2023 Consumer Confidence Report

South Kingstown
South Shore Water System

To Our Customers:

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're pleased to present to you this year's Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about your water quality and the services we deliver to you every day. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards set by the regulatory agencies. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

We purchase 100% of our water from VEOLIA Rhode Island Operations (VEOLIA) through a Consecutive Connection (CC). The water we receive from VEOLIA comes from seven gravel packed wells located in the central area of South Kingstown. VEOLIA has initiated a Wellhead Protection Program which has identified a well protection area around their well fields. VEOLIA has also conducted an inventory regarding land use within this wellhead area.

The RI Department of Health, in cooperation with other State and Federal agencies, has assessed the threats to VEOLIA's water supply sources. The assessment considered the intensity of development, the presence of businesses and facilities that use, store or generate potential contaminants, how easily contaminants may move through the soils in the Source Water Protection Area (SWPA), and the sampling history of the water.

Our monitoring program continues to assure that the water delivered to your home is safe and wholesome. The assessment found that the water source is at LOW RISK of contamination. This does NOT mean that the water cannot become contaminated. Protection efforts are necessary to assure continued water quality. For a copy of the complete Source Water Assessment Report, please contact our office or the Rhode Island Department of Health at (401) 222-6867.

The Town does not conduct regularly scheduled water supply meetings, but if you have any questions about this report or want to learn more about your water utility, please contact me at (401) 789-9331 Extension 2250. The Water Division office is located in the Public Services Building, 509 Commodore Perry Highway (U.S. Route 1), Wakefield, RI 02879.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Bourbonnais, PE
Public Services Director

Consumer Confidence Report

Understanding this Report

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 10 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 human or animal 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 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Additional Important Information

For most people, the health benefits of drinking plenty of water outweigh any possible health risk from these contaminants. However, 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. USEPA and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Term Definitions

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

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicated the contaminant was not present
Parts per million (ppm) or **Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or **Micrograms per liter (ug/L)** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. A violation will occur only if the supplier fails to take corrective action.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is 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.
Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - the "Goal" is 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 Disinfection 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
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.
Running Annual Average (RAA) - an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.
Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Millirems per Year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Monitoring Period Average (MPA) - An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.
Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) - Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the pervious four calendar quarter.
NA - Not applicable

Water Quality Test Results:

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected through our water quality monitoring and testing. The presence of 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 the January 1-December 31, 2023 monitoring period. 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, through representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **Our water system makes every effort to provide you with safe drinking water.**

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's) are set at very stringent levels. The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is set at a level where no health effects would be expected, and the MCL is set as close to that as possible, considering available technology and cost of treatment. A person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day, as recommended by health professionals, at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

2023 TEST RESULTS FROM VEOLIA WATER RHODE ISLAND
Unless otherwise noted, test results are from 2023 and the ranges listed are results from VEOLIA'S wells

Microbiological Contaminants	Violation	Highest Month % Positive	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	**No**	0%	n/a	0	TT = <5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants/Collection Date	Violation	Levels Detected Range (low/high)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (2023 data)	No	0.007 Range: 0.003—0.016	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	1.14 Range 0.89—2.83	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper	**Violation**	**90th Percentile**	**Unit of Measurement**	**MCLG**	**AL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Copper (2021)	No	0.18	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives household plumbing
Lead (2021)	No	1.5	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives household plumbing
Disinfection Residual	**Violation**	**Levels Detected Range (low/high)**	**Unit of Measurement**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
[1]Distribution Disinfectant Residual (RAA)	No	0.31 Range* 0.18—0.69	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection By-Products	**Violation**	**Levels Detected Range (low/high)**	**Unit of Measurement**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Halocacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	27.9 Range 10.8—35.2	ppb	0	60	By-product of water chlorination
[1]Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Yes	84.6 Range 35.0—122.1	ppb	0	80	By-product of water chlorination

These results are from VEOLIA's distribution system. All sampling results represented at the 90th Percentile.
* RRA: Running Annual Average is the average of all monthly or quarterly samples for the last year at all sample locations.
[1]These results are from VEOLIA's distribution system. The averages presented are the Running Annual Average (RAA) and the ranges are the lowest and highest individual detection levels.

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 increased risk of getting cancer.

2023 TEST RESULTS FROM VEOLIA WATER RHODE ISLAND

Secondary Contaminants	Water System	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	RUL
Alkalinity, Total	Veolia Water Rhode Island	127	12-127	ppm	NA
Iron (2020 data)	Veolia Water Rhode Island	383	ND— 383.0	ppb	300
Manganese (2021 data)	Veolia Water Rhode Island	12.0	ND— 12.0	ppb	50
Nickel (2020 data)	Veolia Water Rhode Island	0.039	ND—0.039	ppm	NA
Sodium	Veolia Water Rhode island	18.0	6.88—12.6	ppm	NA

Unregulated Contaminants

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

Substance	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Bromide ppb	NA	NA	41.3	32.1—50.6	No	Naturally occurring element
Total Organic Carbon ppb	NA	NA	3.32	3.32	No	Naturally occurring element
HAA5 ppb	0	60	10	1.72—18.3	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA6Br ppb	NA	NA	2	0—4.64	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA9 ppb	NA	NA	12.06	1.72—22.4	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination

*Highest results are based upon the highest single sample.

It is important to note that our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants (UCMRs) are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers you have the right to know that these data are available.

During the 2023 calendar year, the water systems that we purchase water from had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Water System	Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
VEOLIA WATER—RHODE ISLAND	Failed to submit Operational Evaluation Level Report for total trihalomethanes	Reporting	TTHM	12/30/2023
VEOLIA WATER—RHODE ISLAND	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL	MCL	TTHM	1/1/2023– 3/31/2023
VEOLIA WATER—RHODE ISLAND	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL	MCL	TTHM	7/1/2023—9/30/2023

This notice only applies to URI Bay Campus . Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what we are doing to correct this situation. It is determined by averaging all samples collected at the URI Bay Campus system for the past 12 months. The levels of TTHM averaged at the URI Bay Campus from 9/12/2022 to 7/9/2023 was 0.085 mg/L.

TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN
South Shore Water System
509 Commodore Perry Highway

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. There are no additional required health effects

2023 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TEST RESULTS FROM SOUTH KINGSTOWN-SOUTH SHORE WATER SYSTEM

Microbiological Contaminants	Result	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (TCR)	In the month of September, 2 sample(s) returned as positive	Treatment Technique Trigger	0	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	Violation	AL	Sites Over AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper, Free	2021-2023	0.146	0.002—0.315	ppm	No	1.3	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2021-2023	6	0—53	ppb	No	15	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (2023)	0.148	mg/L	Less than 4.0	mg/L	Water additive used to control microbes

Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

Important Information on Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems. Pregnant women, infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The South Kingstown-South Shore Water System 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 at 800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source	Violation
ASBESTOS	8/31/2020	0.28	0.28	MFL	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Regulated Contaminants in Wells (active but not in use)	**Collection Date**	**Highest Value**	**Range (low/high)**	**Unit**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Typical Source**	**Violation**
BARIUM	8/3/2023	0.002	0.005-0.007	ppm	4	4	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	No
FLOURIDE	8/1/2023	0.83	0—0.83	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.	No
NITRATE	3/22/2022	0.92	0.29—0.92	ppm	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	No

Regulated Contaminants	Violation	Unit	MCLG	MCL	SS Interconnect Sampling Tap 3/13/2024	Mautucket Sampling Tap 3/13/2024	Well #1 3/13/2024	Well #2 12/7/2024	Well #3 12/7/2024	Possible Source
PFOA	No	NG/L	0	Not est	1.01	< 1.00	4.94	7.68	7.42	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
PFOS	No	NG/L	0	Not est	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
PFNA	No	NG/L	0	Not est	< 1.00	<1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
PFDA	No	NG/L	0	Not est	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
PFHxS	No	NG/L	0	Not est	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	< 1.00	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
PFHpA	No	NG/L	0	Not est	< 1.00	< 1.00	4.69	7.23	6.83	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.
TOTAL (sum of 6)					1.01	< 1.00	9.63	14.9	14.2	

The data presented are from the most recent testing done in accordance with drinking water regulations. Wells #1, #2 and #3 are not online but considered active. PFAS is state regulated only. Total refers to the sum of the 6 PFAS contaminants: PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA AND PFDA.

Disinfection By Products	Sample Point	Monitoring Period	Highest LRAA	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	Violation	MCLG	Typical Source
TTHM	Fire Hydrant @ Coast Guard Ave	2023	63	63—63	ppb	80	No	0	By product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Fire Hydrant @ Coast Guard Ave	2023	<2	<2—<2	ppb	60	No	0	By product of drinking water disinfection

Secondary Contaminants-Non Health Based Contaminants—No Federal Maximum Contaminant (MCL) Established	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
Nickel	9/14/2023	0.031	<0.005—0.031	mg/L	0.1
Sodium	3/14/2023	20.1	18.5—20.1	mg/L	1000

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Collection Date	Range (low/high	Unit of Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source	Violation
Combined Uranium	8/1/2023	1.2	0-1.2	NG/L	30	0	Erosion of natural deposits	No

Federal Compliance Period	Analyte	Comments
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2023		

During the 2023 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations. There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

We, at the South Kingstown-South Shore Water System, work to provide top quality water to every tap. We encourage all of our customers to conserve and use water efficiently and remind you to help us protect our water sources. Don't hesitate to call our office at (401) 789-9331 Extension 2257 if you have any questions.

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