



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. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. 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. If your water system has a Source Water Assessment on file, it can be viewed by scanning the QR code and scrolling to the "Source Water Assessments" section in the middle of the page. Please contact the Center for Drinking Water Quality at 401-222-6867 with any questions.

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



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 previous 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, 2024 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.

All our drinking water is supplied from Veolia Water Rhode Island. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2024 calendar year from which we purchase drinking water from.

2024 TEST RESULTS FROM VEOLIA WATER RHODE ISLAND								
Unless otherwise noted, test results are from 2024 and the ranges listed are results from VEOLIA'S wells								
Contaminant	Violation	Highest Detected RAA ¹	Range	Unit of Measurement	Date of Maximum Detection	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0.6	0.08-1.15	mg/L	10-01-2024	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.

¹RAA represents the running annual average from the monitoring year from individual sampling locations. The range of individual results from all sample locations.

Regulated Contaminants	Violation	Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Barium (2023 data)	No	0.016 Range: 0.003—0.016	mg/L		2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	3.22 Range 0.91—3.22	mg/L		10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Lead and Copper	Violation	90th Percentile	Units of Measurements	# of Samples Above AL	MCLG	AL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Copper	No	0.168 ¹ Range 0.016-0.232	mg/L	0 to 30	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives household plumbing	
Lead	No	3.2 ² ND - 19 ³	ug/L	1 of 30	15	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives household plumbing, Lead service lines	
Synthetic Organic Contaminants	Violation	Highest Level Detected	Range of Results	Unit of Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination	
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) 2023-2024	No	2.0	ND-2.0	ng/L	20	NA	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications	
Disinfection By-Products	Violation	Highest Detected LRAA ⁴	Range	Date of Maximum Detection	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Halocacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	37.7	18.9-56.7	6/7/2024	ug/L	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No	68.9	21.2-73.8	9/6/2024	ug/L	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.

¹The level presented in the 90th percentile of the 30 sites test. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that are equal to or below it. In our system, 27 sites were below the copper 90th percentile value of 0.168 mg/L, and 3 sites were above the 90th percentile. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

²In our system, 27 sites were below the 90th Percentile value of 3.2 ug/L and 3 sites were above the 90th percentile. The action level for lead was exceeded at 1 of the sites tested.

³Please note that a high value in the range of individual results does not result in a violation because New York State compliance is determined from the 90th percentile calculation.

⁴LRAA represents the locational running annual average of quarterly results. The range of results represents the range of individual results from all sample locations.

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.

2024 TEST RESULTS FROM VEOLIA WATER RHODE ISLAND							
Secondary Standards—Non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.							
Secondary Contaminants	Water System	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	RUL ¹	Likely Source of Contamination	
Alkalinity, Total	Veolia Rhode Island	8	8-73	mg/L	NA	Natural property of water	
Iron (2020 data)	Veolia Rhode Island	383	ND— 383	ug/L	300	Naturally occurring element	
Manganese (2021 data)	Veolia Rhode Island	12.0	ND— 12.0	ug/L	50	Naturally occurring element	
Nickel (2023 data)	Veolia Rhode Island	0.039	ND—0.039	mg/L	NA	Naturally occurring element	
Sodium ²	Veolia Rhode island	16.8	7.11—16.8	mg/l	NA	Naturally occurring element	

¹RUL—Recommended Upper Limit

²Health note for sodium: Water containing more than 20 mg/L sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/L or sodium should not be used for drinking by people no moderately restricted sodium diets.

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. In addition to the contaminants listed above, for which Federal and/or State regulations limits have been established, and regular monitoring is required, we may also occasionally test for unregulated contaminants to determine occurrence data and provide input to regulatory agencies that are considering these contaminants for future regulations. This data is presented below.

Substance	Water System	Violation	Average Result	Range of Results	Unit of Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Bromide	Veolia Rhode Island	No	41.3	32.1-50.6	ug/L	NA	NA	Naturally occurring element
Total Organic Carbon	Veolia Rhode Island	No	3.32	NA	mg/L	NA	NA	Naturally occurring element
HAA5	Veolia Rhode Island	No	10	1.72-18.3	ug/L	60	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA6Br	Veolia Rhode Island	No	2	ND-4.64	ug/L	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA9	Veolia Rhode Island	No	12.1	1.7-22.4	ug/L	NA	NA	By-products of drinking water chlorination

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. Additional information about unregulated contaminants can be found at the following link, courtesy of American Water Works Association at <https://Drinktap.org/Water-Info/Whats-in-My-Water/Unregulated-Contaminant-Monitoring-Rule-UCMR>

During the 2024 calendar year Veolia Rhode Island received one violation

During Quarter 3 2023, Disinfection By-Product Rule (DBPR) sampling round, there was a TTHM OEL exceedance (above 80 ug/L TTHMs), at the site DBP2. The value of TTHMs at DBPR2 during Quarter 3 2023 was 97 ug/L, and we were required to submit an operational evaluation level (OEL) report by December 28, 2023. Veolia Rhode Island received a notice of violation in February 2024 for failure to submit the OEL Report by the due date. No further action is needed.

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

2024 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, 1 sample 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	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 (2024)	0.164		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>.

Lead Service Line Inventory Information: A service line inventory has been prepared and can be accessed at <https://ridoh.120water-ptd.com/> in accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR).

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	8/1/2023	0.002	0.005-0.007	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	No
FLUORIDE	8/1/2023	0.83	0–0.83	Ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
NITRATE	3/15/2024	1.07	0.47–1.07	ppm	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	No

Regulated Contaminants in Wells (active but not in use)	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Well #1 9/9/2024	Well #2 9/9/2024	Well #3 9/9/2024	Possible Source
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	7.59	3.34–7.59	NG/L	0	0	3.34	6.93	7.59	Used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties in or as fluoropolymers, fire-fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films.
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHpA)	6.74	3.24-6.74	NG/L	0	0	3.24	6.74	6.66	Manmade chemicals used in products to make them stain, grease, heat & water resistant.

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.

Disinfection By Products	Sample Point	Monitoring Period	Highest LRAA	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TTHM	Fire Hydrant @ Coast Guard Ave	2024	62	62-62	ppb	80	0	By product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	Fire Hydrant @ East Matunuck State Beach	2024	62	62-62	ppb	80	0	By product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	Fire Hydrant @ Coast Guard Ave	2024	8	7.94-7.94	ppb	60	0	By product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	Fire Hydrant @ East Matunuck State Beach	2024	38	38.1-38.1	ppb	60	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	3/15/2024	18.6	18.2–18.6	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

During the 2024 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations. There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

Federal Compliance Period	Analyte	Comments
9/1/2024–9/30/2024	TTHM and Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	Failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by products.

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.