

**2023 Water Quality Report**  
**Milton Water Department**  
**115 Federal Street, Milton, DE 19968**  
**PWS ID# DE0000629**  
**April 17, 2023**

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

**Spanish (Espanol):** Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**Do I need to take special precautions?**

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

**Where does my water come from?**

Your water is groundwater that comes from the unconfined Columbia aquifer and the confined Milford aquifer.

**Source water assessment and availability**

Our source water assessment is available through: <http://delawaresourcewater.org/assessments/>

**The Source Water Assessment's Summary of Our System's Susceptibility to Contamination**

Overall, Milton Water Department has a very high susceptibility to nutrients due to land use activities and analytical data. It has a high susceptibility to pathogens, petroleum 19 hydrocarbons, pesticides, PCBs, and other organic compounds due to land use activities. The system exceeds standards for metals and has a very high susceptibility to other inorganic compounds due to analytical data.

**Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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, 800-426-4791.

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 activity. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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.

## Definitions

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
SMCL	SMCL: Suggested Maximum Contaminant Level for aesthetic contaminants.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	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.

## Table of Regulated Contaminants Utilizing 2022 Test Results

Lead and Copper	Units	MCLG	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# sites over AL	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper	ppm	n/a	1.3	0.1667	0	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing system.
Regulated Contaminants	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	n/a	80	8	8	2022	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	0.71	0.34-0.71	2022	No	Water additive to control microbes.
Fluoride	ppm	2	2	1.3	0.7-1.3	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.11	0.11	2020	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	ppm	10	10	5	3-5	2022	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	ppb	50	50	0.98	0.98	2020	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

### Delaware Secondary Drinking Water Standards

Contaminants	Units	State SMCL	Average	Range
Alkalinity	ppm	n/a	113.52	113.52
Chloride	ppm	250	23	21-26
Manganese	ppb	50	0.012	0.012
Sodium	ppm	n/a	54.9	54.9
Sulfate	ppm	250	11	8-12

We, at Milton Water Department, work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

This CCR Report was prepared in collaboration with Delaware Rural Water Association and Milton Water Department.

