

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025

Belfast Water District

13 Merton Ave. Belfast, NY 14711

(Public Water Supply ID#NY 0200313)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Belfast Water District will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Damien Dahill, Water Superintendent, at (585) 365-8862. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings every Third Monday of each month, located at the Belfast Town Hall. The meetings are held at 7:00 PM

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, 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 from 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 which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 900 people, which includes 385 service connections. The two reservoirs give the Town of Belfast a storage supply of 452,000 gallons of water. This exceeds the Town's daily demand and in the event of an emergency, will give the town a five (5) day supply of water. At this time, we are purchasing all of our water from the "Town of Caneadea/ Houghton Water District". If you would like a copy of the Town of Caneadea's water quality report, please contact their town clerk at 585-365-2928 or you can stop by the clerk's office during normal business hours.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Allegany County Health Department at (585) 268-9250.

THERE WERE NO POSITIVE BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS TAKEN BY THE TOWN IN 2025

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit Of Meas ure	MCL G	MCL	Likely Source Of Contamination
Arsenic 1/08/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0068	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 2/04/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0065	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 3/05/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0064	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 4/02/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0061	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 5/07/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0062	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 6/04/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0065	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 7/02/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0082	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 8/06/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0064	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 9/03/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0058	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 10/08/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0088	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment

Arsenic 10/20/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0064	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 11/05/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0048	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Arsenic 12/03/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0075	MG/L	N/A	0.01	Naturally Present In The Environment
Sodium 2/04/2025 (Caneadea)	no	39	MG/L	N/A	None	Natural Deposits
Nitrate 2/05/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.007	MG/L	N/A	10.0	Natural Deposits
HAA5's 8/27/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0066	MG/L	N/A	0.06	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
TTHM's 8/27/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.028	MG/L	N/A	0.08	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5's 5/14/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.00975	MG/L	N/A	0.06	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
TTHM's 5/14/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.04465	MG/L	N/A	0.08	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5's 5/14/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.00812	MG/L	N/A	0.06	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
TTHM's 5/14/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.04263	MG/L	N/A	0.08	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5's 8/13/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.00864	MG/L	N/A	0.06	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
TTHM's 8/13/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.042	MG/L	N/A	0.08	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination

HAA5's 8/13/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.0105	MG/L	N/A	0.06	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
TTHM's 8/13/2025 (Belfast)	no	0.0421	MG/L	N/A	0.08	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
Gross Beta Particle Activity 5/01/2019 (Caneadea)	no	1.68	PCI/L	N/A		Natural Ground Deposit
Radium 226 & 228 5/01/2019 (Caneadea)	no	0.44	PCI/L	N/A	5	Natural Ground Deposit
Lead and Copper * 9/7/2023 (BELFAST)	no	0.0016 Lead 0.18 copper	MG/L	N/A	.015 & 1.3	Leaching Of Household Plumbing Natural Deposits
Lead and Copper* 7/30/2025 (Caneadea)	no	.002 Lead 0.7 copper	MG/L	N/A	.015 & 1.3	Leaching Of Household Plumbing Natural Deposits
Barium 11/05/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.522	MG/L	2	2	Discharge From Metal Refineries Natural Deposits
Bromodichloromethane 4/07/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0007	MG/L	N/A	0.005	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
Dibromochloromethane 4/07/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0007	MG/L	N/A	0.005	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination
Chloromethane 4/07/2025 (Caneadea)	no	0.0011	MG/L	N/A	0.005	By-Product Of Drinking Water Chlorination

*The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system. In this case ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value. The action levels for lead and copper were not exceeded at any of the sites tested. Range for lead samples was 0 - 0.016 mg/l, and the range for copper samples was 0.0209 – 0.18 mg/l.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected, however, these contaminants were detected below current federal drinking water requirements. Although arsenic was detected below the MCL, it was detected between 0.0048 and 0.0082 from 13 samples, which is greater than one-half of the MCL. Therefore, we are required to present the following information on arsenic in drinking water:

“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 cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect of 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.”

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.

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).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 contamination.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements. TTHMs level cycles throughout the year, the level listed on the table is the annual maximum. For purposes of violation the average annual level is used which was below the MCL. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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. Town of Belfast is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes 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 and wish to have your water tested, contact Town of Belfast Water Department at 585-365-8862. 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>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

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 by visiting the website at:

https://health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/service_line/NY0200313.htm.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2025, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, 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 Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential firefighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Damien Dahill

