250	5.97	nd – 17.9	2023	n/a	

NOTES FOR ALL CONTAMINANTS

- Although EPA sets the "goal" at the same level as the maximum contaminant level for these contaminants, Artesian Water strives to maintain levels lower than the MCL.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the MRDLG for chlorine residual at 4 parts per million (ppm). Artesian Water strives to meet a range between 0.5 ppm and 3 ppm.
- Highest 4-quarter average of samples collected and used by the State Division of Public Health for compliance.
- Range includes all samples tested for, whereas highest level detected is based upon the highest 4-quarter average.
- Under the Lead and Copper Rule, we sample for these contaminants once every 3 years.
- Currently there is no MCL. EPA has issued a Health Advisory Level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). EPA's health advisory levels were calculated to offer a margin of protection against adverse health effects. On April 10 2024, EPA announced Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFAS compounds. This MCL will go into effect starting in 2029.

Definitions of Terms

- 90TH PERCENTILE** — the 90th highest reading (out of a total of 100 samples), which is used to determine compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule.
- ACTION LEVEL** — the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- 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 in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the 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 contaminants.
- NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNIT (NTU)** — a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- SECONDARY MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (SMCL)** — Non-enforceable guideline which is not directly related to public health, commonly associated with cosmetic or aesthetics within the water.
- NON-DETECTS (ND)** — laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- NOT REGULATED (N/R)** — no MCL identified because these substances are unregulated.
- PARTS PER MILLION (PPM)** — 1 part per million corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- PARTS PER BILLION (PPB)** — 1 part per billion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- PARTS PER TRILLION (PPT)** — 1 part per trillion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- PICOCURIES PER LITER (PCL/L)** — a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Artesian Southern Sussex Regional Water Quality Report for 2024

ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY • 664 CHURCHMANS ROAD • NEWARK, DELAWARE 19702

PWSID# DE00A0323

SPRING 2025

Superior Water Quality

We are pleased to present our annual Water Quality Report for 2024. Each spring this report is published in accordance with the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH). The Water Quality Report interprets our monitoring and testing data from 2024 and provides valuable information relating to the quality of your water. We are proud to report that the water you received from Artesian again fully complies with national and state drinking water standards.

Since 1905, Artesian has provided high quality water and superior service to customers throughout the Delmarva Peninsula. Artesian crews work around the clock to monitor water quality and supply. Our treatment process includes disinfection, various filtration processes, pH adjustment, and corrosion control as needed to ensure our water systems are meeting all state and federal regulations. In addition to treatment, we invested nearly \$290,000 in water quality monitoring and compliance testing by EPA-certified labs and experts in our internal laboratory. Artesian routinely monitors to make certain our water quality is in full compliance with all standards.

We encourage you to take the time to review this report. If you have any questions about this report or the quality of your tap water, call us at (302) 453-6930 or (800) 332-5114. Our Customer Service Representatives and our Water Quality Department are ready to assist you.

This report is also available on our website at www.artesianwater.com.

As always, it is our pleasure to serve you.



**Artesian
Southern
Sussex
Regional**

**WATER
QUALITY
REPORT**

Information concerning
public water system

DE00A0323



www.epa.gov/watersense/

A Safe Water Source

The Artesian Southern Sussex Regional public water system is supplied with water from eight (8) wells located in Sussex County. These wells are located in the Manokin and Pocomoke formations. Our groundwater wells use the natural filtering capability of the aquifer to remove harmful bacteria and other substances from the water. These wells are located in confined aquifers that provide additional protections from surface-borne contaminants. The treatment stations in the Artesian Southern Sussex Regional system use the best available technology to ensure that the water we are providing is in compliance with all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Division of Public Health water quality parameters. Regular testing also helps us ensure high quality.

The Division of Public Health, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, has conducted source water assessments for nearly all community water systems in the state of Delaware. The assessment shows that the sources have a very low to low susceptibility to nutrients and pesticides, low susceptibility to pathogens and a low to very high susceptibility to petroleum hydrocarbons. The Source Water Assessment report can be found on the Delaware SWAPP website www.delawaresourcewater.org/assessments or contact Artesian's Water Quality Department at (302) 453-6900 to obtain a copy.

Emerging Contaminants and Proactive Treatment

Artesian takes water quality seriously. To ensure the quality of the water being provided to our customers, we take extra precautions, including proactive testing and treatment when necessary for emerging and unregulated contaminants. Artesian water comes from multiple sources and through an interconnected water system. Our rigorous testing program includes routine sampling throughout our system to ensure all treatment processes are working properly and that high-quality water is being provided to our customers.



As water quality has become an increasing priority nationwide, the regulatory landscape has evolved. For over 120 years, Artesian has made delivering reliable, secure, high-quality water to customers one of our highest priorities. Advancements in technology and continued analysis have significantly lowered previously acceptable levels of regulated contaminants, and a variety of new contaminants have been added to the list of constituents requiring treatment and removal. The most notable of the newly regulated contaminants are the family of chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to by the acronym PFAS.

Artesian has been at the forefront of addressing PFAS, having tested for it since 2013 and treating, when necessary, as part of our commitment to providing high quality water to customers. In 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced new regulations for the treatment of several PFAS compounds, with a compliance deadline in 2029.

Lead and Copper Rule



The Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), a regulation issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1991, is a cornerstone of public health protection requiring water systems to control the levels of lead and copper in drinking water. EPA recently issued the new Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) regulation. Thanks to the hard work of our employees, the company has completed the initial inventory that tracks the material of our service lines for all of our customers. For more information on the new Lead and Copper Rule Improvements, as well as information regarding your service line, please visit <https://www.artesianwater.com/education-community/lead-copper-information/>

From Water Source to the Tap

Illustrative of our strategic plan to invest in infrastructure improvements to provide our customers with high quality and reliable drinking water, we completed six main replacement projects in 2024. In addition, we began a 2-mile major pipeline relocation and improvement project in response to a Delaware Department of Transportation upgrade along heavily traveled U.S. 40 in New Castle County, Delaware. This corridor contains a significant amount of older water pipe in a variety of sizes, making the road improvement project an excellent opportunity to replace aging mains with new, more reliable pipelines while incorporating needed hydraulic improvements. By proactively relocating and upgrading these pipelines, we will enhance system performance, improve reliability, and reduce or eliminate costly restoration efforts, all while supporting critical infrastructure improvements in the region.



KIDS CORNER



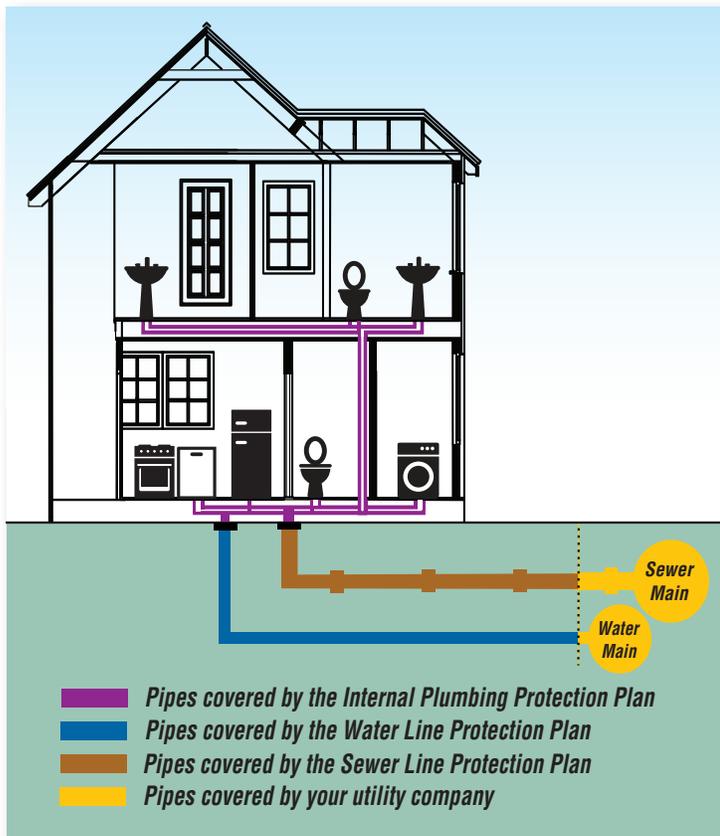
Clean water is one of our most precious natural resources. Artesian knows how valuable water is, and how important it is for all of us to conserve now and in the future. Teaching the next generation about the water cycle and ways to conserve in your home and garden can be both educational and entertaining.

Check out the links below to access some fun facts and interactive games.

<https://drinktap.org/Kids-Place>

<https://wateruseitwisely.com/kids/>

<https://www.epa.gov/watersense/watersense-kids>



Service Line Protection Plans

We encourage all of our customers to enroll in our Water, Sewer, and Internal Plumbing Protection Plans. Nearly 25% of our customers have enrolled in the water service line protection plan and nearly 20% in the sewer line protection plan since we began offering them in 2007.

As a homeowner, you are responsible for the maintenance of the water and sewer lines that run from your house to the street, as well as all of the internal water and wastewater pipes within your home. Clogs, breaks, blockages from tree roots, and even pipe collapses can and do happen without warning. Pipes that become clogged can backup systems with raw sewage causing major inconvenience, while breaks and collapses can harm the environment and be expensive and unpleasant to clean-up.

Customers who are informed and prepared contribute to protecting water resources that we all enjoy through responsible care for pipes. **Artesian's Service Line Protection Plans** guarantee an added peace of mind of water, sewer, and internal plumbing protection that can help cover the unexpected costs of repairing and replacing internal wastewater pipes, leaking water lines, and pipe collapses to sewer lines that could cost you thousands of dollars!

The Plans are Easy, Affordable and Convenient

- Emergency expert service repairs around-the-clock, managed by an experienced Artesian team
 - No deductible or hidden service fees
 - No negotiating with contractors or plumbers
 - Easy monthly billing added to your existing water bill

Water Line Protection Plan - \$6.49/month

Sewer Line Protection Plan - \$11.99/month

Internal Plumbing Protection Plan - \$13.49/month

Enroll online at: www.artesianwater.com Or call: **302.453.6930**



Artesian Southern Sussex Regional Water Quality Report for 2024

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	Unit of Measure	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	ppm	2	2 ¹	0.059	0.059	2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	2	2 ¹	1.23	0.56 – 1.23	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nickel	ppb	100	100 ¹	5	nd – 5	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	ppb	10	10 ¹	2.77	nd – 2.77	2024	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection/Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine (free and total)	ppm	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG) ²	3.20	nd – 3.20	2024	No	Disinfectant used in drinking water industry. Low Levels were a onetime occurrence. Follow up samples showed normal levels.
Haloacetic Acids, total	ppb	60		42.31 ³	16.93 – 54.28 ⁴	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, total	ppb	80		58.63 ³	25.80 – 109.74 ⁴	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

	Unit of Measure	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90th Percentile	No. of Sites Over AL	Year Sampled	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead & Copper⁵								
90th Percentile Lead	ppb	15	0	4	2	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
90th Percentile Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3 ¹	0.131	0	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.



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	Unit of Measure	MCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Unregulated Contaminants							
Alkalinity, total	ppm	n/r	99	33 – 176	2023	n/a	
Conductivity	umhos	n/r	332	241 – 410	2023	n/a	
Hardness, Calcium	ppm	n/r	60	40 – 82	2023	n/a	
Hardness, Total	ppm	n/r	79	52 – 100	2023	n/a	
Perfluorooctance sulfonate (PFHxS) ⁶	ppt	n/r	1.73	1.73	2023	n/a	
Perfluorooctance sulfonate (PFOS) ⁶	ppt	n/r	3.61	3.61	2023	n/a	
Phosphate, total	ppm	n/r	0.95	0.16 – 1.83	2024	n/a	
Sodium	ppm	n/r	39.6	26.3 – 50.8	2024	n/a	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	n/r	3.71	2.12 – 5.77	2023	n/a	

	Unit of Measure	State SMCL	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Year Sampled	Violation ?	Likely Source of Contamination
Delaware Secondary Contaminants							
Chloride	ppm	250	36.8	23.7 – 58.1	2023	n/a	
Iron	ppm	0.3	0.05	nd – 0.42	2024	n/a	Short-term fluctuations related to treatment process.
Manganese	ppm	0.05	0.008	nd – 0.025	2023	n/a	
pH, Field	0 - 14 scale	6.5 – 8.5	7.14	6.59 – 8.44	2024	n/a	Short-term fluctuations related to treatment process.
Solids, total dissolved	ppm	500	211	149 – 269	2023	n/a	
Sulfate	ppm	250	5.97	nd – 17.9	2023	n/a	

NOTES FOR ALL CONTAMINANTS

- Although EPA sets the “goal” at the same level as the maximum contaminant level for these contaminants, Artesian Water strives to maintain levels lower than the MCL.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the MRDLG for chlorine residual at 4 parts per million (ppm). Artesian Water strives to meet a range between 0.5 ppm and 3 ppm.
- Highest 4-quarter average of samples collected and used by the State Division of Public Health for compliance.
- Range includes all samples tested for, whereas highest level detected is based upon the highest 4-quarter average.
- Under the Lead and Copper Rule, we sample for these contaminants once every 3 years.
- Currently there is no MCL. EPA has issued a Health Advisory Level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). EPA’s health advisory levels were calculated to offer a margin of protection against adverse health effects. On April 10 2024, EPA announced Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFAS compounds. This MCL will go into effect starting in 2029.

Definitions of Terms

- 90TH PERCENTILE** — the 90th highest reading (out of a total of 100 samples), which is used to determine compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule.
- ACTION LEVEL** — the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- 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 in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the 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 contaminants.
- NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNIT (NTU)** — a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- SECONDARY MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (SMCL)** — Non-enforceable guideline which is not directly related to public health, commonly associated with cosmetic or aesthetics within the water.
- NON-DETECTS (ND)** — laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- NOT REGULATED (N/R)** — no MCL identified because these substances are unregulated.
- PARTS PER MILLION (PPM)** — 1 part per million corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- PARTS PER BILLION (PPB)** — 1 part per billion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- PARTS PER TRILLION (PPT)** — 1 part per trillion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- PICOCURIES PER LITER (PCI/L)** — a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Expected Substances In 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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.

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 byproducts 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

If You Have A Special Health Concern

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 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Lead In Drinking Water

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. Artesian 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that is found in nearly all soils. It typically moves up through the ground to the air and into homes through the foundation. Drinking water from a ground water source can also add radon to the home air. The EPA indicates that, compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through water will in most cases be a small source of risk. The EPA and the State of Delaware have not yet set standards for monitoring radon in drinking water, although we do expect sampling to become mandatory in the near future. Artesian Water Company is keeping a close eye on the situation and will be sure to comply with any new regulations as required.

Artesian Water Service Facts	
Population Served	approximately 301,000
Metered Customers	101,100
Annual Production	9.5 billion gallons
Miles of Main	1,491
Active Wells	220
Treatment Facilities	71
Storage Capacity	178 million gallons
Average Cost Per Day for Residential Water Service	\$1.79

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please call Artesian at (302) 453-6930, toll free at 1 (800) 332-5114 or email at custserv@artesianwater.com. Our Customer Service Representatives and Water Quality Department are ready to assist you. More information about Artesian is available at our website: www.artesianwater.com.

Landlords, apartment managers, businesses, schools, etc. should share this information with others who might not receive this information directly. Consider posting the information in a public place or advise others that the report is available by contacting Artesian by phone or online at www.artesianwater.com.

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