Candlewood Knolls Water Authority

Consumer Confidence Report 2023

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this 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 information because informed customers are our best allies.

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?

The Candlewood Knolls water system is 41 years old. We provide both seasonal and year-round water to subscribers in accordance with State regulations. All the main water distribution lines are laid below the frost line. We currently have 3 active wells. Two wells are located on the ballfield and one is located at Camp Arden on the tank site. The Camp Arden well was turned on for use in January 2023. Our water source is basically ground water and comes from the Watershed west of Candlewood Lake in the Town of New Fairfield and extends to the New York State line.

Source water assessment and its availability

The CT Department of Public Health (DPH) Drinking Water section has a program is place for Water Quality Monitoring and Compliance. The CKWA follows this program for water testing monthly, quarterly, annually, and any other monitoring period requirement. We collect water samples from the distribution system and the active wells and have them tested by an independent laboratory. The laboratory reports the results to the State to maintain compliance. Some tests are not required every year so you may see different contaminant results in each of

these annual reports. The CT DPH also periodically assesses our performance with site visits and an evaluation. We had one of these assessments on Oct 13, 2023. All water quality test reports are available upon request.

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:
microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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, EPA prescribes regulations that 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.

How can I get involved?

The Candlewood Knolls Water Authority (CKWA) is a group of your neighbors who volunteer to oversee and administer the community water system. You can be involved by attending annual community meetings and participating in discussions of the water system.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely.
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Properly maintain your septic system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Do not dump anything into storm drains as they drain directly into our lake.

Monitoring and reporting of a compliance data violation

The required Cadmium test for the April 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 period was missed by our Water Quality Monitoring firm. We resumed testing the next quarter and have not missed any more tests. Cadmium is usually tested once a year and we are currently testing once a quarter. We do not believe there are any health effects from the one missed test. See attached Notice of Violation report required to be sent to subscribers by the CT DPH.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Candlewood Knolls Water Authority 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 your 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The CKWA tests for the presence of lead in our water system per CT DPH requirements. To date we have had lead counts lower than the maximum contaminant levels. The CT DPH is currently requiring all private and public water systems to perform a Lead Service Line Survey to be submitted by Oct 16, 2024. We are documenting all water distribution piping material for both the CK distribution system up to the curb box and the customer owner portion after the curb box and into the home.

Additional Information for Arsenic

Arsenic was only found in one of three samples taken over the year 2023. Our drinking water contains low levels but does meet the EPA's standard for arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects 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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is

not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	3.02	NA	3.02	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.092	NA	.0921	2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.2	NA	.2	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	3.41	2.6	3.41	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	12.2	NA	12.2	2023	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (RTCR)	1 positive sample per month	0	2 positive samples out of 25 tests per year	NA	NA	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	5	1.6	NA	NA	2023	No	Is the measure of cloudiness of the water. Typical source is Soil runoff
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	.00108	NA	.00108	2023	No	Discharge from petroleum factories

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.02	January to June 2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.028	July to December 2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.26	January to June 2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2.6	July to December 2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Violations and Exceedances

Level 1 Assessment and Sanitary Defects
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. We found coliform indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct two Level 1 Assessment(s). Two Level 1 Assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take two corrective action(s) and we completed two assessment(s).

Additional Contaminants

In an effort to ensure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulations. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water.

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
chloride	250 mg/l	130 mg/l	No	
methylene chloride	.005 mg/l	.00415 mg/l	No	
nickel	1 mg/l	.01 mg/l	No	
sodium	100 mg/l	61.5 mg/l	No	
sulfate	250 mg/l	20.7 mg/l	No	

Additional Monitoring

As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	Range	
		Low	High
chloromethane (methyl chloride) (ppb)	.5		.5

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)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. 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.
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
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.
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.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Maureen Keenan Clegg
Address: 21 North Beach Drive
New Fairfield, CT 06812
Phone: 12037464807

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

MONITORING AND/OR REPORTING VIOLATION

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

Date: April 19, 2024
PWSID: CT0910591
To: The Customers/Residents of Candlewood Knolls Water Authority
From: Maureen K Clegg PE, Chairperson CKWA

Our public water system recently violated drinking water monitoring and/or reporting requirements. As a supplier of public drinking water, we are required to monitor the water quality of our water supply to ensure that it meets the current drinking water standards. Failure to conduct monitoring and/or report results of such monitoring to the State Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section constitutes a violation. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. We did not complete the monitoring or did not report the results for the requirement(s) listed below:

Cadmium (WSF ID: 00700; Monitoring Period: April 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023)

What is being done?

The following areas have been affected:
This one quarterly test was missed by our water quality testing firm. All other required tests have been completed and water quality remains excellent.

The following steps are being taken to correct this violation:
We continue to work with our testing firm to make sure they perform all State required water tests. We resumed testing for Cadmium the next quarter.

We expect to return to compliance or resolve the situation by July 1, 2023 (date)

If you have any questions please contact Maureen Clegg (owner, operator or designee) at 203-746-4807 (phone #) or by mail at 21 North Beach Drive (Street), New Fairfield (Town), CT (State), 06812 (Zip Code)

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.