

**CITY OF BROOKHAVEN ♦ WATER DEPARTMENT**  
**2023 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**  
**PWS ID# 0430002**



**Is my water safe?**

Yes, it is our job to provide safe drinking water to the City of Brookhaven. Should a problem arise, we will notify the public through newspapers, radio and television. This notification is part of our job to keep the public informed. The water system is comprised of several pumps, chemical feed systems, and miles of underground piping. This system is monitored by a computerized control system capable of sending out alarms 24 hours per day/ 7 days per week if a problem occurs. Personnel are prepared to respond to these alarms should they occur during nights, holidays and weekends. As customers, you can assist us in keeping the system safe. Please review "You can Help" on page 4. We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

**Do I need to take special precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People with severely compromised immune systems such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

**What is the source of the water?**

Our water source is the city of Brookhaven Water Department, which has 9 wells. Our wells draw from the Miocene series, citronella formation.

**Source water assessment and its availability**

Our source water assessment has been completed. One well was ranked high, seven wells moderate, and one well low in terms of susceptibility to contamination. Please contact our office at 601-833-7721 if you have any questions.

**Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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

## **How can I get involved?**

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Board meetings are the first and third Tuesday of each month at the **Lincoln County / Brookhaven Government Complex** located at 301 First Street, Brookhaven.

## **Description of the water treatment process**

Your water is ground water pumped from wells with depths ranging from 160 feet to 1200 feet with an average depth of about 500 feet. The raw water is very soft, and can be aggressive to plumbing if not treated to correct this problem.

The initial stage of the treatment process for 6 of the wells is pH adjustment. pH (potential of hydrogen) is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of an aqueous solution. The ground water in these 6 wells has a low pH. The pH is raised by the addition of a food grade hydrated lime to minimize corrosion. All 9 of the wells are then disinfected by the use of chlorine to kill (disinfect) dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Water leaving this type of disinfection process will retain a small amount of chlorine residual. Our staff is able to monitor the chlorine residual in the system to insure it remains a safe product from treatment site to the customers tap. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances allowing public water supplies to exist in the past century.

The final treatment stage is that of fluoridation. Fluoridation is accomplished by the addition of a controlled amount of fluoride to promote dental health. Brookhaven has fluoridated the water supply for over 50 years. This in line with national policy as approximately 75% of the US population is served by fluoridated water supplies. Because of its contribution to the large decline in cavities in the United States since the 1960s, The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) named community water fluoridation one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century.

In addition to the treatment processes described above, the city must meet a rigorous monitoring schedule to insure the water meets Federal and State standards. This includes routine microbiological testing (monthly) and other routine monitoring (quarterly, semi-annual and annual) for radiological and chemical contaminants.

## **Water conservation tips**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If

it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

### Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people **"Dump No Waste - Drains to River"** or **"Protect Your Water."** Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

### Additional Information for Fluoride

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", MS0430002 is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride samples results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 parts per million (ppm) was 12. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 96%. The number of months samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 12.

### Additional Information for 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. The BROOKHAVEN WATER DEPARTMENT 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

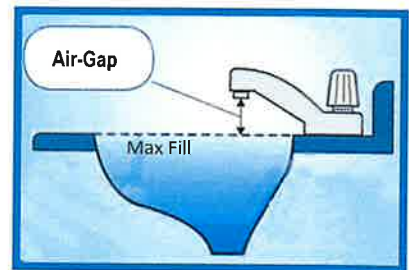
## Cross Connection Control Program

The purpose of this program is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. When identified, these may be controlled by installation of a back-flow prevention device. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler systems with chemical feed
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

### You Can Help

We request all customer's assistance with protecting our water supply. Please insure that no hoses are submerged in any container when connected to the water supply. This includes dishwasher hoses, hand held showers hoses, hoses to faucets in sinks, or hoses used to fill swimming pools. If it is necessary to leave a faucet running to avoid freezing pipes, please inspect all faucets both outdoors and indoors to insure all hoses are disconnected and faucets have an air gap. This is not only protecting your neighbors, but also protecting yourself and your family from potential self



**Antisiphon Device**

contamination. A water system break can cause a sudden drop in pressure. If the break is serious or circumstances are right such as a heavy demand on the water system, the water can be siphoned back into the system unless there is an air gap to break the siphon. There are small inexpensive (\$6-\$8) antisiphon devices similar to the one shown to the left that may be purchased at the local hardware stores and can be installed by customers. While these are not as effective as the commercial backflow preventers they afford some protection and the installation is a simple. Screw it onto the end of the outdoor faucet and tighten the set screw.

### Unregulated Contaminants

As a part of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments a procedure to monitor up to 30 potential unregulated contaminants every five years. No unregulated contaminants were found in the City of Brookhaven Water Supply for 2020.

## Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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 the calendar year of this report. 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.

Inorganic Contaminants								
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Sample Location: 750 Zetus Rd								
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<0.08	NA	1.22	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	<0.1	NA	1.22	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.001	NA	0.001	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	0.0005	NA	0.0005	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.899	NA	0.899	2022-10-22	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sample Location: 628 Railroad N Ave								
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.41	NA	0.92	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	1.41	NA	0.92	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0879	NA	0.0879	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	0.0005	NA	0.0005	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.788	NA	0.788	2022-10-17	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Inorganic Contaminants (cont)								
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source	
Sample Location: 1065 Fender Dr.								
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<0.08	NA	<0.08	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	<0.1	NA	<0.1	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0011	NA	0.0011	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	< 0.0005	NA	< 0.0005	2022-11-29	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.632	NA	0.632	2022-10-17	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sample Location: 660 Saints Trail								
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<0.08	NA	<0.08	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	<0.1	NA	<0.1	2023-02-28	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0011	NA	0.0011	2018	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	0.002	NA	0.002	2018	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.727	NA	0.727	2018	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Inorganic Contaminants - Lead & Copper (action level (AL) determined at the consumer tap)								
Contaminants	# of samples	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> % of Sampled Water	Sample Date	# of Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Lead (ppm)	22	0	0.015	0.001	2021	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	22	1.3	1.3	0.1	2021	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	1.90	1.00	2.20	2023	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	3.52	1.08	3.52	2023-05-23	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM's (ppb)	NA	80	7.49	3.34	7.49	2023-05-23	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Volatile Organic Compounds								
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Sample Location: 628 N Railroad Avenue and West of I-55 on Saints Trail								
No VOC's Detected, ppb	Varies	Varies	<0.5	NA	<0.5	2022-12-01 & 2020-10-27	NO	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.

Unregulated contaminants								
SITE ID	WTP	1	3	5	6	7	8	9
Total Organic Carbon	NA	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	NA	BDL
Bromide	NA	37.4	29.8	138	195	22.3	NA	24.5
Butylated hydroxyanisole	BDL	NA	NA	NA	NA	BDL	BDL	BDL
o-Toluidine	0.0068J	NA	NA	NA	NA	BDL	BDL	BDL
Quinoline	BDL	NA	NA	NA	NA	BDL	BDL	BDL
Germanium	0.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.2	1.0	1.0
Manganese	1.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.2	1.5	2.0
Sodium	16,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	61,100	60,000	55,200
All results in µg/l (ppb) NA – no results available								

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.