

2024 drinking water quality report

RIVERHEAD WATER DISTRICT

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IDENTIFICATION NO. 5103705

Town Board Members

Supervisor Timothy Hubbard
Councilman Kenneth Rothwell
Councilman Robert Kern
Councilwoman Denise Merrifield
Councilwoman Joann Waski

Superintendent

Frank Mancini, P.G., MBA

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ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT

MAY 2025

Dear Water District Resident:

We are pleased to present to you the Riverhead Water District's 2024 Consumer Confidence Report/Annual Water Supply Statement. As shown in this report, the Riverhead Water District continues to provide the residents with a source of water for all of our domestic needs which is reliable and of high quality. Our water is continuously tested to ensure that it meets all drinking water standards. As the Town grows, so does our Water District. In order to meet their increasing water demands, the District has initiated construction of a ground storage tank in Wading River and the replacement of a supply well on Pulaski Street. The tank is scheduled to go on-line in late 2025, while the well is scheduled to be completed in 2026. Simultaneously, we encourage all of our residents to conserve water so we can limit the expense connected with the construction of new additional facilities just to meet the water demands for the few peak days during the summer.

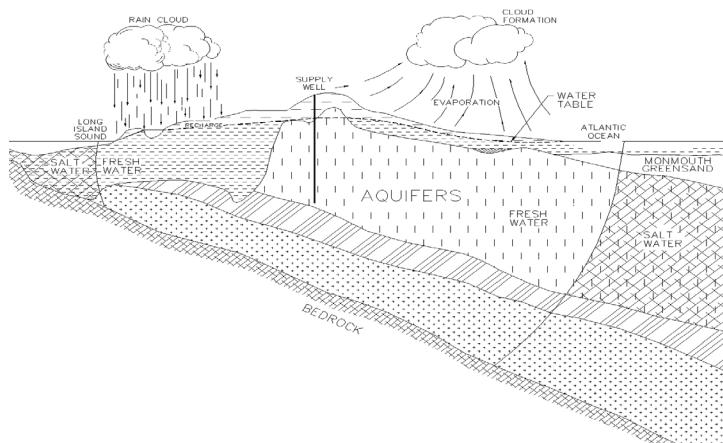
Our Water District staff works diligently to make sure every resident has clean water every time they turn on the tap. Additional information about our Water District and our water supply can be found on our Town website, www.townofriverheadny.gov.

SOURCE OF WATER

The source of water for the District is groundwater pumped from sixteen (16) active wells located throughout the community that are drilled into the Glacial and Magothy aquifers beneath Long Island, as shown on the adjacent figure. Generally, the water quality of the aquifer is good to excellent, although there are localized areas of contamination. The District holds an additional well, located within the former Northrup Grumman property in Calverton in reserve, due to NYSDEC restrictions.

The population served by the Riverhead Water District during 2024 was approximately 36,000. The total amount of water withdrawn from the aquifer in 2024 was 2.608 billion gallons, of which approximately 93.8 percent was billed directly to the residents of the District.

This report is required to be available to all residents of our District in compliance with Federal and State regulations. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The Riverhead Town Board and the District employees are committed to ensuring that you and your family receive the highest quality water.



THE LONG ISLAND AQUIFER SYSTEM

COST OF WATER

The District has adopted a tiered billing schedule effective January 1, 2023. For a 5/8" water service the consumer is assessed a service charge of \$11.00 / quarter. For a 1" water service the service charge is \$20.00 / quarter. The consumer is also assessed a consumption charge based on the quantity of water consumed. The consumption rate is \$1.95 / thousand gallons for the first 90,000 gallons consumed and \$3.00 for each thousand gallons consumed thereafter. In addition, an annual Water Quality & System Improvement Charge of \$80 is collected to fund critical infrastructure projects. For additional rates and services, please see the Town's website.

CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements with the exception of iron. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Water District Supt. Frank Mancini at (631) 727-3205 or the Suffolk County Department of Health Services at (631) 852-5810. Water District issues are normally discussed at Town Board meetings. Log on to the website at www.townofriverheadny.gov for dates, times and locations.

The Riverhead Water District monitors for different parameters and contaminants in your drinking water as required by Federal and State laws. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. For more information on contamination and potential health risks, please contact the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safe-water.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water suppliers. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease-causing microorganisms or pathogens 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 provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The USEPA established a Lead and Copper Rule that requires all public water suppliers to sample and test for lead and copper at the tap. The first testing was required in 1991 and has been performed every three years since with the last round performed in 2022. All results were excellent indicating that the District's corrosion control treatment program was effective in preventing the leaching of lead and copper from your home's plumbing into your drinking water. The next round of sampling will occur in 2025.

WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

The aquifer from which the Water District draws water from has more than enough water to meet current demands. However, the increasing demand for water makes practicing water conservation efforts key to maintaining the integrity of the aquifers for future generations.

The District has implemented its own water conservation efforts in recent years including conducting leak studies on all of its distribution mains, identifying lost water through broken or under-recording meters, and promoting an ODD/EVEN irrigation schedule.

Most of the water utilized by residents in the peak season is for irrigation purposes. The District requests that all residents be cognizant of irrigation use by installing rain or soil moisture sensors, checking systems for broken heads or leaks, assuring we are watering lawns and not roads, planting drought-resistant landscaping and by not over watering. Addressing these simple steps will not only conserve water, but save money as well.

WATER QUALITY

In accordance with State regulations, the Riverhead Water District routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous parameters. We test your drinking water for coliform bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes and synthetic organic contaminants. Over 150 separate parameters are tested in each of our wells numerous times per year. The table presented on page 3 depicts the quality of your drinking water. It should be noted that many of these parameters are naturally found in all Long Island drinking water and do not pose any adverse health effects.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. To date, the District has not operated a well that exceeds this level. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. The source of the nitrates is the nitrogen in fertilizers and from on-site septic systems. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your healthcare provider.

WATER TREATMENT

The Riverhead Water District provides treatment at all wells to improve the quality of the water pumped prior to distribution to the consumer. The pH of the pumped water is adjusted upward to reduce corrosive action between the water and water mains and in-house plumbing by the addition of lime. The water is chlorinated with calcium hypochlorite to protect against the growth of bacteria in the distribution system. The District also adds iron sequestering agents at all wells as part of the District's overall water treatment program to supplement corrosion control and to maintain iron in the soluble state to minimize water stains on laundry and plumbing fixtures.

The District operates an ion exchange treatment system for the removal of perchlorate at their Plant No. 16 site. Perchlorate is a man-made substance most often associated with the production of fertilizers. Although the USEPA has not set a drinking water standard for perchlorate, the NYS Dept. of Health has enacted an action level of 18 ug/l. As the perchlorate level at Plant No. 16 has never exceeded the action level, the District continues to treat this well in the interest of its consumers. Other sources are not impacted or contain low levels of perchlorate. The District operates a sand filtration at their Plant No. 5 for the removal of manganese, a naturally occurring inorganic compound that is indicative of staining on plumbing fixtures. The District has also implemented filtration for the removal of PFA compounds at the same site. PFA compounds are man made contaminants most often associated with weatherproof & non-stick materials and fire fighting foams.

2024 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT - TABLE OF DETECTED PARAMETERS

Contaminants	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Minimum/Maximum Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Lead & Copper Rule							
Lead	No	August/September 2022	ND - 74.4 1.9 ⁽¹⁾	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting building to water mains, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	August/September 2022	0.063 - 0.99 0.24 ⁽¹⁾	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic ⁽²⁾	No	07/03/24	ND - 5.5	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 10	Naturally occurring
Calcium Hardness	No	04/24/24	9.4 - 101.0	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	
Sulfate	No	04/24/24	ND - 76.0	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	
Specific Conductivity	No	04/24/24	59.2 - 347.0	umhos/cm	n/a	No MCL	
Nickel	No	07/22/24	ND - 0.002	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 100	Nickel enters groundwater and surface water by dissolution of rocks and soils, from atmospheric fallout, or from biological decays
Barium	No	04/24/24	ND - 0.06	mg/l	2	MCL = 2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	04/24/24	ND - 0.11	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Color	No	07/17/24	ND - 6.0	Units	n/a	MCL = 15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products such as trihalomethanes, the presence of metals such as copper, iron and manganese; Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
Ammonia (As Nitrogen)	No	06/03/24	ND - 0.15	mg/l	n/a	No MCL	Runoff from fertilizer and leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Sodium	No	06/03/24	4.8 - 18.0	mg/l	n/a	No MCL ⁽³⁾	Naturally occurring; road salt, water softeners, animal waste
Chloride	No	07/23/24	5.4 - 217.0	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Iron	Yes ⁽⁴⁾	08/14/24	ND - 1.0	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 3 ⁽⁵⁾	Naturally occurring
Manganese	No	07/10/24	ND - 0.18	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 3 ⁽⁶⁾	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Nitrate	No	10/11/24	ND - 5.6	mg/l	10	MCL = 10 ⁽⁶⁾	Runoff from fertilizer, leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	No ⁽⁷⁾	05/22/24	ND - 0.13	mg/l	1	MCL = 1.0	Runoff from fertilizer, leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Odor	No	09/04/24	ND - 2.0	Units	n/a	MCL = 3.0	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources
Perchlorate	No	06/03/24	ND - 5.4	ug/l	n/a	AL = 18 ⁽⁸⁾	Oxygen additive in solid fuel release for rockets, missiles, fireworks and fertilizers
Disinfection By-Products							
Bromodichloromethane	No	07/31/24	ND - 2.1	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter
Dibromochloromethane	No	07/31/24	ND - 1.9	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	
Chloroform	No	07/31/24	ND - 1.6	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	
Bromoform	No	07/31/24	ND - 0.63	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) ⁽⁹⁾	No	07/31/24	ND - 6.2	ug/l	0	MCL = 80	
Chlorate	No	07/31/24	16.8 - 19.3	ug/l	0	No MCL	

2024 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT - TABLE OF DETECTED PARAMETERS (cont'd.)

Contaminants	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Minimum/ Maximum Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Radionuclides							
Gross Beta	No	06/28/23	1.74	pCi/L	0	MCL = 50 ⁽¹⁰⁾	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Radium 226 & 228 Combined	No	06/03/24	0.5	pCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion from natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	No	04/05/24	ND - 1.8	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 5.0	Used in chemical manufacturing, as an industrial solvent, paint and varnish remover, and a cleaning/ degreasing agent
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOCs)							
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	No	06/05/24	ND - 6.08	ng/l	0	MCL = 10.0 ⁽¹¹⁾⁽¹²⁾	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)	No	06/05/24	ND - 11.6 ⁽¹³⁾	ng/l	0	MCL = 10.0 ⁽¹¹⁾⁽¹²⁾	
Physical Characteristics							
Alkalinity	No	01/26/24	26.4 - 29.3	mg/l	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids	No	02/02/24	127.0 - 132.0	mg/l	n/a	n/a	
Unregulated Contaminants - Perfluoroalkyl Substances⁽¹⁴⁾							
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	No	05/31/24	ND - 1.24	ng/l	2000	MCL = 50,000	Industrial discharge ⁽¹⁵⁾
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHpA)	No	05/31/24	ND - 2.17	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	No	05/31/24	ND - 1.21	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA)	No	05/31/24	ND - 1.94	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	No	10/09/24	ND - 1.20	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA)	No	05/31/24	ND - 2.24	ng/l	n/a	MCL = 50,000	

Definitions:

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.

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.

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

Health Advisory (HA) - An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information; a health advisory is not a legally enforceable Federal standard, but serves as technical guidance to assist Federal, State and local officials.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

Micromos (umhos/cm) - The unit of measurement for conductivity.

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

pCi/L - pico Curies per Liter is a measure of radioactivity in water.

⁽¹⁾ - During 2022 we collected and analyzed 32 samples for lead and copper. The 90% percentile is presented as the maximum result.

⁽²⁾ - NYS and EPA have promulgated a drinking water arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion. While your drinking water meets the standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect on 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.

⁽³⁾ - No MCL has been established for sodium. However, 20 mg/l is a recommended guideline for people on high restricted sodium diets and 270 mg/l for those on moderate sodium diets.

⁽⁴⁾ - Iron is essential for maintaining good health. However, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. Drinking water with very large amounts of iron can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation and stomach pain. These effects usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small number of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron (sometimes called "iron overload") and should be aware of their overall iron intake. The New York State standard for iron in drinking water is 0.3 milligrams per liter, and is based on iron's effects on the taste, odor and color of the water. People with hemochromatosis may be at greater risk for health effects. The District adds a sequestering agent to the water to a maintain iron in a soluble state to minimize discolored water and staining of laundry.

⁽⁵⁾ - If iron and manganese are present, the total concentration of both should not exceed 500 ug/l.

⁽⁶⁾ - Water from some of the wells within the Riverhead Water District have a slightly elevated nitrate level. This level is below the maximum contaminant level of 10.0 parts per million. 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. The source of the nitrates is the nitrogen in fertilizers and from on-site septic systems. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

⁽⁷⁾ - Once the District was notified of the results of the well, the well was put out of service until such time the filter media was properly flushed.

⁽⁸⁾ - Perchlorate is an unregulated contaminant. However, the NYS Dept of Health has established an action level of 18 ug/l.

⁽⁹⁾ - Total Trihalomethanes include Chloroform, Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane and Dibromochloromethane. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous systems, and may have an increase risk of getting cancer.

⁽¹⁰⁾ - The State considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

⁽¹¹⁾ - PFOS has been used to make carpets, leathers, textiles, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging, and other materials that are resistant to water, grease, or stains. It is also used in fire fighting foams at airfields. Many of these uses have been phased out by its primary U.S. manufacturer; however, there are still some ongoing uses.

⁽¹²⁾ - NYSDOH established an MCL for PFOA and PFOS at 10.0 ppt effective August 26, 2020.

⁽¹³⁾ - All resampling for PFOS has shown no detections.

⁽¹⁴⁾ - USEPA Health Advisory Levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Advisory Levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.

⁽¹⁵⁾ - All Perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered unregulated organic contaminants (UOC), which have an MCL of 50,000 ng/l.

The Riverhead Water District normally conducts over 1,000 water quality tests throughout the year, testing for over 170 different contaminants which have been undetected in our water supply including:

Antimony	Simazine	N-EtFOSAA
Beryllium	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane
Cadmium	3-Hydroxycarbofuran	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane
Chromium	Aldicarb	1,1-Dichloroethane
Lead	Aldicarb sulfone	1,1-Dichloropropene
MBAS, Calculated as LAS	Aldicarb sulfoxide	1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene
Mercury	Carbofuran	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene
Selenium	Methomyl	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene
Silver	Oxamyl	1,3-Dichlorobenzene
Thallium	Glyphosate	1,3-Dichloropropane
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	Endothall	2,2-Dichloropropane
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Diquat	2-Chlorotoluene
1,1,2-Trichlorotrifluoroethane	Alachlor	4-Chlorotoluene
1,1-Dichloroethene	Chlordane (Technical)	Bromobenzene
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Endrin	Bromochloromethane
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	gamma-BHC (Lindane)	Bromomethane
1,2-Dichloroethane	Heptachlor	Chlorodifluoromethane
1,2-Dichloropropane	Heptachlor epoxide	Chloroethane
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	Benzo(a)pyrene	Chloromethane
Benzene	bis(2-Ethylhexyl)adipate	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene
Carbon tetrachloride	bis(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate	Dibromomethane
Chlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene	Dichlorodifluoromethane
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Methoxychlor	Isopropylbenzene (Cumene)
Ethylbenzene	PCB Screen	Methylene Chloride
Hexachloro-1,3-butadiene	Toxaphene	n-Butylbenzene
m&p-Xylene	PFNA	n-Propylbenzene
Methyl-tert-butyl ether	PFEESA	p-Isopropyltoluene
o-Xylene	PFDA	sec-Butylbenzene
Styrene	PFDoA	tert-Butylbenzene
Tetrachloroethene	PFUnA	trans-1,3-Dichloropropene
Toluene	PFTrDA	Trichlorofluoromethane
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	PFTA	Aldrin
Trichloroethene	ADONA	Dieldrin
Vinyl chloride	9CL-PF3ONS	Butachlor
1,4-Dioxane	11CL-PF30UDS	Carbaryl
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	HFPO-DA (Gen-X)	Dibromoacetic Acid
2,4-D	4:2FTS	Dichloroacetic Acid
Dalapon	PFPeS	Haloacetic Acids (Total)
Dicamba	8:2FTS	Monobromoacetic Acid
Dinoseb	6:2FTS	Monochloroacetic Acid
Pentachlorophenol	PFHpS	Trichloroacetic Acid
Picloram	PFMBA	Radium-226
Atrazine	PFMPA	E.coli
Metribuzin	NFDHA	Cyanide
Propachlor	N-MeFOSAA	
Zinc	Turbidity	

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Riverhead Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you can have your water tested by a New York State certified laboratory for lead in drinking water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible on our website at: <https://riverheadny.municipalone.com/pview.aspx?id=56444&catID=0>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYSDOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Known and possible contamination sources to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contaminant can travel through the environment to reach the well. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become, contaminated. (See section "Water Quality" for a list of contaminants that have been detected.) The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is pumped from 16 active wells. The source water assessment has rated most of the wells as having a high susceptibility to industrial solvents, pesticides and nitrates and microbial contamination. The elevated susceptibility ratings are due primarily to the various land uses and their related point sources of contamination in the assessment area. The land uses include unsewered commercial, industrial and residential, as well as agricultural land use. While the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the Water District.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The Water District is in the process of implementing several Capital Improvement projects to both increase the quantity of water available to meet the needs of the community as well as water treatment projects to improve the quality of our drinking water. This includes the replacement of Well No. 2, implementation of wellhead treatment for the removal of manganese at Well No. 5-1, rehabilitation of the Route 58 elevated storage tank and construction of a new ground storage tank (GST) in Wading River. New granular activated carbon filter (GAC) in service for Well No. 5-1 and new GAC being designed for Well No. 5-2A.

