



# Wilkinsonville Water District

## 2023

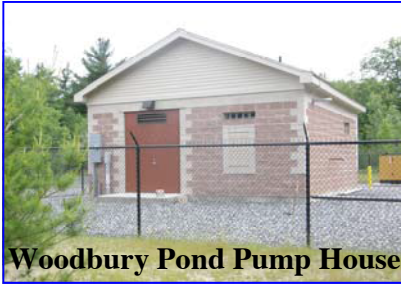
PWS ID: #2290014

# REPORT ON WATER QUALITY

This is Wilkinsonville Water District's annual report to you on water quality. The statistics in this report are based on testing done throughout 2023 and prior years. We hope you will find it helpful to know the sources of your water and the process by which safe drinking water is delivered to your home.

### Where Does My Water Come From?

Wilkinsonville receives its water from three wells. The first well is located at the end of Hatchery Road near Worcester Sand & Gravel. The other two wells are at Woodbury Pond. The well areas are reasonably removed from pollution risks and consist of gravel banks and a series of small streams. The Hatchery Road well, water pump, and treatment equipment are located within a secured well house. The pump house and two wells at Woodbury Pond are also located in a secured area.



Woodbury Pond Pump House

We remain interconnected with the Grafton Water District, located on Follette St., so that additional water can be purchased if necessary for emergencies.

### Maintaining Water Quality

Wilkinsonville Water District continuously strives to produce the highest quality water possible to meet or surpass every water quality standard. We monitor both our source and distribution system very closely. The standards we operate under were enacted by the U.S. Congress as the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974 and were amended in 1986 and 1996.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Massachusetts DEP prescribe regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants

### SHOULD SOME PEOPLE 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/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 (800) 426-4791.

### SWAP (Source Water Assessment and Protection)

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the Hatchery Rd. Well. The report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies to contamination and makes recommendations.

This report is available at the Wilkinsonville Water District office, 13A Providence Rd. in Sutton, MA, at the local Board of Health (508) 865-8724, and also at the DEP website: [www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dw](http://www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dw).

If you have any questions, please contact Shelley Gorman at (508) 865-0060.

A susceptibility ranking of **high** was assigned to this system using the information collected during the assessment by the DEP. However, this ranking was based on information that placed the Hatchery Rd. well and its 400 ft. radius (Zone 1) in a location considered inaccurate and in jeopardy of contamination from power line and sand and gravel removal activity. The report is currently under review by the DEP.

Wilkinsonville Water District is addressing the concerns as stated in the SWAP Report and welcomes your input to our planning. If you have any questions, please contact us at (508) 865-0060.

### Is My Water Treated?

Wilkinsonville's water is treated with potassium hydroxide to increase the pH of the water which reduces corrosion of household plumbing and fixtures. The flow of the potassium hydroxide is controlled and measured by state-of-the-art equipment. This equipment is inspected on a daily basis.

## Wilkinsonville Water District

*The Wilkinsonville Water District is operated and managed by WhiteWater, Inc. If you have any questions about this report, please contact :*

**Shelley Gorman, Clerk at (508) 865-0060  
or email: [wilkswater@verizon.net](mailto:wilkswater@verizon.net)  
website: [www.wilkswater.org](http://www.wilkswater.org)**

*Additional copies of this report are available upon request.*



## Distribution System Characteristics of Wilkinsonville Water System

This report summarizes only those items detected during sampling - not all contaminants that are monitored.

Bacteria	MCL / TT	MCLG	Value	Date	Violation	Possible Source of Contamination		
E.coli	MCL	0	Positive (E. coli)	12/13/2023	No	Human and animal fecal waste		
<p>*Raw water from Hatchery Well #1 tested positive for E. coli. We received a reporting violation for failure to report within 24 hrs due to a mix up with the lab. The well was taken offline and retested on 12/26/2023 and all samples were negative for E. coli.</p> <p>*Compliance with the Fecal Coliform/E.Coli MCL is determined upon additional testing.</p> <p><b>Total Coliform:</b> Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Your water source is tested monthly and has been found to be free of these contaminants.</p>								
Lead & Copper	Date(s) Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile of Sample	Action Level	MCLG	# of Sites sampled	# of Sites Above Action Level	Violation	Possible Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	9/21/23	0.001	15	0	12	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)		.040	1.3	1.3			No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Regulated Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Highest Detect Value	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Possible Source of Contamination	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	5/4/2021	0.053	0.007 - 0.053	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.	
Nitrate (ppm)	5/4/2023	1.41	1.28 - 1.41	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Perchlorate (ppb)	9/12/2023	0.13	0.050 - 0.13	2	N/A	No	Rocket propellants, fireworks, munitions, flares, blasting agents.	
Sodium (ppm)	5/4/2021	66	0 - 66	20	20	No	Natural sources, road salt.	
Regulated	Detect Result or Range	Quarterly Average	MCL	Violation	Possible Sources			Health Effects
PSAS6 (ppt)	Woodbury Well #1 & 2 Blend:0 Hatchery Well:5.90	0 5.90	20 (ppt)	No	Discharge and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials. Additional sources include the use and disposal of products containing these PFAS, such as fire-fighting foams.			Some people who drink water containing these PFAS in excess of the MCL may experience certain adverse effects. These could include effects on the liver, blood, immune system, thyroid, and fetal development. These PFAS may also elevate the risk of certain cancers.
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Radium 226+228	12/8/22	0.89 pCi/L	N/A	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Chlorine (ppm) *(Highest Quarterly Running Average)	2023	0.69	0.65 - 0.74	4	4	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMS) (ppb)	2023	14	12	80	-	No	By product of drinking water chlorination	
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5s) (ppb)	2023	1.9	4.6	60	-	No	By product of drinking water chlorination	
Unregulated Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Amount Detected or Range	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source of Contamination			
Iron (ppb)	5/5/22	ND	300	0.057 - 0.18	Naturally occurring corrosion of cast iron pipes.			
Manganese (ppb)	5/5/22	ND	50	0.012 - 0.0046	Erosion of natural deposits.			
Chloroform (ppb)	8/8/2023	3.9	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			
Bromodichloromethane	8/8/2023	4.8	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			
Bromoform	8/8/2023	1.2	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			
Dibromochloromethane	8/8/2023	3.8	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			
Dichloroacetic Acid	2023	ND	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			
Dibromoacetic Acid	2023	.95	-	-	By product of drinking water chlorination.			

## TESTING FOR LEAD

### Key to Tables

- ppm – Parts per million, corresponds to one penny in \$10,000
- ppb – Parts per billion, corresponds to one penny in \$10,000,000
- pCi/L – Picocuries per liter
- ND – Non-detect
- n/a - non applicable

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. **Wilkinsonville Water District** 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>.

### An Equal Opportunity Employer

*Wilkinsonville Water District is an equal opportunity provider. In accordance with federal law and US Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, marital or familial status. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202)720-5964 (voice of TDD). Hearing Impaired Persons Call: Mass Relay Systems, TTY (800) 439-2370, Voice (800) 439-0183*

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided last year. The statistics in this report are based on testing done throughout 2023 and prior years. We hope you will find it helpful to know the sources of your water and the process by which safe drinking water is delivered to your home.

### SOURCE WATER CHARACTERISTICS

The sources of drinking water in the United States (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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. These contaminants can also come from gasoline storage, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### Community Participation

As a Wilkinsonville Water District consumer, you are invited to participate in our monthly meetings to voice your concerns and comments about your drinking water. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Wilkinsonville Water District Office located at 13A Providence Rd., Sutton, MA.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

*Where to go for more information ....*

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 617-292-5885.  
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep>



Massachusetts Drinking Water Education Partnership  
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking>

### Cross Connection Control and Backflow Protection

A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. When the water system has a pressure drop, usually due to a leak in the system, water can sometimes siphon back into the system. An example is when homeowners fertilize their lawn with garden hose type attachments. These devices provide an avenue for the pollutant to siphon backwards into the home or the water system. Wilkinsonville Water District recommends that you install a backflow prevention device such as a hose bib vacuum breaker on all outside faucets. They can be obtained at your local plumbing or hardware store and are easy to attach. This is a great way for you to protect your home as well as the water system.



Typical HBVB