2024 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

for

Kenwood Water District
Dracut, Massachusetts

PWS ID 3079001

This report is a snapshot of the drinking water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

Address**:** Town Hall, 62 Arlington Street, Dracut, MA 01826

Contact Person: Joseph Cloutier, Superintendent

Telephone #: (978) 957-0371 Email: kenwoodwater@dracutma.gov

Internet Address: https://www.dracutma.gov/221/Kenwood-Water

Our water system is routinely inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP inspects our system for its technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water to you.

To ensure that we provide the highest quality of water available, your water system is operated by a Massachusetts certified operator who oversees the routine operations and maintenance (O&M) of our system. As part of our ongoing commitment to you, last year we made the following improvements to our system:

YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

Your water is provided by the following sources listed below:

The Kenwood Water District is a consecutive municipal water system to the Lowell Regional Water Utility (PWS ID# 3160000) and the Methuen Water Department (PWS ID# 3181000). Being a consecutive water system means we are a distribution system only; we do not have our own water source, nor do we treat the water we purchase. We purchase water from Lowell and Methuen, who treat and purify the water, and supply it to our customers who are all located in the eastern portion of Dracut.

Both Lowell and Methuen's source of water is the Merrimack River (a surface water source) which originates in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Customers in the eastern and northern portions of the Kenwood Water District receive water from Methuen, while the rest of our customers receive water from Lowell. The Lowell and Methuen 2024 Annual Water Quality Reports can be downloaded from the following websites, respectively: https://www.lowellma.gov/645/Water-Utility and https://www.cityofmethuen.net/Archive.aspx?AMID=45.

Kenwood Water District's distribution system is composed of water mains, service lines, pumping stations, metering stations, gates, and valves.

SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

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 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 stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants -which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. Kenwood 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.

IMPORTANT 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 using the best available treatment technology.

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.

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

90th Percentile – Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG) – This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) -- The highest level of a disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) 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 (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) below which there is no known expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Level 1 Assessment - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ND = Not Detected
N/A = Not Applicable

WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

What Does This Data Represent?

The water quality information presented in the table is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown was collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted.

	Date(s) Collected	90TH percentile	Action Level	MCLG	# of sites sampled	# of sites above Action Level	Possible Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	September 2024	2.0	15	0	**20**	**0**	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	September 2024	0.093	1.3	1.3	**20**	**0**	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	Quarterly in 2024	54.2	13.8-54.2	80	N/A	**N**	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	Quarterly in 2024	24.9	7.2-24.9	60	N/A	**N**	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine, free (ppm)	Monthly in 2024	0.51	0.17-0.51	4	4	**N**	Water additive used to control microbes

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Sensitive Populations – 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 some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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. The Arbor Glen Condominiums public water system 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.

Copper – Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount 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 or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

COMPLIANCE WITH DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

Does My Drinking Water Meet Current Health Standards?

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. However, some contaminants that were tested last year did not meet all applicable health standards regulated by the state and federal government.

During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 Assessment, for repeat instances of Total Coliform Bacteria in the water. The Level 1 Assessment was completed in September 2024. In addition, we were required to conduct hydrant flushing, which was also completed in September 2024.

Total Coliform Bacteria are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify any problems that were found during these assessments.

Public Notice is provided below to detail a monitoring and reporting violations for failure to collect and analyze samples for Tetrachloroethylene during the fourth quarter of 2024.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Tetrachloroethylene
Public Notification for Enforcement No. 00019794

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

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 our drinking water meets health standards. During the fourth quarter of 2024 we did not monitor for tetrachloroethylene and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for tetrachloroethylene and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Tetrachloroethylene	Four samples during Quarter 4 of 2024	0	October – December 2024	January 2025

What happened? What is being done?

Four samples for tetrachloroethylene were collected on January 14, 2025, and were found to be free of tetrachloroethylene.

For more information, please contact Joseph Cloutier, Superintendent, at (978) 957-0371 or kenwoodwater@dracutma.gov.

> *Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by Kenwood Water District, PWS ID 3079001
Date distributed: June 30, 2025

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please Help Us Conserve Water
Household water conservation not only saves water, but it saves energy too; energy needed to heat water and to run appliances.

- Check all faucets for leaks; even a slow drip can waste up to 20 gallons of water in a day!
- Check for toilet leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the toilet's tank. An "invisible" leak in the toilet wastes up to 100 gallons in a day.
- Only run full loads through your washing machine and dishwasher.
- Do your outdoor watering early or late, not in the midday heat, and make sure you aren't watering sidewalks or driveways.

Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

The Arbor Glen Condominiums public water system makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your residence is clean, safe and free of contamination. We work very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to you from the time the water is extracted from underground throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home? There is still a need to protect the water from contamination caused by a cross connection.

What is a cross connection?
A cross connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross connections exist in piping arrangements or equipment that allows the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids or gases (hazardous to humans) in the event of a backflow.

What is backflow?
Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. The backward flow of water can occur when pressure created by equipment or a system, such as a boiler or air conditioning system, is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution lines (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution lines drops due to occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand, causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (backsiphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of, and every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent them.

What can you do to help prevent a cross connection?
Without the proper protection, something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your home. In fact, over half of the country's cross connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses. There are very simple steps that you, as a drinking water user, can take to prevent such hazards:

- Never submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pools, tubs, sinks, drains or containers of chemicals.
- Never attach a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bib vacuum breaker for all inside and outside hose connections. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home improvement centers.
- Buy water-connected appliances and equipment equipped with a backflow preventer.

For additional information on cross connections and on the status of your water system's cross connection program, please contact Andrew Parkington at (508) 989-7082.