

WOLCOTT WATER DEPARTMENT WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Wolcott Water Department is happy to provide you with the Water Quality Report for the year 2024. The Wolcott Water System has approximately 14 miles of water main serving approximately 2,500 people. Daily water production totals approximately 100,000 gallons. There are two storage tanks each with a 565,000 gallon capacity. Water disinfection techniques include sodium hypochlorite. During 2024, Wolcott Water customers received their water from the City of Waterbury, Bureau of Water Sources. (See the enclosed report “Treatment Plant Water Quality Data 2024”.) In addition to the parameters contained in that report, the following information was obtained from Wolcott’s Water System.

The Environmental Protection Agency promulgated the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products Rule (DBPR) in January 2006. It provides for increased protection against potential risks associated with disinfection byproducts (DBP). The complete Stage 2 DBPR can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/stage-1-and-2-disinfectants-and-disinfection-byproducts-rules>. The following information was obtained from Wolcott’s Water System. Testing is performed by Northwest Environmental Water Labs.

<u>COMPOUND</u>	<u>RANGE DETECTED</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL</u>	<u>MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	0.03-0.05 ppb	0.04	0.06 ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	0.04-0.07 ppb	0.06	0.08 ppb	0	By-products of drinking water disinfection

To ensure that our sources of supply remain protected, the Waterbury Bureau of Water conducts annual Watershed Sanitary Survey’s as well as semi-annual Water Quality and Pollution Source Assessments. This information is available by contacting the Waterbury Bureau of Water at 203-574-8251. The Department of Public Health (DPH) recently completed a water assessment of our sources of supply. Information can be found on the DPH website <https://www.ctwater.com/water-quality/water-quality-report>.

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Year	Range	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
LEAD (ppb)	0	15	Non-detect	2024	Non-detect	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.138	2024	0.000 – 0.157	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Health Effects Statement: Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level (limits) could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Health Effects Statement: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level (limits) over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level (limits) over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their personal doctor.

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The Wolcott Water Department completed its lead service line inventory. There are no lead services in our system. The report can be viewed at <https://wolcottct.org/216/Sewer-Water>

“ 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. Wolcott Water Department 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 Wolcott Water Department. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://wolcottct.org/216/Sewer-Water>

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects and source water protection can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or the State Department of Public Health (860-509-7333). You may also find information on EPA’s website <https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/drinking-water-contaminant-human-health-effects-information>. 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 human activity. Preventing drinking water contamination at the source makes good public health sense, good economic sense, and good environmental sense.

How you can help protect water supplies:

- Do not dump. Properly dispose of trash, waste motor oil, chemicals, and household hazardous wastes. Check with Wolcott Town Hall 203-879-8100 Ext 103 about proper disposal of these wastes.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers wisely. Follow the directions, apply only what is needed, and do not over use.
- Report any polluting activities. If you see illegal dumping, waste discharges, chemical spills, etc., please report them to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (860-424-3338), Wolcott Police Department (203-879-1414), or Chesprocott Health District (203-272-2761).

Water is a limited resource so it is vital that we all work together to maintain it and use it wisely. Information on water conservation may be obtained by accessing EPA’s website:
https://www3.epa.gov/region1/eco/drinkwater/water_conservation_residents.html.

What you can do to save water:

- Check for leaking toilets and/or fixtures. Put a drop of food coloring in the tank and let it sit. If the bowl turns color you have a leak. Make permanent repairs as soon as possible. A leaking faucet or toilet can dribble away thousands of gallons of water a year.
- Consider replacing your 5 gallon per flush toilet with an efficient 1.6 gallon per flush unit. This will permanently cut your water consumption by 25%.
- Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines. Rinse all hand washed dishes at one time.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Store a jug of ice water in the refrigerator for a cold drink.
- Plant less grass. Shrubs and ground covers require less water. Apply mulch to reduce evaporation.
- Water only when necessary. The most effective time is early in the morning - not on windy, rainy, or very hot days. Be sure that your hose has a shut off nozzle. Use water with an efficient slow soaking irrigation system.

The Wolcott Sewer and Water Commission meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Wolcott Sewer and Water Department, 48 Todd Road. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact the Wolcott Water Department at 203-879-8141, 203-879-8143 (fax), or mail correspondence to Wolcott Water Department, c/o Wolcott Town Hall, 10 Kenea Avenue, Wolcott, CT 06716. You can also find us on the town website - www.wolcottct.org

Changes in your mailing address must be reported directly to the Department. Please report unusual activities or any use of sewer manholes or fire hydrants by unauthorized personnel by calling 203-879-8141 or 203-879-1414. Thank you.

Treated Water Quality Table – 2024

PARAMETER					
MICROBIALS	MCL	MCLG	RESULTS	RANGE	SOURCE
TURBIDITY (NTU)	TT=5 NTU Max Distribution	0		0.10-0.28	SOIL RUNOFF 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.
	TT=<0.30 NTU 95% of the time T-Plant Eff.	0	Percentage 100%	N/A	
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA	PRESENCE OF COLIFORM BACTERIA IN >5% OF MONTHLY SAMPLES	0	0%	N/A	NATURALLY PRESENT IN THE ENVIRONMENT
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (MG/L)	TT	N/A	1.46	1.32-1.81	NATURALLY PRESENT IN THE ENVIRONMENT
INORGANIC COMPOUNDS 1	A/L	90 th Percentile	Highest Level Detected		SOURCE
LEAD*1 (PPB) (2022)	15	2	6 53 Sites Tested (Number of sites above AL = 0)		CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
COPPER*1 (PPM) (2022)	1.3	0.18	0.41 53 Sites Tested (Number of sites above AL = 0)		CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
INORGANIC COMPOUNDS 2	RL	MAX level	MCLG(mg/L)	MCL(mg/L)	SOURCE
NITRATE / NITRITE (PPM)	NA	NA	--	--	RUNOFF FROM FERTILIZER USE; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
NITRATE as N	0.05	0.006	1	1	
NITRITE as N	0.02	0.004	1	1	
SULFATE (PPM)	2.5	17.0	SDWR 250		WATER ADDITIVE WHICH PROMOTES STRONG TEETH
FLUORIDE (PPM)	0.1	0.65	SDWR 2		
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS	RANGE DETECTED	Average	MCL	MCLG	SOURCE
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM) (PPB)	10-50	30	80	0	BY PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACID (THAA) (PPB)	20-40	30	60	N/A	
RADIOCHEMICAL *1	RANGE	HIGHEST	MCL	MCLG	SOURCE
GROSS ALPHA (α)*1 (PCi/L)	3	ND	15 (MRMEM/Y)*	0	DECAY OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DEPOSITS
RADIUM 226 + 228 *1	1	ND	5 (PCi/L)	0	

* The State of Connecticut measures for the Radiochemical NET Gross ALPHA in Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L), the Federal measurement is in millirems per year(mrem/yr)
 *1 The State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health, requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

KEY:

- MRL = Minimum Reporting Level
- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- PCi/L = Picocuries per Liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- MREM/YR = Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- PPM = Parts per Million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
- PPB = Parts per Billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
- RL = Report Limit milligrams per liter (mg/l)
- TT = Treatment Technique
- NA = Not Applicable
- ND = Not Detected
- NR = Not Regulated
- AL = Action Level

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED:

- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's, as feasible, using the best available treatment technology.
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- 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 that a water system must follow.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS MONITORING RULE (UCMR5)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWARS). This includes a process that EPA must follow to identify and list Unregulated Contaminants. UCMR 5 for Public Water Systems on 2023-2024 (12 months period-time) includes monitoring for a total of 30 chemical contaminants. There are 10 cyanotoxins (nine cyanotoxins and one cyanotoxin group) and additional contaminants (one metal, eight pesticides plus one pesticide manufacturing byproduct, three brominated halo acetic acid disinfection byproducts groups, three alcohols, and three semi-volatile organic chemicals).

The following list represents the results of sampling Unregulated Contaminants for entry point on 2023-2024:

Analyte	MRL	UNIT	RL	Action level CT drinking water
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	10
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	12
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	16
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	49
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	240
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	ND	(µg/L)	2.0	760
Lithium, total	ND	(µg/L)	9.0	NA

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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer, 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).

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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from 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 process 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, the 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 that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead & Copper in Drinking Water:

Major sources of copper in drinking water are: corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits and leaching from wood preservatives. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people, who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could, suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Major sources of lead in drinking water are corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of deposits. Infants and children who drink water-containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water-containing lead in excess of the action level over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. **Further information can be found on our web-site at www.waterburyct.org and follow the links to the Water Department or at www.ct.gov/dph and follow the links for the Drinking Water Section.**

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs): Some people who drink water-containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their kidneys, liver or central nervous systems, and may have an increased chance of getting cancer.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): Total Organic Carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection-by-products such as Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs') (see above).

WATER CONSERVATION FACT SHEET

Less than 3% of the water on earth is fresh. 1% of this is available for drinking and 2% is frozen or deep within the earth. If present consumption patterns continue, 1 out of every 3 on earth will live in water stressed conditions by the year 2025. (United Nations Environment Program.) In 1995 the U.S. total withdrawal was 340 billion gallons per day, 65% from surface water and 35% from ground water. The average person uses about 100 gallons of water per day for personal needs. Two-thirds of it is used in the bathroom. Toilets account for 40% of indoor water use. Showers and baths consume another 30%. Washing machines and dishwashers take 15%. Ongoing toilet, faucet, and other leaks can as much as double your water and wastewater charges. Do something every day to save water. Every drop counts.

THE BASICS:

Toilet Flush = 5 gal

Dishwasher = 12 gal per load

Washing Machine = 47 gal per load

Bath = 36 gal per tub

Brushing teeth, showering, washing hands = 4 gal per minute

Yard Hose = 9 gal per minute

Pool Covers = 60-70% less evaporation

What can homeowners do to help?

Conservation is the greatest resource when it comes to our water supply. You can help conserve water in the following ways:

INSIDE

- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes 2700 gal p/yr.
- Brushing teeth: Turn off the tap while brushing (saves 2-4 gal).
- Washing hands and face: Use a washcloth and turn off the tap (saves 2-4 gal).
- Shaving: Use a mug and turn off the tap (saves 2-4 gal).
- Shower: Rinse, turn off water to soap, rinse again (saves 13-18 gal).
- Thaw foods in a microwave or pan of water rather than under running water.
- Hand wash dishes in one sink of water and rinse in a second to eliminate running water.
- If you have an automatic dishwasher use it. It consumes one third less water than hand washing.
- Dishwashers: Don't run unless it's full. Avoid pre-rinsing dishes before putting in dishwasher.
- Washing Machine: Don't run unless it's full. Adjust the water level to match the load size.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting water run from the tap.
- Toss leftover ice into a plant.
- Appliance replacement: Choose those with Energy Star labels.
- Use low-flow fixtures: Toilets, shower heads, and faucets.
- Don't use toilets as waste baskets. Avoid unnecessary toilet flushes.
- Water Leaks: Fix immediately.
- Check your toilet for leaks by placing food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak that should be repaired.

OUTSIDE

- Minimize grass areas in your yard because less grass means less water demand. Replace with low water use landscaping.
- Prune plants properly. Excessive or improper pruning increases the need for water.
- A typical garden hose can deliver water at a rate of 5 gallons per minute. Over 8 hours equates to 2400 gallons a day.
- Use mulch. This keeps soil cooler and reduces evaporation. Mulch also controls water hungry weeds and retains moisture for plants and trees.
- Point roof gutters towards areas of plantings.
- Inspect your irrigation system for broken heads, proper alignment and overall proper performance.
- Use irrigation timers. Most irrigation timers have backup batteries that should be changed yearly.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on the grass; if it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water.
- Use sprinklers that cast big drops of water close to the ground because smaller drops can evaporate before they reach the plants. Water roots rather than leaves.
- Adjust sprinklers. Don't water the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Mow grass taller to retain water that would normally be lost to evaporation. Raise your lawnmower blade 3 inches or more to protect the grass.
- Dig trenches around plants to catch water.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- Don't wash cars in your driveway. Head to a commercial carwash that recirculates water.
- Avoid installing fountains or other ornamental water features unless they use recycled water. Properly adjust them so that water does not fall outside the catch basin.