

BAILEYVILLE UTILITIES DISTRICT
P. O. Box 40, Baileyville, Maine 04694
(207) 427-3328

PWSID ME0090100

2024 ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires all community water systems to distribute an annual water quality report to its customers. This is the 2024 annual water quality report of the Baileyville Utilities District, which covers the period from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. This annual report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water. We know that you count on the Baileyville Utilities District for a safe and reliable supply of water everyday, and we are committed to providing the highest quality of service to you. **There were no violations in 2024.**

WATER QUALITY

The Safe Drinking Water Act mandates that the State of Maine, along with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), establish and enforce minimum drinking water quality standards. These standards set limits on certain biological, radioactive, organic, and inorganic substances sometimes found in drinking water. The limits set on these substances are known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's). Two types of standards have been established. Primary Standards set required levels of drinking water quality to protect your health. Secondary Standards provide guidelines regarding the taste, odor, color, and other aesthetic aspects of your drinking water, which do not present a health risk. The District's water quality is within the levels established by EPA and the State of Maine for all Primary Standards.

Responsibility for maintaining water quality resides with the Baileyville Utility District's staff. The operators are licensed by the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services. We ensure that your water is safe through regular total coliform testing and chlorine residual monitoring. These tests are conducted by the Maine State Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory, certified private laboratories, and the Baileyville Utilities District.

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 the water poses a human health risk. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (1) microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage or wildlife; (2) inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, or farming; (3) pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses; (4) organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which can come from gas stations, runoff, and septic systems and (5) radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring. 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 (1-800-426-4791) or online at: <https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports>

Table 1 lists regulated testing conducted by the Baileyville Utilities District for which results were obtained in 2024. The most recent result is also included for contaminants, which are not tested annually. All other tested and regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels. This testing is required by the State of Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) and must be reported to all customers on an annual basis.

WAIVERS

No waivers were issued to the Baileyville Utilities District for 2024.

TABLE 1: 2024 REQUIRED BAILEYVILLE UTILITIES DISTRICT TESTING RESULTS

CONTAMINANT	DATE	BAILEYVILLE RESULTS	EPA LIMIT	EPA GOAL	SOURCE
MICROBIOLOGICAL					
Total Coliform (1)	Monthly Testing (2 per month)	0 Positive Results	1 Positive Result	0 Positive Results	Naturally present in the environment.
INORGANICS					
Barium	4/26/2023	2.3 ppb	2,000 ppb	2,000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (2)	Monthly	0.70 ppm (0.55 to 0.80 ppm)	4 ppm	4 ppm	Drinking water additive.
Copper 90 th Percent Value (3)	Summer 2023	0.326 ppm (0.08 to 0.15 ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Number of Copper samples exceeding the Action Level: 0.					
Lead 90 th Percent Value (3)	Summer 2023	3.68 ppb (0 to 3.68 ppb)	15 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Number of Lead samples exceeding the Action Level: 0.					
RADIONUCLIDES					
Combined Radium	7/12/2021	1.32 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-226	7/12/2021	0.198 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-228	7/12/2021	1.12 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
SYNTHETICS					
PFAS (4)	3/22/2022	0 ppt	20 ppt	-	Household products, fabrics, cookware and cleaners.
DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS					
Total Trihalomethanes (5)	8/19/2024	6.1 ppb	80 ppb	0 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine Residual	Monthly with Bacteria	0.14 ppm (0.03-0.22 ppm)	4.0 ppm	4 ppm	Drinking water chlorination.

Definitions:

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- 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 contaminants.

Units:

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pos = positive samples pCi/L = picocuries per liter (pCi/L) ppt = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

Notes:

- 1) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest quarterly number of positive samples.
- 2) Fluoride: Fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm, for those water systems that fluoridate the water. Baileyville fluoridates its water.
- 3) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level. Complete lead tap sampling data are available upon request.
- 4) PFAS: The degree of risk depends on the level of chemicals and duration of exposure. Lab studies of animals exposed to high doses of PFAS have shown numerous negative health effects such as issues with reproduction, growth and development, thyroid function, immune system, neurology, as well as injury to the liver. Research is still relatively new, and more needs to be done to fully assess exposure effects on the human body.
- 5) THM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (THM and HAA5) are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on running annual average.

The data presented in Table 1 demonstrates that the Baileyville Utilities District has been in complete compliance with the requirements for bacteria sampling and has not experienced any positive results for Total Coliform. Total Coliform is used as an indicator parameter for water supply bacterial contamination. This data also shows that the District is in compliance with Arsenic, Barium, Fluoride, Radium and Disinfectants. The District tests every three years for lead and copper at ten homes during each sampling event. Copper testing in 2023 was in complete compliance with a result of 0.326 ppm as compared to the EPA limitation of 1.3 ppm. The lead sampling in 2023 was also in compliance with a result of 3.68 ppb versus an EPA standard of 15 ppb. The next round of lead and copper testing is scheduled to be conducted in 2026.

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 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>

WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT/DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

The District obtains water from two sand and gravel groundwater wells located on Grand Falls Road. The District provided water service to about 750 connected customers in 2024. The District supplied an average of 542,000 gallons of water per day or 198 million gallons of potable water to customers in 2024 through about 21 miles of pipe. The District has a 1,000,000-gallon concrete storage tank off of Yankee Wood Lot Road that can supply water for up to several days during average water use to the community. This water storage tank also is used for peak flow fluctuations in the system during periods of hydrant flushing and for fire protection purposes. The District maintains fire protection through hydrants located throughout the Town. Prior to distribution, the District adds sodium hypochlorite for disinfection, fluoride for dental considerations and a sequestering agent for control of calcium scale deposits. There are 107 hydrants in the system.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

The District developed a Well Head Protection Plan to help prevent source contamination and owns approximately 700 acres around the wells.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The sources of drinking water can include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity. The DWP has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at the DWP. For more information about the SWAP, please contact the DWP at 287-2070.

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

On October 16, 2024, the Utilities District completed the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) as required by the Lead and Copper Rule. The entire Baileyville Utilities District LSLI spreadsheet is available for downloading and review on the Town website at the following link:

<https://baileyvilleutilitiesdistrict.org/Baileyville%20lead%20service%20Inventory%2010-17.xlsx>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024/FUTURE PROJECTS

In 2024, a new generator was installed at the Utility office to ensure the automatic control system will function during power outages. Beginning in 2024 with completion expected this year, about 3,300 feet of undersized and old water main along Palm Street is being replaced with new cement-lined ductile iron pipe paid for with DWP and EPA grant funds.

CONTACT INFORMATION

This report is a summary of the Baileyville Utility District's activities during the past year. If you have any questions about your water quality, the information contained in this report, or your water service in general, please call the Utility District at (207) 427-3328. You may also direct questions or concerns to the DWP at (207) 287-2070 or the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Visit us online at: www.baileyvilleutilitiesdistrict.org Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM at the District office located at 32 Main Street. Members of the public are welcome to attend.