

## REVISED AND UPDATED

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023 Village of South Blooming Grove Consolidated Water District PO Box 295 Blooming Grove, NY 10914 (Public Water Supply ID NY3510641)

## INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Village of South Blooming Grove Consolidated Water District issues an annual water report describing the quality of our drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise the Consumer's understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Included in this report are details about where our water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or questions concerning your drinking water, please contact our Village Water Department at (845) 782-2600 or the Orange County Health Department at (845) 291-2331. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Village Board meetings. The meetings are held the second and fourth Monday at 7:00 pm, at the South Blooming Grove Village Hall at 811 State Route 208, Blooming Grove, New York 10914. The U.S.E.P.A. drinking water website ([www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)) also provides additional information regarding drinking water.

## WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The water supply to the Consolidated Water District of the Village of South Blooming Grove is provided through a series of drilled bedrock wells. These groundwater sources draw water from the surrounding aquifers. The consolidated district consists of two separate service areas (previously known as the Worley Heights Water District #1 and Merriewold Water District #6). Each area is served by a wellfield, as is described in further detail below.

### Worley Heights Wellfield (Previously WATER DISTRICT 1)

This service area is supplied groundwater by four (4) wells. Well #7 is 600' deep bedrock well located in the Rolling Hills Condominium complex ball field area. Well #9 is 365' deep bedrock well. The Orange and Rockland Well is located across from the O&R complex along State Route 208 and is a 375' deep bedrock well. In 2020, the Village has been granted access to the Palamar well which is located off Peddler Hill Road. We have stopped using Palamar well in December 2022.

All groundwater from the Worley Heights wells are treated with chlorine for disinfection and virus inactivation prior to distribution. The Orange and Rockland Well is also equipped with a filtration system, which removes Iron and Manganese.

### Merriewold Wellfield (Previously WATER DISTRICT 6)

This service area includes three (3) bedrock wells, including Well #3 at 525', Well #4 at 425' in depth, and Well #5 at 530 feet. The well field is located along State Route 208 near Mangin Road.

All groundwater from the Merriewold wells are treated with chlorine for disinfection and virus inactivation prior to distribution, then filtered through green sand filters.

In 2023, the Village of South Blooming Grove received a WIIA Grant from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for the improvements to the find new well sources, development, and replace water mains.

## ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In general, 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

As the state regulations require, we routinely test our drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: ECOLI, total coliform, methylcarbamate pesticides, inorganic compounds, nitrate, volatile organic compounds, PCB's, herbicide organics and pesticide/PCB organic compounds. The table presented on the following page depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. For this reason, some of our data, though represented, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Orange County Health Department at (845) 291-2331.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SWAP) SUMMARY

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See "Table of Detected Contaminants" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

Our water is derived from six drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of a SPDES permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) low-level residential activity and the transportation route that are located in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from a confined aquifer with the estimated recharge area within the selected time of travel and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting Village of South Blooming Grove, as noted in this report.

## 2023 Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	No	08/10/20 09/15/20 2/7/22	0.016 0.150 .075-.095	mg/l	2	MCL = 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel	No	8/10/20 2/27/22	3.5 3.1-6.1	ug/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Sodium (See Note 1)	No	11/16/22	62	mg/l	N/A	See Note 1	Road Salt
Sulfate	No	08/10/20 09/15/20	24 20	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Copper (See Note 2)	No	9/19/23	0.178 Range=(0.03-0.48)	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (See Note 3)	No	09/19/23	5.01 Range ND - 5.45	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Coliform <sup>6</sup>	No	9/20/2023	1 Positive	N/A	0	TT = 2 or more positive samples per month	Naturally present in the environment
Nitrate	No	4/11/23	Range 0.127-0.157	mg/l	10	MCL=10	Run-off from fertilizer use
Combined uranium	no	4/26/23	ND-3.55	Ug/l	30	30	Erosion of natural deposits

**Notes:**

1 - Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets

2 – The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In September 2023, ten samples were collected 10 samples and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. The action level was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In September 2023, ten samples were collected 10 samples and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. The action level was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

4 - The required repeats samples were collected based on this positive sample, all repeat samples were negative for coliform; therefore, this positive sample was never confirmed.

## DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant level Goal (MRDLG): 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 contamination.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

Micrograms per liter (ug/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l): A measure of radioactivity in water.

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected. 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 your drinking water meets health standards.

Past results has shown detections of Iron and Manganese. Please note Health Effects language for Iron and Manganese below.

Iron is essential for good health, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. For example, oral exposure to large amounts of iron can cause effects on the stomach and intestines (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, and stomach pain). These effects occur at iron exposure levels higher than typically found in drinking water, and usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small percentage of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron in the body (sometimes called "iron overload") and should be aware of their overall iron intake. The New York State standard for iron in drinking water 0.3 milligrams per liter and is based on the effects of iron on the taste, odor, and appearance of the water.

Manganese is an essential nutrient that is necessary to maintain good health. However, exposure to too much manganese can cause adverse health effects. There is some evidence from human studies that long-term exposure to manganese in drinking water is associated with nervous system effects in adults (e.g., weakness, stiff muscles and trembling of the hands) and children (learning and behavior). The results of these studies only suggest an effect because the possible influences of other factors were not adequately assessed. There is supporting evidence that manganese causes nervous system effects in humans from occupational studies of workers exposed to high levels of manganese in air, but the relevance of these studies to long term drinking water exposure is less clear because the exposures were quite elevated and by inhalation, not by ingestion.

Our system was required to test for lead and copper in 2023. As noted in the table, ten (10) samples were collected. Lead was detected in four samples and copper was detected in ten samples but, all the detections were below the New York State requirement. 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. Village of South Blooming Grove Consolidated Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, please contact our Village Water Department at (845) 782-2600 . Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

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 your drinking water meets health standards.

During 2023, we failed to collect samples for Principal Organic Chemicals from all of our treatment plants, we failed to collect Principal Inorganic Chemicals from our O & R water treatment plant, and we failed to collect Sodium from our O & R water treatment plant.

Our water system also received a violation for failure to provide certification of delivery of the 2022 Annual Water Quality Report to our consumers.

We are currently in violation for not having enough approved sources that meet the maximum daily demand with the largest well out of service.

## DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease-causing microorganisms or pathogens 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 for infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Due to fluctuations in demand, the Water District has experienced issues in consistently maintaining an adequate supply. This has been due to a combination of increased demand and water main breaks. Due to these fluctuations, the Village has enacted water usage restrictions. Additionally, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions and ensuring that essential fire fighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, and watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- ◆ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then
- ◆ check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have questions.

H2o Innovations was pleased to work and serve the community of South Blooming Grove!