Tariffville Water Commission of the Tariffville Fire District

www.tariffvillewater.org

Water Conservation

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS: **Distributed to TWC Customers in June 2023**

The Tariffville Water Commission, as the municipal Tariffville-owned water supplier, is concerned about all aspects of providing a safe and plentiful supply of water to our residents. As we begin the summer season, we ask you to pause and reflect that our fresh water supplies can be unpredictably limited. Thoughtful use of our drinking and fire protection water supplies is important and benefits each of us. While we do not anticipate a shortage of water or of water pressure, many factors beyond our control can coincide to produce this result without prior notice. It is therefore important to conserve water when and where we can.

In order to conserve water to ensure a supply of drinking and fire protection water for all our customers, we are asking all users to practice restraint and conservation at all times in their use of water. For our Rules & Regulations and water conservation measures, visit http://tariffvillewater.org. For additional conservation measures, visit http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/residential-tips.aspx.

- **Be reasonable about watering lawns** and not driveways or streets. Water running off your lawn and into the street is a clear indication that your sprinkler is misdirected or that your lawn is saturated. Drinking water is thus wasted and our fire-fighting reserve and capability is placed at risk.
- **Do not** hose down driveways or sidewalks in order to clean them; it is a misuse of water.
- **Maintain** swimming pool water quality by the **use of filtration and/or chemicals** as opposed to dumping and refilling (other than wading pools).
- **Fix leaky faucets, running toilets** or other sources of water loss. Check for toilet leaks by putting a drop of food coloring in the tank. If the food coloring seeps into the bowl without flushing, there is a leak. Consider installing a low-flow 1.6 gallon per flush toilet. Don't use toilets as a wastebasket.
- **Run full loads** in the dishwasher.
- **Set the water level** in the washing machine to match the amount of clothes being washed.
- **Eliminate** unnecessary water use where possible. **Report any outdoor system leaks that you see to 860-651-4227.**
- **Hand water (with hose) plants, gardens, and ornamentals in the evening** or early morning hours when evaporation by the sun does not reduce its effectiveness**.** Use mulch around plants and shrubs.

Protect our water quality by avoiding dumping of oil and/or other hazardous waste liquids in storm drains or anywhere else on Tariffville soil. Limit use and quantities of chemicals on lawns and gardens to biodegradable and non-persistent types that reduce the risk of groundwater contamination.

We appreciate the cooperation and understanding of our neighbors and find that the residents of Tariffville are proud of the reliable and pure water of our independent municipal water system, and have always used this water responsibly and conservatively. Reasonable water use by all will reduce the possibility of a requirement of expensive control and monitoring systems that would be borne by all users.

Tariffville Fire District Board of Directors (2022):
President: R. Scott Madigan, P.E., **Vice President**: Kevin Donahue. **Chief Financial Officer**: Patricia Shea. **Clerk:** Michael Tanca, P.E., **Directors**: Chris Haberbosch, Jeff Scarcella, Walter Banzhaf, P.E., Brian O'Donnell, Kevin Plaut. **Collector**: Kevin Donahue. The **Certified Water Plant Operator** is Robert Beeman.

Tariffville Water Commission of the Tariffville Fire District

P.O. Box 35
Tariffville, CT 06081

PWS ID: 1280011 **Issued June 2023**

2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2022

We are pleased to provide to you the 2022 calendar year Annual Water Quality Report which is designed to inform you about where your water comes from, what tests are performed to ensure the quality of your water, and where you can get information about your water supply. The goal of the Tariffville Water Commission (TWC) is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. If you know of a non-English-speaking resident who may need a translation of this report, please contact us at our **answering service at 860-651-4227.**

The Tariffville Water Commission of the Tariffville Fire District
The Tariffville Fire District (TFD) was organized in 1919 for the purpose of providing fire protection, streetlights, sewage disposal, and water supply. All but the last function has been merged since then with those of or for the Town of Simsbury. In 1939, a Special Act of the state legislature, for the purpose of improving the water system, authorized the TFD to lay and collect taxes for this purpose. The TFD, doing business as the TWC, is a municipal entity, is not private, and cannot be sold to or acquired by a private Water Company. This Fire District has had an unblemished record for over 80 years of successfully operating a community water system in providing a dependable source of pure water at reasonable rates to Tariffville citizens.

A Board of nine Directors, including a President, Vice President, Clerk, and Chief Financial Officer operates the TWC. These are elected annually at a public meeting held remotely using ZOOM at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday in May. If you have questions about this report, your water supply, or if you would like to participate in the decisions that may affect the quality of the water, the business meetings of the Board are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7:00 p.m. using ZOOM. All voting Directors and Officers must be taxpayers and residents of Tariffville upon election. ZOOM information about TWC meeting can be viewed at our website, **TARIFFVILLEWATER.ORG** by clicking on **Board Meeting Dates**.

The TWC is required to submit Annual Reports to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, which are created and reviewed by Donald T. Ostop & Company, PC, Certified Public Accountants, Farmington, CT.

Your Drinking Water Quality
We are pleased to report that our water meets and usually exceeds CT and federal compliance standards for quality and safety. Water samples for testing are collected at Department of Public Health (DPH) prescribed intervals from the well heads and two or more approved taps within the distribution system by our state Certified Water Plant Operator. Northeast Laboratories, Inc., Rocky Hill, CT, a DPH-certified laboratory, tests these samples. These test results are forwarded directly by Northeast Laboratories to the DPH for their review. A four-step process ensures the safety and high quality of the water that we deliver to you:

1. Protection - Our three gravel packed wells are protected by state and local regulations designed to prevent contamination of our water supplies. A **source water assessment** of our system was made by the DPH and found that our source has an overall LOW susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. A copy of the original report can be found at https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Drinking-Water/DWS/Source-Water-Assessment-SWAP-Reports-for-Community-Public-Water-Systems or by calling our answering service. Protecting our precious water is your responsibility too.

You Can Help

- **Don't Dump!** Dispose of trash, waste motor oil, and household hazardous wastes properly. Check with your city or town hall or Water Company about proper disposal of these wastes.
- **Use pesticides and fertilizers wisely!** Follow the directions, apply only what's needed, and don't over use. When in doubt - consult an expert!

Report any polluting activities! If you see illegal dumping, waste discharges, chemical spills, etc., please report them. Please report any activity in the vicinity of our wells on Tariffville Road, or 300,000-gallon tank on Laurel Ridge that could contaminate your water. You may call our **answering service at 860-651-4227**, the **Simsbury Police at 860-658-3100 (routine)**, or the 24-hour emergency number for **CT DEEP** at **1-860-424-3339**.

2. Treatment - One hundred percent of our supply is well water, which is naturally filtered underground. We do not add chlorine, fluorides, or any other chemical to our drinking water.

3. Distribution - Clean, safe water is distributed through about 6.1 miles of water mains that are flushed regularly where needed to remove any naturally occurring sediment and bio film. This helps maintain high quality water as it is pumped or fed by gravity to your tap. In the event of an area-wide power failure, your water should continue to flow from our 300,000-gallon tank and from well pumps powered by a propane-fueled automatic back-up generator. In 2022 we pumped 35,455,000 gallons of water, or 97,137 gallons per day from our wells and distributed to 507 service connections for 1,324 residents (as reported in the 2010 US Census). This is an average of 73.4 gallons per day for each resident.

4. Monitoring - We continually verify our water's high quality by performing numerous tests monthly, annually, or otherwise as required at the wellhead sources and at least two typical points within the distribution system.

The Farmington Valley aquifer from which our water is drawn is near but has no direct connection to the Farmington River as determined by definitive testing done over a period of time. Frequent testing has shown that our water is free of parasites such as Cryptosporidium and Giardia, neither of which has been found in CT water supplies.

Water is often called the 'universal solvent'; that means all drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to have some amounts of substance other than water. Contaminants that may be present in untreated source water include: Biological contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts or metals, which can be naturally occurring (in the rocks and sands of the aquifer) or result from urban runoff, farming, or industry; Pesticides or herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture or residential uses; Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and can come from gasoline, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive materials, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil production and mining activities. Copper may come from the corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, or leaching from wood preservatives. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver of kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor. Lead can come from corrosion of household plumbing systems or erosion of natural deposits. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water in excess of the action level over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. The EPA is reviewing the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concerns that it may not be stringent enough. While it is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans in high concentrations, none has been found in our water with current methods of detection.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA publishes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration establishes limits of contaminants in bottled water. All 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. For more information about contaminants and potential health risks, contact the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.
*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (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**.*

The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health has performed an assessment of our drinking water sources. The completed assessment report is available on request at **860-651-4227.**

Frequency of sampling -
The following is the testing schedule requirements for water quality testing under RCSA Section 19-13-B102 of Connecticut Public Health Code. These requirements are reviewed and updated annually by the DPH.

- Two samples, **monthly** (each from well source, and two standard taps within the system): total coliform bacteria, chlorine (as CL_2), color, turbidity, odor, and pH.
- Two samples from well source, **annually**: nitrate and nitrite ions. (last tested 2022; next due by 12/2023)
- Two samples from each well source, **annually**: organic chemicals (60 specific organic compounds, each of 3 wells tested separately). (last tested 2022; next due by 12/2023)
- Two samples from well source, **every 3 years**: many inorganic chemicals. (last tested: 5/2022, next due by 12/2025).
- Ten samples from standard taps, **every 3 years**: lead & copper (last tested: 2020, next due by 12/2023).
- Two samples from standard taps, **every 3 years**: radiological chemicals (last tested: 05/2022, next due by 10/2025).
- Two samples from standard taps, **every 9 years**: asbestos (last tested: 2020, next due by 12/2029).

Notes to Table 1 - Water Quality Report for Calendar Year 2022
On the following page is **Table 1 – Tariffville Water Quality Report for calendar year 2022**, which reports some of the substances that are monitored through water testing. The table does not include many other substances, mostly organic, which were not found in our water supply. The 3-page list of these organic chemicals and test results (all were 'ND', 'none detected') is available by request to Tariffville Water Commission, PO Box 35, Tariffville, CT 06081.

1. **S.D.W.A.** The federal Safe Drinking Water Act, PL-99-339, 1996. First passed in 1974, and amended in '77, '79, '80, '86, and 1996. The TWC strives to keep up to date on new amendments and regulations.
2. **MCLG** - The 'maximum contaminant level goal' is the maximum permissible level (concentration) goal of a contaminant in water that is delivered to any user of a public water system. At this level, there are no known or anticipated adverse health effects and allows an adequate margin of safety.
3. **MCL -** The 'maximum contaminant level' (or the highest level) allowed by law (DPH) is the enforceable concentration level.
4. **ppm** - parts per million. (for comparison, 1 cent in $10,000).
5. **ppb -** parts per billion. (for comparison, 1 cent in $10,000,000).
6. A nephelometer is a device that measures the amount of light that can be transmitted through a liquid sample. **TT=5ntu** – "Total Turbidity (cloudiness) equals 5 nephelometer turbidity units".
7. **Total coliform bacteria** - A measure of fecal contamination from animals or humans.
8. **pCi/L** - 'picoCuries per liter' - a picoCurie is one trillionth of a Curie, a standard measure of radiation. (for comparison, 1 cent in $10,000,000,000).
9. **cu** - 'color units' - a standard measure of the color of water samples.
10. **Odor units** - a standard measure of the odor of water samples. A level of 3 is the threshold level for odor detection.
11. **pH units** - a standard measure of the acidity of a water solution with 0.0 being most acidic, 7.0 being neutral, and 14.0 being most basic with a gradual change toward the extremes in between these numbers.
12. **MFL** - 'million fibers per liter', a standard measure of the amount of the mineral asbestos in water.
13. **ND** - None Detected by State of CT Certified Testing Laboratory.

Table 1 – Tariffville Water Quality Report for Calendar Year 2022

	S.D.W. Act conc. Goal	Highest conc. allowed by law	Compliance (yes/no)	Actual test results	Actual test results	Notes 1
Substance	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Test date**	**Average**	**Range**	2,3
Inorganic contaminants (tested monthly to every 9 years)						
Arsenic	0 ppb	0.05	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	.0021	+/- 0.0	5
Asbestos	0 MFL	7 MFL	Yes 2020 (next-2029)	ND	+/- 0.0	12
Barium	2 ppm	2 ppm	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	0.061 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Chloride (as Cl^-)	Not set	250 ppm	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	16 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Chlorine (as Cl_2)	4 ppm	4.0 ppm	Yes 2022 (monthly)	<0.05 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Copper	1.3 ppm	AL=1.3 ppm	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	<0.02 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Fluoride **(not added to Tariffville water)**	4 ppm	4 ppm	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	<0.10 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Lead	0 ppm	AL=15 ppb	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	<0.001 ppm	+/- 0.0	5
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	Yes 2022 (annual)	1.38 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Nitrite	1 ppm	1 ppm	Yes 2022 (annual)	<0.010 ppm	+/- 0.001	4
Sodium	Not set	28 ppm +	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	12 ppm	+/- 0.07	4
Sulfate	Not set	n/a (ppm)	Yes 2020 (next-2023)	102.3 ppm	+/- 0.0	4
Microbial contaminants (tested monthly)						
Total coliform bacteria	0	1 present/mo.	Yes 2022 (monthly)	None Present	+/- 0.0	7
Radioactive contaminants (tested every 3 years)						
Alpha emitters	0	15 pCi/L	Yes 2022 (next-2025)	4.52	+/- 2.34 pCi/L	8
Volatile organic contaminants (tested annually)						
Total trihalomethanes	0	80 ppb	Yes 2022 (annual)	ND <0.0005	0 ppb	13
1,2 dichloropropane	0	5 ppb	Yes 2022 (annual)	ND <0.0005	0 ppb	13
Tetrachloroethane	0	5 ppb	Yes 2022 (annual)	ND <0.0005	0 ppb	13
Physical characteristics (tested monthly)						
Color	Not set	15 cu	Yes 2022 (monthly)	0 cu	0-5 cu	9
Odor	Not set	2 units	Yes 2022 (monthly)	ND - 0	+/- 0.0	10
pH	Not set	6.4-10.0 units	Yes 2022 (monthly)	7.5 unit	6.9 - 7.8	11
Turbidity	Not set	TT=5 ntu max	Yes 2022 (monthly)	0.2 ntu	0.10 to 0.31 ntu	5, 6