



Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
100 First Avenue
Boston, MA 02129

(617) 242 – 5323
www.mwra.com
PWS ID# 6000000

INFORMATION ABOUT MWRA WATER

In cooperation with the Burlington Water Department, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority is pleased to send you this annual update on your drinking water quality. This report includes test results for 2021 and other important information about your tap water. The MWRA supplies wholesale water to local water departments in 48 cities and towns of greater Boston and MetroWest, and three in Western Massachusetts. MWRA water comes from Quabbin Reservoir, about 65 miles west of Boston, and Wachusett Reservoir, about 35 miles west of Boston. Water from the Ware River, located between these two reservoirs, can also add to the supply at times. The reservoirs provide about 200 million gallons of high quality water to consumers each day.

The percentage of MWRA used based on the MassDEP Annual Statistical Report (ASR) should be included in your final CCR. For example, “In 2021, Burlington received ___% of its drinking water from local well supplies, and ___% of its water from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)”.

MWRA Water Test Results 2021

EPA requires that MWRA test for over 120 contaminants that may be in drinking water. MWRA found only those listed here. All of these levels were below EPA’s Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL).

Test Results After Treatment Compound	Units	(MCL) Highest Level Allowed	(We Found) Detected Level- Average	Range of Detections	(MCLG) Ideal Goal	Violation	How it Gets Into Water
Barium	ppm	2	0.009	0.008-0.01	2	No	Common mineral in nature
Monochloramine	ppm	4 MRDL	1.99	0.0-4.0	4 MRDLG	No	Water disinfectant
Fluoride	ppm	4	0.71	0.24 - 0.81	4	No	Additive for dental health
Nitrate^	ppm	10	0.83	0.05-0.83	10	No	Atmospheric deposition Byproduct of disinfection
Turbidity	NTU	5	0.29	0.15-0.61	NS		Natural matter
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	18.6	6.0-34.8	NS	No	Byproduct of water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids-5	ppb	60	16.8	3.7-30.2	NS	No	Byproduct of water disinfection

KEY: MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant allowed in water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology. MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. 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. MRDLG=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination. ppm=parts per million ppb=parts per billion NS=no standard ND=non-detect NTU=All water must be below 5 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) and water can only be above 1 NTU if it does not interfere with effective disinfection. ^=As required by DEP, the maximum result is reported for nitrate.

More Information

If you would like to learn more about the water that MWRA supplies, about other MWRA activities and projects, about MWRA meetings that are open to the public, or for information on lead in tap water, please visit our website at www.mwra.com. If you have any questions, please call 617-242-5323. Thanks for reading.