



ON TAP

CHATHAM WATER DIVISION'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025 EDITION

Welcome to the first edition of “On Tap”, The Town of Chatham Water Division’s Newsletter. In our efforts to become a community-focused utility we will be providing these newsletters with the goal of educating and engaging the Town of Chatham residents. We also aim to strengthen the relationship between the Water Division and it’s consumers. We strive for continued confidence from our residents in our water’s reliability and safety.

WHAT IS A WATER QUALITY REPORT?

The “Consumer Confidence Report” (CCR) or “Water Quality Report” (WQR) is an annual water quality report that a community water system is required by law to provide to its customers each year by July 1st. Your WQR can help you make informed choices about the water you drink.

ENSURING YOUR WATER IS AT THE HIGHEST QUALITY POSSIBLE!

Thank you for your continued support in the Chatham Water Division.

(508) 945-5150

UNDERSTANDING YOUR ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT



Access your Water Quality Report at:

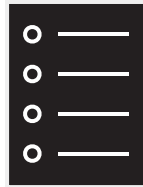
<https://www.chatham-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8446/2024-Consumer-Confidence-Water-Quality-Report-PDF>



THE WATER QUALITY REPORT PROVIDES IMPORTANT INFORMATION SUCH AS:



Where your **water comes from**—such as an aquifer, lake, river, or other source.



A list of **regulated contaminants** that the Chatham Water Division detected and the level.



Potential **health effects** from consuming contaminated water and additional safeguards against water-related illnesses.



Contaminant levels in your Water Quality Report compared to national standards and any violations of health-based standards.

Sample Water Quality Data Table

Your WQR will also include a water quality data table that may look similar to this:

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER QUALITY							
Regulated Contaminants							
Microbial Results	Date	Value	MCL/TT	MCLG	Violation	Possible Source of Contamination	Health Effects
Total Coliform Bacteria	2024	0	>5% T San. Positive	0	No	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.
Fecal Coliform or E. coli *	2024	0	TT	N/A	No	Human and animal fecal waste	Fecal Coliform and E.coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a health risk for infants, young children, some elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

*Compliance with the Fecal Coliform / E.coli MCL is determined upon additional repeat testing.

1 **Microbial Results** : Type of contaminant. Others can include Organic Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, Lead and Copper, etc.

2 **Value**: The highest level of that contaminant found in your water during sampling.

3 **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**: If the value in the "Your Water" column is above the MCL, the system is in violation of MASSDEP and EPA's regulations.

4 **Treatment Technique (TT)**: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

5 **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**: If the value in the "Your Water" column is below this MCLG there is no known or expected risk to your health.

6 **Violation**: Shows if a contaminant is present in your drinking water is above the level allowed by MASSDEP and the EPA.

7 **Possible Source of Contamination**: These are ways that contaminants could get into the water. some are naturally present in the environment where some are directly correlated to human activities.

8 **Health Effects**: Ways that the contaminants could effect humans when consumed.



WHY DON'T I GET A WATER QUALITY REPORT?



If you **don't pay your own water bill** because you live in an apartment, condo, or rental property or you get your water from a private ground water well, you don't receive a Water Quality Report. Renters can contact their building manager or search <https://www.chatham-ma.gov/> see your Community Water System's Water Quality Report.

How you can access your Water Quality Report



A notification as well as the link to the Water Quality Report will be **printed on the water bills** from April 1st to June 30th



The Annual Water Quality Report will be on the March 20th issue of the **Cape Cod Chronicle**



A **paper copy will be delivered** to Town Hall, Chatham Library, Chatham Chamber of Commerce, Chatham Community Center, and the Chatham Visitor Center

Questions Or Concerns About Your Water Quality Report



CALL EPA'S SAFE WATER HOTLINE at 1-800-426-4791 if you would like to know more about your WQR, how to locate your local water company, or for more resources.



CONTACT YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER if you are sensitive to contaminants or if you are at higher risk of infections.



CONTACT YOUR WATER COMPANY for information on how to remove chemicals and microbes from your water source.

Test Your Knowledge

At the end of each newsletter there will be a fun "Test Your Knowledge" activity that could include questions regarding the topic that the newsletter is about or any related content.



1 If your water contained a contaminant at or above the allowable level by the Massachusetts DEP and the EPA it would be indicated in what column?



2 What four pieces of information could your Water Quality Report provide you with?



3 Based on The Town of Chatham's 2024 Annual Water Quality Report how many sources does the Chatham Water Division have and what are those types of sources?

Answers To "Test Your Knowledge"

- 1: It would be indicated under the Violations column (The Town of Chatham had no violations in 2024)
- 2: Where your water comes from, regulated contaminants, health effects and contaminant levels
- 3: The Town of Chatham has 11 sources and they are all groundwater

