

2022 Consumer Confidence Report on Water Quality for 2021

## Annual Water Quality Report

**Merrick Operations District** 

Public Water Supply ID# NY2902840



## Message from the President

Providing customers with safe, quality drinking water is a top priority for Liberty, and we are proud to present this Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) that shares detailed information regarding local water service and our compliance with state and federal quality standards during the 2021 calendar year.

Liberty makes significant investments each year to ensure the water we deliver to customers meets all Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). We invest responsibly in order to maintain the local water infrastructure, because strong infrastructure is a key factor in delivering quality water. Additionally, we have a top-notch water quality program that ensures the water delivered to your home or business is thoroughly tested by independent laboratories and the data is provided to the state to verify compliance with all applicable SDWA and NYSDOH water regulations.

We know our customers rely on us to make sure the water at their tap is safe to drink, and we take that responsibility seriously. Our employees live in the local community and take great pride in providing quality water and reliable service to you and your neighbors.

If you have any questions about the information within this report, please don't hesitate to contact us anytime at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711. We encourage you to visit our website at <a href="https://www.libertyenergyandwater.com">www.libertyenergyandwater.com</a> to stay up-to-date and receive tips about water conservation and more.

On behalf of the entire Liberty family, thank you for being a valued customer and neighbor. We are proud to be your water provider.

Sincerely, Chris Alario President, Liberty New York Water

To request a printed copy of this report, please call us at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711. This report can also be found at <a href="https://www.libertyenergyandwater.com">www.libertyenergyandwater.com</a>.





## Where Does My Water Come From? Communities Served

Bellmore

East Massapequa\*

Levittown\*

Massapequa\*

Merrick

North Bellmore

North Merrick

North Seaford

North Wantagh

Seaford

Wantagh

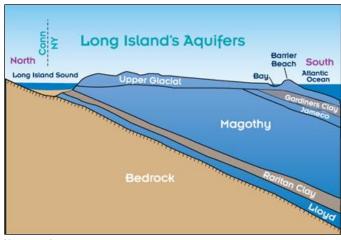
\*community partially served

## Source, Quality & Quantity

Groundwater is the source of your drinking water supply. It is drawn from 16 wells located in the aquifer system beneath the land surface.

## The Aquifers

The aquifers are water-bearing geologic deposits of sand and clay that absorb and store about 45 percent of the rain and snow that fall on Long Island. Merrick Operations Center has wells in the Magothy aquifer.



Not to scale

If you have a private well which is unregulated and untested, you should not use the water for drinking or cooking. (Source: NCDOH)

## Be Water Smart - Think Conservation

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation requested that all Long Island water suppliers reduce their peak pumpage by 15 percent to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Long Island aquifer. Our customers must conserve water to help us achieve this goal. When our customers conserve, not only do they reduce their water bill, but Liberty is able to defer infrastructure investment projects that are needed to meet peak water demand, which can reach as high as 50 million gallons of water a day in the summer.

The following suggestions will help you make your home "water efficient" without sacrificing comfort or changing lifestyles:

- Install smart irrigation technology on your irrigation system to irrigate as efficiently as possible.
- Install a moisture sensor on your irrigation system to prevent wasteful watering during or just after a rain.
- Use native, drought-resistant shrubs, trees, plants, and grasses in your landscape.
- Run dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Check every faucet for leaks. Even a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day, or about 6,000 gallons a year.



- If you suspect that you have a water leak, order our free Leak Detection Kit. The kit contains information, hints and dye tablets to help you determine if you have a wasteful water loss. Call our customer call center or 516-632-2236 to order.
- Replace older devices with water-saving showerheads, faucets, or low flush toilets. A normal showerhead uses 5 to 7 gallons a minute. Switching to a low-flow model that uses 1.5 gallons a minute can save a family thousands of gallons of water a year.

## **Source Water Assessment**



The NYSDOH, with assistance from the local health department and the CDM consulting firm, has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how rapidly contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contaminant can travel through the environment to reach the well. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not

mean that the water delivered to consumers is or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected (if any). The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

Drinking water is derived from 16 wells. The source water assessment has rated most of the wells as having a very high susceptibility to nitrates. The elevated susceptibility to industrial solvents is due primarily to point sources of contamination related to transportation routes and commercial/industrial facilities and related activities in the assessment area. The high susceptibility to nitrate contamination is attributable to residential, commercial, and institutional land use and related practices in the assessment area, such as fertilizing lawns.

### **How is Your Water Treated?**

Our water supply is obtained from wells located throughout our service area, and average about 500 feet in depth. In our area of southeastern Nassau County, the soil has naturally high iron and mineral content. The water dissolves these naturally occurring minerals, and while they are not health hazards, they can cause discolored water issues.

Bacteriological pollutants are not usually present in wells at the average depth of 500 feet and, consequently, water directly from the well is drinkable. However, water treatment is required to protect the water in the distribution system and to minimize discolored water conditions.



#### **Treatment consists of:**

- 1. Chlorination for bacteriological disinfection (using Sodium Hypochlorite).
- 2. Caustic Soda (Sodium Hydroxide) to raise pH and minimize corrosivity to water mains and household plumbing.
- 3. Filtration to remove iron at three well locations.
- 4. Calciquest (Phosphate compound) to stabilize or sequester the iron not removed by filtration, and to act as a corrosion control inhibitor.
- 5. Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) to remove organics at one well location (US Navy / Northrop-Grumman plume site).

We take steps to reduce the potential for lead to leach from your pipes into the water. This is accomplished by adding a corrosion inhibitor (Calciquest is an Orthophosphate compound) to the water leaving our treatment facilities.

## What are Drinking Water Standards?

Drinking water standards are the regulations set by the USEPA to control the level of contamination in the nation's drinking water. The USEPA and the NYSDOH are the agencies responsible for establishing drinking water quality standards in New York. This approach includes assessing and protecting drinking water sources; protecting wells and surface water; making sure water is treated by qualified operators; ensuring the integrity of the distribution system; and making information about water quality available to the public. The water delivered to your home meets the standards required by the USEPA and the NYSDOH.

This report describes those contaminants that have been detected in the analyses of almost 200 different potential contaminants, nearly 100 of which are regulated by the USEPA and the NYSDOH.

Liberty is proud to tell you that there is only one contaminant that exceeds any federal or state drinking water standards (see last page of this document). Hundreds of samples analyzed every month by Liberty's contract certified laboratory assures that all primary (health-related) drinking water standards are being met. Sample results are available on the Table in this report.

This report is intended to provide information for all water users. If received by an absentee landlord, a business, or a school, please share the information with tenants, employees, or students. We are happy to make additional copies of this report available. You may also access this report on the Liberty web page at <a href="https://www.libertyenergyandwater.com">www.libertyenergyandwater.com</a>.

## Substances That Could be in Water

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.

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 Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwaterrunoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be 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 USEPA and the NYSDOH prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) also establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visiting their website at <a href="https://www.ground-water-and-drinking-water/national-primary-drinking-water-">https://www.ground-water-and-drinking-water-</a>

<u>regulations</u>. For information on bottled water visit the USFDA website at <u>www.fda.gov</u>.

## Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. The USEPA and 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 Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## **Cryptosporidiosis & Giardiasis**

Although there have been no cases of Cryptosporidiosis in Nassau County attributable to the water supply, we thought you should be aware of the risks to people with severely weakened immune systems. Cryptosporidiosis and Giardiasis are intestinal illnesses caused by microscopic parasites that can be transmitted several ways including through drinking water. Cryptosporidiosis can be very serious for people with weak immune systems, such as transplant patients; individuals receiving chemotherapy or dialysis, and people with Crohn's disease or HIV infection. Individuals who think they may have been exposed to Cryptosporidiosis or Giardiasis should contact their health care providers immediately.



Immuno-compromised patients who may have been advised by their health care provider that they may be at risk, especially when traveling, should observe the following:

- One minute of boiling water at a rolling boil will kill Cryptosporidium parvum and Giardia lamblia.
- Drinking bottled water does not guarantee that the water is free from Cryptosporidiosis or Giardiasis.

Contact your health care provider about your options. If you have questions, contact the NCDOH at 516-227-9692.

## Lead & Copper Rule Statements

The Lead and Copper Rule requires sampling for lead and copper at the tap. In 1992, the first-year testing was required; tap water was sampled in compliance with EPA regulations. Test results were excellent: at least 90 percent of the lead tests were well below 10 parts per billion, and for copper, below 0.3 parts per million, indicating that the company's corrosion control treatment processes continue to be effective. The same tests were done roughly every three years from 1997 through 2020 with similar results. The next round of homeowner monitoring for the Lead and Copper Rule will be completed in the summer of 2023.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Liberty 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 drinking 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 1-800-426-4791 or at

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

## System Improvements

In 2021, we continued to make significant upgrades to our system and infrastructure. These improvements include:

- Replaced 14,930 feet of water main throughout the service territory.
- Replaced 2 fire hydrants.
- Replaced 103 service lines.
- Replaced 4,619 water meters.
- Completed replacement of the iron filtration media and drilled a new 3 Million-Gallon-Per-Day water supply well at the Newbridge Road Treatment Plant in North Bellmore.
- Drilled a new 3 Million-Gallon-Per-Day water supply well at the Jefferson Plant in Merrick.
- Completed design of a 6 Million-Gallon-Per-Day Advanced Oxidation Plant for removal of 1,4-Dioxane at the Seaman's Neck Treatment Plant in Wantagh.

Improvements planned for 2022 include:

- Replace approximately 11,500 feet of water main.
- Replace 3 fire hydrants.
- Replace 60 service lines.
- Replace approximately 4,992 water meters.



- Construct new well buildings at the Jefferson St.
   Plant in Merrick, and the Newbridge Plant in North Bellmore.
- Complete liner installation and rehabilitation of the 2 Million-Gallon-per-Day Newbridge Well 3 in North Bellmore.
- Complete cleaning and rehabilitation of the 3 Million-Gallon-per-Day Jerusalem Well 5 in Wantagh.
- Begin construction of the 6 Million-Gallon-Per-Day Advanced Oxidation Plant for removal of 1,4-Dioxane at the Seaman's Neck Treatment Plant in Wantagh.
- Drill replacement 3 Million-Gallon-Per-Day water supply well at the Sunrise Mall Well Site in Massapequa.

## **2021 STATISTICS AT-A-GLANCE**

Wells Closed/Restricted	None
Violations of Standards	None
Typical Well Depth	500 Feet
Aquifers	Magothy

Pumping Stations 12

Service Area 20 Square Miles
Total Water Withdrawn 5,120,694,000 Gal.
Total Water Sales 4,815,383,000 Gal.

Population Served (approx.) 135,000 Customers Served (accounts) 45,018 Miles of Mains 433

### **Average Residential Usage & Cost**

In 2021, the average residential household used approximately 106,965 gallons of water at a cost of about \$656, or \$1.80 a day. With an average of 3.0 persons per household, the cost of water was about 60¢ a day per person.

## **How Might I Become Actively Involved?**

Customers can participate in decisions that may affect the quality of water by:

- Reading the information provided in bill inserts and special mailings
- Contacting the company directly with questions or to discuss issues
- Responding to survey requests
- Attending presentations by the company made to local community and civic associations
- Contacting agencies such as the Nassau County Health Department (NCDOH) at 516-227-9692



## **Important Health Information**

## Lead

Lead, in drinking water, is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

## 1,4 dioxane

Laboratory studies show that 1,4 dioxane caused liver cancer in animals exposed at high levels throughout their lifetime. Whether 1,4 dioxane



causes cancer in humans is unknown. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers 1,4 dioxane as likely to be carcinogenic to humans based upon studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

# Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Our Operations?

During 2021, our system was in compliance with applicable NYS drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements. If you have questions about this report, please contact our Water Quality Manager at 516-632-2239.

## **Testing Results**

During the year, Liberty collects water samples to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, or organic contaminants. All of the substances listed in the table below tested under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Liberty believes it is important you know what was detected, and how much of the substance was present. The state allows the monitoring of certain substances less than once a year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. If a substance was tested and there was no detection, it is not listed in this table. You can find Definitions, Terms and Abbreviations related to this Table in the next section for easy reference.

Table of Detected Contaminants								
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination	
Microbiological								
Total Coliform (% positive samples in any given month)	N	One positive sample on 06/01, 07/21, & 11/10	0.81% each month	units	N/A	TT => 5% samples positive in a month	Naturally present in the environment.	
<b>Inorganic Contamina</b>	<b>nts</b> (sour	ce: raw water	wells)					
Iron 1	N	06/2021	0.19 – 1.2	mg/L	N/A	0.3	Naturally occurring.	
Barium	N	05/2021	ND - 0.0083	mg/L	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Chloride	N	07/2021	3.1 – 18.1	mg/L	N/A	250	Natural occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.	
Lead	N	07/2021	ND – 4.9	ug/L	0	AL - 15	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Copper	N	05/2021	ND - 0.029	mg/L	N/A	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Sodium <sup>2</sup>	N	05/2021	2.4 – 12.3	mg/L	N/A	See Health Effects	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners.	
Color	N	05/2021	ND – 6	units	N/A	15	Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.	
Odor	N	07/2021	ND – 2	units	N/A	3	Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.	
Manganese 3	N	03/2021	ND - 0.057	mg/L	N/A	0.3	Naturally occurring.	
Nickel	N	05/2021	0.0013 - 0.0083	ug/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.	
Zinc	N	07/2021	ND – 0.081	mg/L	N/A	5	Naturally occurring.	
Thallium	N	07/2021	ND – 0.42	ug/L	0.5	2	Leaching from ore processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories.	
Fluoride <sup>4</sup>	N	08/2021	ND – 0.11	mg/L	N/A	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	



Sulfate	N	05/2021	ND – 28.4	mg/L	N/A	250	Naturally occurring.			
Nitrate	N	07/2021	ND - 0.14	mg/L	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits, fertilizers,			
							sanitary waste systems.			
Organic Contaminant	Organic Contaminants (source: raw water wells)									
Trichloroethene (TCE) 5	N	01/2021	ND – 3.6	ug/L	0	5	Discharges from metal degreasing sites and other factories.			
1,4 dioxane <sup>6</sup>	N	Quarterly 2021	ND – 2.0	ug/L	N/A	1.0	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.			
Radiological Contami	nants (f	ootnote 7) (se	ource: raw water w	rells)						
Gross Alpha	N	07/2021	ND – 2.2	pCi/L	0	15				
Combined Radium- 226 and 228	N	07/2021	ND – 2.2	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion and decay of natural deposits.			
Gross Beta	N	07/2021	ND - 4.65	pCi/L	0	50 (a)				
Uranium	N	07/2021	0.016 - 0.182	ug/L	0	30 (b)				
Disinfectant/ Disinfec	Disinfectant/ Disinfection By-product (D/DBP) Parameters (footnote 8)									
TTHMs	N	Quarterly	ND – 5.9	mg/L	0	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.			
HAA5's	N	2021	ND – ND	mg/L	0	60				
Chlorine	N	2021	0.46 – 2.14	mg/L	N/A	4	Water additive used to control microbes.			
Lead and Copper (Tag	water a	at homeowne		tnote 9)						
Copper	N	07-09/2020	90 <sup>th</sup> - 0.270 0.021 – 0.340	mg/L	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.			
Lead	N	07-09/2020	90 <sup>th</sup> - 1.4 ND – 6.6	ug/L	0	15				
Unregulated Substand	es and	Physical Para	ameters							
Ammonia	N	07/2021	ND - 0.1	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Alkalinity	N	08/2021	ND – 48.8	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Calcium Hardness	N	07/2021	ND – 12.5	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Calcium	N	07/2021	ND – 5.0	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Corrosivity 10	N	07/2021	(-7.89) – (-6.02)	Langelier Index	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Hardness, Total	N	07/2021	ND – 20.7	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Magnesium	N	03/2021	ND – 9.2	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			
pH <sup>11</sup>	N	04/2021	6.7 – 7.7	units	N/A	N/A	N/A			
TDS	N	07/2021	ND - 170	mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A			

#### Notes:

- 1- Higher levels of iron (up to 1,000 ppb) may be allowed by the state when justified by the water supplier, as is the case with Merrick Operations district. The Total of iron and manganese should not exceed 500 ppb, unless allowed by the state, as is the case with Merrick Operations district. The maximum level detected above is on a well that has iron removal filtration prior to distribution. Iron is essential for maintaining good health. However, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. Drinking water with very large amounts of iron can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation and stomach pain. These effects usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small number of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron. People with hemochromatosis may be at greater risk for health effects resulting from too much iron in the body (sometimes called "iron overload") and should be aware of their overall iron intake.
- 2- Water containing more than 20 mg/L of sodium should not be used for drinking by persons on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/L of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.
- 3- Manganese is an essential nutrient that is necessary to maintain good health. However, exposure to too much manganese can cause adverse health effects. There is some evidence from human studies that long-term exposure to manganese in drinking water is associated with nervous system effects in adults (e.g., weakness, stiff muscles and trembling of the hands) and children (learning and behavior). The results of these studies only suggest an effect because the possible influences of other factors were not adequately assessed. There is supporting evidence that manganese causes nervous system effects in humans from occupational studies of workers exposed to high levels of manganese in air, but the relevance of these studies to long term drinking water exposure is less clear because the exposures were quite elevated and by inhalation, not by ingestion.
- 4- Fluoride was detected in one well. The well was resampled and fluoride was not detected.
- 5- TCE-Some people who drink water containing trichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Please note that the raw wells with detections of TCE are treated with Granular Activated Carbon (GAC). The water being distributed to the customers does not contain TCE.
- 6- 1,4 dioxane is a newly regulated contaminant as of August 2020. One plant in the Merrick Operations district has 1,4 dioxane levels above the MCL. NYSDOH granted Merrick Operations District a deferral. Please see public notification on last page of this report.
- 7- Radiological results are from raw water wells, and not distribution locations, as required by the NCDOH. (a) The State considers 50 pCi/L to



- be the level of concern for beta particles. (b) 30 µg/l of uranium is approximately 20.1 pCi/L.
- 8- TTHM's mean the sum of: Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane, and Chloroform. The highest 'Locational Running Annual Average" was 4.58 pbb in 2021. HAA5's include the sum of: Monochloroacetic acid, Dichloroacetic acid, Trichloroacetic acid, Bromoacetic acid, and Dibromoacetic acid. The highest 'Locational Running Annual Average" was <2.0 ppb in 2021. The running annual average of all Chlorine Residual readings in the distribution system was 1.50 ppm for 2021.
- 9- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 54 sites tested. The "action level" for copper was not exceeded at any of 54 sites tested. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 54 sites tested. The "action level" for lead was not exceeded at any of 54 sites tested.
- 10- The NCDOH recommends that the Langelier Saturation Index (for corrosivity) be as close to zero as possible.
- 11- NCDOH guidelines recommend a pH range of 7.5 8.5. The running annual average of all pH readings in the distribution system was 7.12 units in 2021.



## **Definitions, Terms and Abbreviations**

90th percentile: For Lead and Copper testing. 10% of test results are above this level and 90% are below this level.

**AL**: Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**HAA5**: Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di- and tri-chloracetic acid, and mono- and di- bromoacetic acid) as a group. **Healthy Advisory (HA)**: EPA's health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to states agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies, and treatment technologies associated with drinking water contamination.

**MCLG**: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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**: Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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.

**MRDL**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, or 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.

NA: not applicable.

ND: not detectable at testing limits.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms perliter.

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**RAA**: Running Annual Average, or the average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): An overall indicator of the amount of minerals in the water.

**TTHM**: Total Trihalomethanes (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) as a group.



## What Does This Information Mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no sample limit violations in 2021. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements.

## 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. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources. For questions concerning this report or your water quality, please contact Natasha Niola, Water Quality Manager, at 516-632-2239 or Liberty Customer Service at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711; or on the web at <a href="https://www.libertyenergyandwater.com">www.libertyenergyandwater.com</a>.

Liberty - New York Water

60 Brooklyn Avenue Merrick, NY 11566



## Listing of Non-Detected (ND) Contaminants – 2021 (Merrick Operations)

None of the following compounds that we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water at the respective method detection levels:

#### Microbiological:

#### **Inorganics & Physical:**

Ammonia as N Cyanide, free Nitrite as N Perchlorate Surfactants (as MBAS)

Turbidity

#### Metals:

Antimony Arsenic Beryllium Cadmium Chromium Mercury Selenium Silver

#### Miscellaneous:

Asbestos fibers

#### Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's):

Benzene Bromobenzene Bromochloromethane Bromomethane n-Butvlbenzene sec-Butylbenzene tert-Butylbenzene Carbon Tetrachloride Chlorobenzene Chloroethane Chloromethane Chlorodifluoromethane 2-Chlorotoluene 4-Chlorotoluene Dibromomethane 1,2-Dichlorobenzene 1,3-Dichlorobenzene 1.4- Dichlorobenzene (Meta) Dichlorodifluormethane 1.1-Dichloroethane 1,2-Dichloroethane

1.1-Dichloroethane

cis-1,2-Dichloroethene

trans-1,2-Dichloroethene 1,2-Dichloropropane 1.3-Dichloropropane 2,2-Dichloropropane 1,1-Dichloropropene cis-1,3-Dichloropropene trans-1.3-Dichloropropene Ethylbenzene Hexachlorobutadinene

Isopropylbenzene 4-Isopropyltoluene

Methyl Tert Butyl Ether (MTBE) Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane)

n-Propylbenzene Styrene

1,1,2-trichloro 1,2,2-trifluoroethane 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane Tetrachloroethene (PCE)

Toluene 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene 1,1,1-Trichloroethane 1.1.2-Trichloroethane Trichlorofluoromethane 1,2,3-Trichloropropane 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene

M-Xylene O-Xylene P-Xylene Vinyl Chloride

#### Synthetic (Specific) Organic Compounds (SOC's)

#### Regulated Group #1:

Alachlor Aldicarb Aldicarb Sulfone Aldicarb Sulfoxide Atrazine Carbofuran Chlordane, Total

1,2-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane (DBCP)

2,4-D Endrin

1,2-Dibromomethane (EDB)

Heptachlor Heptachlor Epoxide Lindane

Methoxychlor

PCB's

Pentachlorophenol Toxaphene 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)

#### Regulated Group #2:

Aldrin Benzo(a)pyrene Butachlor Carbaryl Dalapon

Di (2-Ethylhexyl) adipate Di (2-Ethylhexyl) phthalalte

Dicamba Dieldrin Dinoseb Diquat Endothall Glyphosate

Hexachlorobenzene Hexachlorocyclopentadiene 3-Hydroxycarbofuran

Methomyl Metolachlor Metribuzin Oxamyl (Vydate) Picloram Propachlor Simazine

2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)

#### **Newly regulated compounds**

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)

#### **Unregulated compounds:**

PFAS Compounds:

Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) Perfluorononoic Acid (PFNA) Perfluorodeconoic Acid (PFDA) Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHpÁ) Perfluorododecanoic Acid (PFDoA) Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) Perfluorotridecanoic Acid (PFTrDA) Perfluorotetradecanoic Acid (PFTA) Perfluoroundecanoic Acid (PFUnA)

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Deferral Issued for 1,4-Dioxane to New York American Water (NYAW) - Merrick

## Why are you receiving this notice/information?

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water system found the chemical 1,4-Dioxane in your drinking water above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 1 ppb for 1,4-dioxane. The MCLs are set well below levels known to cause health effects in animal studies. Therefore, consuming water with 1,4-dioxane at the level detected does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses.

NYAW - Merrick has submitted, and the New York State Department of Health (Department) has issued, a deferral to NYAW - Merrick. When a public water system is issued a deferral, the water system agrees to a schedule for corrective action and compliance with the new MCLs. In exchange, the Department agrees to defer enforcement actions, such as assessing fines, if the water system is meeting the established deadlines. We are required to update the Department and the Nassau County Department of Health each calendar quarter on the status of our projects. If we do not meet the agreed upon deadlines, the Department can resume enforcement.

#### What are the health effects of 1,4-dioxane?

Laboratory studies show that 1,4-dioxane caused liver cancer in animals exposed at high levels throughout their lifetime. Other types of cancer have also been reported, although less consistently than liver cancer. There is no evidence of 1,4-dioxane cancer effects in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers 1,4- dioxane a likely human carcinogen based upon studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

At the level of 1,4-dioxane detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is well below 1,4-dioxane exposures associated with health effects.

## What is New York State doing about 1,4-Dioxane in public drinking water?

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water systems to test for 1,4-dioxane. If found above the MCLs, the water supplier must take steps to lower the level to meet the standard. Exceedances of the MCL signal that steps should be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

#### What is being done to remove these contaminants?

NYAW - Merrick is in the process of installing treatment to remove 1,4-dioxane at our Seamans Neck Road Facility and will operate impacted wells in a last on first off sequence to minimize exposure to 1,4-Dioxane. Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible. The deferral is effective until August 25, 2022.

#### Where can I get more information?

For more information, please contact our Customer Service Center at 1-877-426-6999. You can also contact the Nassau County Health Department at (516) 227-9692. If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your health care provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health.

Public Water System ID#: NY2902840

Date: January 21, 2021

For quarterly updates, please visit the following link: <a href="https://new-york-water.libertyutilities.com/all/residential/safety/seamans-neck-public-notification.html">https://new-york-water.libertyutilities.com/all/residential/safety/seamans-neck-public-notification.html</a>

