

2023 Water Quality Report
TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW, DELAWARE
201 CENTRAL AVENUE
OCEAN VIEW, DE 19970
Public Water System (PWS) ID# DE0020027
Presented JUNE 2024

This document represents the 2023 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report - CCR) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, water test results, and how the water quality compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. It represents a snapshot of last year's water quality testing results. Along with our water supplier/operator Tidewater Utilities Inc./Middlesex Water, we are committed to providing you with this information to keep you informed.

To begin, a portion of the residents of the Town of Ocean View are served by the **Town of Ocean View Municipal Water Utility**. The Town's Municipal Water Utility (**which is the focus of the water testing in this report**) is supplied by Tidewater Utilities Inc. through a Water Service Agreement. This agreement has been in place since 2007 and includes the provision of all maintenance and operations associated with the utility. Our utility is therefore a fully outsourced Municipal Water Utility. Others in Town limits also receive their water supply from Tidewater Utilities Inc. as a direct Tidewater Utility customer although the water supply is from the same source. In addition, the homes of Savannah's Landing are serviced by the Bethany Beach Water Utility. Residents and property owners in these two service areas will be advised of the availability of their annual Water Quality Report directly from these suppliers.

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 that are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have had organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk. These people should seek advice about any drinking water concerns from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate ways to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791). Please note that the water supplied to the Town of Ocean View by Tidewater Utilities Inc. **does not** currently have fluoride added. We encourage families to share this fact with your pediatricians/physicians and or dentists.

Where does my water come from?

Your water is groundwater that comes from Tidewater's **Bethany Bay Pump District**.

Source water assessment and availability:

Our source water assessment is available through: <http://delawaresourcewater.org/assessments/>.

Source Water Assessment's Summary of Our System's Susceptibility to Contamination:

Overall, the Town's water utility, including the water purchased, treated and delivered by Tidewater Utilities Inc. has a high susceptibility (vulnerability) to Nutrients, Pathogens, Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Pesticides, and Other Inorganics, a very high susceptibility for Other Organics and low susceptibility for PCB's.

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 (surface water), reservoirs (stored water), springs, and wells (groundwater). 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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the level of certain contaminants in water provided by public water

systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Pharmaceuticals.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

How can I get involved?

You can contact the Town of Ocean View at 302-539-9797 or comment@oceanviewde.gov where your questions will be responded to by the Town Manager or when necessary, upon outreach to Tidewater Utilities Inc., our outsourced water supplier and operator. Mayor and Council Meetings are held at 3 p.m. on the second Tuesday most months at our Community Center , 32 West Avenue, Ocean View, DE. Check the Town Website at www.oceanviewde.gov for meeting agenda and updates.

Additional information about 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. Tidewater Utilities, Inc. through its Water Service Agreement with the Town of Ocean View 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>.

Water Quality Data Tables:

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that Tidewater Utilities, Inc. detected during the 2023 calendar year, the focus 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 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 on the next page.

Definitions:

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)
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.
SMCL	SMCL: Suggested Maximum Contaminant Level for aesthetic contaminants.
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.
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.
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.

Tidewater Utilities Inc. Testing Results (on behalf of Town of Ocean View) for DE Secondary Drinking Water Standards (Non-Health Related):				
Contaminants	Units	State SMCL	Average	Range
Alkalinity	ppm	n/a	72	72
Chloride	ppm	250	21	21
pH	std	6.5 – 8.5	7.22	7.22
Sodium	ppm	n/a	44	44
Sulfate	ppm	250	1.5	1.5
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	500	192	192
Total Hardness	ppm	N/A	9	9

Lead and Copper	Units	MCLG	Action Level	90th Percentile	# sites over AL	Sample Date	AL Exceedance	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead	ppb	0	15	0.9	0	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.018	0	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Inorganic Chemicals	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Cyanide	ppb	200	200	129	ND - 129	2021	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.110	0.014-0.110	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	2.9	2.9- 2.9	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use.
Beryllium	ppb	4	4	0.54	0.54-0.54	2023	No	Discharge from metal refineries
Selenium	ppb	50	50	0.63	0.54 – 0.63	2023	No	Discharge from metal refineries
Radiological	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	0	15	8.8	ND-8.8	2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection By-Products	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	n/a	80	12.6	12.6 - 12.6	2023	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	n/a	60	3.4	3.4 – 3.4	2023	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	ppm	n/a	4.0	1.54	0.11-1.54	2023	No	Drinking water treatment.

This report and the tables were prepared in collaboration with the Town of Ocean View and Tidewater Utilities/Middlesex Water (who conducted and supplied the testing data to the Town).