



## Bedford County Utility District Water System 2024 Consumer Confidence Report



Reflects testing done between January 2024 and December  
2024

Inframark, in partnership with the Bedford County Utility District (BCUD), is pleased to deliver the 2024 Consumer Confidence Report. This report provides a summary of the water quality from the treatment plant and throughout the distribution system and demonstrates that the results meet and frequently exceed all federal and state drinking water standards. It is our standard to provide quality drinking water 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year because it is vital to the health and well-being of the community.

**What is a Consumer Confidence Report and why should I read it?** The Consumer Confidence Report, sometimes called a Water Quality Report, includes important information about your water source, the level of any detected contaminants, compliance with drinking water rules, and some helpful educational information. It would serve as a reference to customers that your water treatment facility is working with the State of Tennessee and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to assure all standards are met or exceeded. The drinking water analysis tables on the following pages provide the results of our testing program and identify goals set by the state and federal government to protect public health.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable.  
Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

**Water System Security:** Following the events of September 2001, we realize that our customers are concerned about the security of their drinking water. We urge the public to report any suspicious activities at the utility facilities, pumping stations, tanks, fire hydrants, etc., by calling 931-294-5117.

**The role of TDEC and Source Water Assessments:** Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants, and we work in conjunction with the state to determine the vulnerabilities of our water source to potential contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the untreated water sources to evaluate the potential risk for contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible (high), moderately susceptible (moderate), or slightly susceptible (low), based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The BCUD Public Water System pumps its untreated surface water from the Duck River, which was rated as moderately susceptible to potential contamination. An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html>. You may also contact the BCUD Water Treatment plant to obtain copies of specific assessments.

All 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water typically fall in the following categories:

Contaminant Name	Examples	Cause of Contaminant
Microbial	Viruses or Bacteria	May come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
Inorganic	Salts and Metals	Can be naturally occurring, urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil & gas production, mining or farming.
Pesticides & Herbicides	Chemicals to control pests/weeds	Agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
Organic	Synthetic & Volatile Organic Chemicals	By-product of industrial process & petroleum production, can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
Radioactive	Radionuclides	Naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**Regarding Lead in Our Water:** Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Bedford County Public Water System 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 Danny Campbell with Inframark at BCUD Public Water System at 931-294-5117. 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>.

**Regarding Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI):** Bedford County Utility District reports there are no lead service lines or any lead in the distribution system. For access to the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI), please visit <https://bedfordutility.com>.

**Laboratory Analysis:** The table below shows the results of the BCUD Water System's laboratory analysis of your water during the period of January through December 2024. We monitor in accordance with State and Federal guidelines and for some contaminants that means less than once per year, and for those contaminants, the date of the last sample is shown in the table. The table lists the name of each substance tested, the maximum level allowed in the drinking water (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amounts detected, and the range of levels detected. Also, noted are the usual source of such contamination and an explanation of our findings.

- **AL: Action Level.** The concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.
- **MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level.** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal.** The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.** 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.
- **MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.** 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.
- **MRL: Minimum Report Level.** The estimate of the lowest concentration of a compound that can be quantitatively measured by members of a group of experienced drinking water laboratories.
- **ND: Non-Detect.** The concentration of a contaminant is below the minimum level that the instrument is capable of detecting.
- **TT: Treatment Technique.** A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
- **PPM: Parts per Million** or milligrams per liter (mg/L). One part per million or one milligram per liter corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000.
- **PPB: Parts per Billion**, or micrograms per liter (ug/L). One part per billion or one microgram per liter corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **N/A: Not applicable.**
- **NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.** It is the unit to measure the turbidity of a fluid.
- **PQL: Practical Quantitation Limit.** the lowest concentration of a substance that can be reliably quantified with acceptable levels of precision and accuracy.
- **MDL: Method Detection Limit.** Minimum measured concentration of a substance
- **LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average.** This is the average of four consecutive quarters for a particular location. Used in determining compliance for the TTHMs and HAA5's.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detection	Range	Sources	Violation
<sup>1</sup> Copper	2023	PPM	1.3	1.3	0.0399 (90th percentile)	0.00050 – 0.00999	Household plumbing corrosion, erosion of natural deposits, leaching of wood preservatives	No
Chlorine	2024	PPM	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	2.70 Highest RAA	1.00 – 3.20	Disinfectant added to control pathogens	No
Fluoride	2024	PPM	4	4	0.400 Average	0.100 – 0.800	Erosion of natural resources, additive to promote strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	No
Nitrate	2024	PPM	10	10	0.513	N/A	Fertilizer runoff, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits	No
Atrazine	2024	PPB	1	3	0.000159	ND – 0.000159	Runoff from herbicide used on crops	No
<sup>1</sup> Lead	2023	PPB	15	0	1.0 (90th percentile)	1.0 – 8.04	Erosion of natural resources, household plumbing corrosion	No
Sodium	2024	PPM	N/A	N/A	4.41	N/A	Ubiquitous in the environment	No
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant		Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detection	Range	Sources	Violation
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)		PPB	80	N/A	44.58 Highest LRAA	9.87 – 63.90	By-product of water chlorination	No
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)		PPB	60	N/A	35.40 Highest LRAA	10.90 – 50.50	By-product of water chlorination	No
<sup>2</sup> Total Organic Carbon (TOC)		PPM	TT	N/A	38.54% average removal (15 – 25% required)	37.00% - 40.39%	Naturally present in the environment	No
TURBIDITY								
<sup>3</sup> Turbidity		NTU	≤0.15 NTU 95% of time	N/A	0.25 Highest (99.46%)	0.03 – 0.25	Soil Runoff	No
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Coliform		Total: (MCL = 5.0% or less of samples / month)		0%	4%	0% - 4%	Naturally present in the environment	No
		Fecal: (MCL = 0% samples)		0%	0%	0%	Animal or human waste	No
		100% of samples tested negative for fecal coliform and E. coli						
Radium		Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.						
<sup>1</sup> Copper and Lead:		During the most recent round of lead and copper testing, 0 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.						
<sup>2</sup> Total Organic Carbon:		We met the Treatment Technique requirement for Total Organic Carbon in 2024.						
<sup>3</sup> What is Turbidity?		Turbidity has no health effects; however, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms including bacteria, viruses and parasites. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.						
<sup>4</sup> Cryptosporidium:		Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite which is found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although Cryptosporidium can be removed by filtration, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Monitoring of our source water indicated the presence of cryptosporidium in 3 out of 24 samples tested. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illness. Immuno-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. For more information on Cryptosporidium, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).						
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
Analyte		Unit		Average		Range	Sources	
PFOS		PPT		Below MRL		N/A	Found in items ranging from cookware and paper food packaging to personal care products, carpeting and firefighting foam, and provides stain resistance.	
PFOA		PPT		Below MRL		N/A		
PFBS		PPT		Below MRL		N/A		
PFHxS		PPT		Below MRL		N/A		
PFNA		PPT		Below MRL		N/A		
HFPO-DA		PPT		Below MRL		N/A		
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)		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. For additional information call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.						

**Additional Health Information:** 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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**How can citizens help protect drinking water?** Consider pharmaceuticals in the water! You can make an important difference in safeguarding lives and the environment by taking a few small steps to properly dispose of unused, outdated prescription and over the counter medications. DO NOT FLUSH unused medications or POUR them down a sink or drain. Medications such as these travel through pipes to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Wastewater Treatment Plants are not designed to remove these medications and they can pass through the treatment process eventually entering our waterways. To learn more about pharmaceuticals in drinking water visit: <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/environmental/healthy-places/healthy-places/environmental-quality/eq/water.html>.

**Who should I call if I have an issue?** For more information about your drinking water, or if you have a water quality, informational or low-pressure call, please contact the BCUD water treatment plant at 931-294-5117. To report a water main break, call the BCUD utility office at 931-684-1667.

**Want to get involved?** A member of the public may participate with discussions concerning the water system by attending the Water Board meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30am at the utility office located at 214 Bethany Lane. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

**Compliance:** In 2024, BCUD Public Water System received three violations during the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Sanitary Survey for violation of Division Rule 0400-45-01-.06(2c) for exceedance of the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Limit (MRDL) for Chlorine Dioxide in October 2022, July 2023, and August 2023.

**Who do I need to call with questions regarding these violations?** If you would like additional information about these violations, please contact James Marble at the water treatment plant at 931-294-5117.