2024 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
FOR THE MADAWASKA WATER DISTRICT
PWSID: ME0090920
Annual Consumer Confidence Report

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present our **2024 Annual Consumer Confidence Report.** This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process, the distribution system and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quantity and quality of your water.
As an insight to our treatment and distribution systems, we would like to share the following facts: We have approximately 1.88 miles of transmission mains and approximately 20.06 miles of distribution mains. We operate two treatment facilities consisting of three wells. We have a total of 135 fire hydrants for public fire protection, 1,371 service line connections, 1,095 active metered accounts, 14 active private sprinkler system connections and 5 active private hydrants.

In 2024 we pumped an average of 385,093 gallons of water per day. Our maximum day demand was 627,134 gallons on 12/30/2024. Our largest customer is Twin Rivers Paper Company which used approximately 48.2% of the water we produced in 2024.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning the water district, please contact us (728-3859) or at customerservice@madwater.me or contact the Drinking Water Program (287-2070). We want our valued customers to be informed about their water district. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our Board of Trustees meetings. Notices will be posted at conspicuous locations in our community as to date and time.

SOURCE WATER INFORMATION

As of May 2009, all your drinking water is produced from wells. We have three wells to draw water from; two are gravel packed wells located in St. David and the other is a bedrock well located on 11th Avenue.

The Water District uses sodium hypochlorite for disinfection, sodium fluoride to fight against tooth decay and an ortho-phosphate blend for corrosion control. An aeration system is used at the St. David facility to increase the pH of the water.

Source Water Assessment:
The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at town offices and public water systems.

WATER TEST RESULTS

We make sure that your water is safe through regular monitoring and testing of water quality. These tests are conducted daily by our own staff in our labs as well as other independent, state certified testing laboratories. Responsibility for maintaining water quality resides with our staff of certified water treatment and distribution operators who are licensed by the State of Maine Department of Health & Human Services.

The Madawaska Water District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2024.

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you may not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Definitions:
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Non-mandatory water quality standards.
Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12-month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at all locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): A 12-month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the LRAA may contain data from the previous year.
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
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 use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Units:

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
ppt = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
pos = positive samples **MFL** = million fibers per liter
pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
pos = positive samples

The following table will show test results of contaminants that we tested for in 2024, or prior, that showed a measurable amount and what the detected level was as compared to an MCL. The State of Maine Drinking Water Program grants a waiver only upon determining, on a case-by-case basis, that "it will not result in an unreasonable health risk." For any water tests that are not waived, we are required to report contaminants that were detected in our water supply in this CCR.

2024 TEST RESULTS (Madawaska Water District)

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination
Microbiological						
Coliform (TCR) (9)	**No**	0 positive		0 positive	1 pos/mo or 5%	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganic Contaminants						
Barium	**No**	0.0093ppm, TP3 well, on 5/3/2022	PPM	2.0 ppm	2.0 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge of drilling wastes. Discharge from metal refineries.
Fluoride (3)	**No**	0.89ppm on 06/04/2024	PPM	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth. Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (6)	**No**	1.0ppm on 4/17/2024	PPM	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead/Copper						
Copper 90th % value (5)	**No**	0.328ppm for 1/1/2020 - 12/31/2022 Range (0.042 – 0.367ppm)	PPM	1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level: **0**						
Lead 90th % value (5)	**No**	0ppm for 1/1/2020 - 12/31/2022 Range (0 – 1.19ppb)	PPM	0	AL = 15 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Number of sampling sites exceeding the action level: **0** Complete lead tap sampling data are available upon request						
Radionuclides						
Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	**No**	0.71pCi/L on 5/23/2023	pCi/L	0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (4)	**No**	3.6pCi/L on 7/5/2023	pCi/L	0 pCi/L	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts						
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (10)	**No**	23ppb LRAA(2024)	PPB	0 ppb	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (10)	**No**	0ppb LRAA(2024)	PPB	0 ppb	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Chlorine Residual

Our running annual average (RAA) chlorine residual in 2024 was 0.79ppm and the range was 0.59ppm to 0.95ppm.
The MRDL is 4 ppm and the MRDLG is 4 ppm. The chlorine residual is a by-product of drinking water chlorination.

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.

Secondary Contaminants: **(TP2 represents the 11th Avenue Well and TP3 represents the St. David Wells)**

Nickel	0.00064ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	0.0005ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Chloride	45ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	24ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Sulfate	11ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	8ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Sodium	28ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	12ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Zinc	0.0037ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	0.0032ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Magnesium	15ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	3.1ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022
Iron	0.26ppm (TP2)	05/02/2022	0.098ppm (TP3)	05/03/2022

Notes:
1) Arsenic: While your drinking water may meet EPA's standard for Arsenic, if it contains between 5 to 10 ppb you should know that the standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing it from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Quarterly compliance is based on running annual average.
2) E. Coli: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
3) Fluoride: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.
4) Gross Alpha: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.
5) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.
6) Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health provider.
7) PFAS: The degree of risk depends on the level of chemicals and duration of exposure. Laboratory studies of animals exposed to high doses of PFAS have shown numerous negative effects such as issues with reproduction, growth and development, thyroid function, immune system, neurology, as well as injury to the liver. Research is still relatively new, and more needs to be done to fully assess exposure effects on the human body.
8) Radon: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/07. If radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for radon.
9) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take less than 40 samples per month.
10) TTHM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (TTHM and HAA5) are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on.
11) Turbidity: Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Waiver Information

No Water Testing Waivers in 2024

Violations

No Violations in 2024

The Madawaska Water District did not have any violations in 2024 and all other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.
The prior table as presented showed that all contaminants met all State and Federal safety standards.

HEALTH INFORMATION

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. 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 runoff, and septic systems.

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

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at the following link: **https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports**

Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper 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 public water system 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 your public water system. 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**

Our system completed a Lead Service Line Inventory as required by the Revised Lead and Copper Rule. It is publicly accessible at this location: https://madwaterdistrict.com/lead-service-line-inventory

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR AND UPCOMING YEAR

2024 was again a busy year for the Madawaska Water District. Highlights of 2024 included the completion of Phase 1 of our 4-phase project to eventually have a new water tank off Albert Street. Phase 1 involved replacement of approximately 900 feet of old 8" main line with new 12" main line on Main Street from North 6th Avenue to 3rd Avenue. By keeping the project slightly under budget, we were also able to replace the section of main line from Main Street to the intersection of Riverview Street. This project accomplished our goal of being able to pump a higher flow rate from our St. David Wells without increasing the pressure in the distribution system. We also continued our annual project of painting hydrants and many other projects were tackled by our distribution staff.

The Water District thanks the Town of Madawaska and its' employees and the general contractors involved in any of our construction projects for a very good working relationship. Your patience and understanding through all our construction projects are much appreciated.

In 2025, we will be involved with a new main line connection for the Fish River Rural Health building as part of the redevelopment of the old K-Mart plaza, valve box adjustments during a Maine DOT paving project. Many other projects will again be tackled by our own staff, all with the goal of continuing to provide a safe and dependable water supply for you.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This report has only been a summary of activities during the past year. If you have any questions about your water quality or any information from this report, please call us at 207-728-3859 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm).
If you would prefer to write to us the address is: Madawaska Water District, 66 Main Street, Madawaska, Maine 04756.
Our email address is customerservice@madwater.me
Please visit our website at **madwaterdistrict.com** and subscribe to have News & Notices and Alerts delivered directly to you via email or text!
You may also direct any questions to the Maine Department of Health & Human Services, Drinking Water Program at 207-287-2070 or the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.