2025 Water Quality Report
South Freeport Water District

PWSID# 0091480

The South Freeport Water District is pleased to present a summary of the quality of the water provided to you during the past year. This report is consistent with the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, to report annually the details of where your water comes from, what it contains, and the risks that our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent.

The South Freeport Water District trustees meet annually. For scheduled meeting information, please contact the South Freeport Water District or the Freeport Town Office.

Federal law allows water providers to make the annual water quality reports available online. Paper copies can be mailed to customers who request it. We will notify customers through our notification system, bill inserts, news releases, our website and social media any time a new water quality report has been posted to our website. If you have any questions about this report, please call us at 1-800-287-1643 or email customerservice@mainewater.com.

***Sources of Supply & Treatment**: The South Freeport Water District uses a ground water supply from one well. Sodium silicate, a corrosion inhibitor, and pH control are used to combat corrosion in the distribution system. Fluoride is added to promote dental health. Two interconnections, one with Maine Water Company and the other with Yarmouth Water District, exist to provide emergency assistance in the event of major problems. Certified operators ensure the quality of the water and that all primary and secondary drinking water regulations are met.*

Sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds and wells. As water flows on the surface of the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive material, and can also accumulate substances resulting from human and animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (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 being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at town offices, public water supplies and the DWP (207.287.2070).

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, or wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring, or can be the results of oil or gas production or mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is acceptable for drinking, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 at EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline website https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline.

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 website https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports.

Protecting Water Sources

Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes, or underground aquifers that is used to supply public drinking water. Preventing drinking water contamination at the source makes good public health sense, good economic sense, and good environmental sense. Most contaminates enter rivers, lakes and reservoirs from storm water runoff of streets, parking lots, golf courses, athletic fields, construction sites, farms and residential neighborhoods. You can be aware of the challenges of keeping drinking water safe and take an active role in protecting drinking water.

There are many ways that you can get involved in drinking water protection activities to prevent the contamination of groundwater and surface water sources:

- Restrict the use of lawn chemicals, especially before heavy rains.
- Dispose of pet or animal waste properly so that it does not wash into a nearby stream or storm drain.
- Inspect septic tanks every two years, and clean as needed. Make septic system repairs as soon as possible.
- Do not pour used motor oil on the ground or into storm drains. Contact your town for proper disposal of household chemicals.
- Report muddy runoff from construction sites to your town's zoning or wetland officials.

Educational Information on Lead & Copper

We believe it is important to provide you with information about the sources of lead and copper in drinking water and the health effects associated with them.

Our system completed a Lead Service Line Inventory as required by the Revised Lead and Copper Rule. It is publicly accessible at this location: https://maps.ctwater.com/portal/apps/sites/#/mwc-service-line-inventory

What is Lead?

Major Sources in Drinking Water: Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Health Effects Statement: 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. Your public water system 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, contact your public water system. 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

Unregulated Contaminants: PFAS in Water Sources

PFAS (Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a large group of man-made chemicals that have been manufactured and used around the world since the 1940s for many industrial and consumer purposes including the coating of fabrics, nonstick cookware, food packaging, and firefighting foam.

These chemicals can accumulate over time and have been found in both the environment and the human body. They do not break down easily in the environment or the human body and are sometimes called "forever chemicals".

Of these chemicals, the most extensively produced and studied have been PFOA and PFOS.

At this time, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and states across the country are working to develop appropriate standards for these chemicals in drinking water. In 2021, the State of Maine passed LD 129 mandating that Public Water Systems test the treated drinking water for PFAS in 2022.

To see the document copy this link to your browser

Sources of Supply & Treatment: Two wells located in an underground sand and gravel aquifer serve as the water supply for the Fryeburg water system. We use chlorine for disinfection, add fluoride to promote dental health, and adjust pH to reduce corrosion in the pipe system. Certified operators ensure the quality of the water we produce.

The Water Disrict is in full compliance with Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water standards and the guidelines for risk assessment of all water sources and systems as well as all the monitoring and testing requirements under the Unregulated Contaminate Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to date.

Water Quality Data

The following table lists the contaminant levels that were detected in your water system. The Safe Drinking Water Act allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. The Safe Drinking Water Act also allows monitoring waivers to reduce or eliminate certain monitoring requirements.

Microbiological Contaminants: South Freeport Water District is required to collect 1 distribution sample each month for Total coliform and E.coli A total of 16 samples were collected in 2025. In 2025, 1 of the 16 distribution system samples tested positive for Total coliform bacteria. This sample was collected in October. The location and surrounding areas were resampled, and all results were negative for Total coliform bacteria. E.coli was not detected in any of the samples. The interconnection with MW Freeport water system was opened to introduce chlorine disinfection into the system to control the bacterial contamination. Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator of disinfection effectiveness.

Violations: No violations in 2025.

Waiver Information: We completed all Synthetic Organic Compounds testing in 2025.

Please share this information with anyone who drinks this water (or their guardians), especially those who may not have received this report directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this report in a public place or distributing copies by hand, mail, email, or another method.

National Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

Legally enforceable primary standards and treatment techniques that apply to public water systems

MICROBIOLOGICAL

A total of 16 Total coliform / E.coli samples were collected in 2025.

Analyte	Test Date	Violation Y/N	Detection Value	Range of Detections	Federal/ State Standard MCL	Federal/ State Standard MCLG	Typical Source
Total Coliforms	2025	N	1 positive sample	NA	1 pos/month	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. Coli	2025	N	0	NA	See below	0	

Any routine samples that show the presence of Total coliform triggers repeat samples that must be analyzed for Total coliform and E.coli bacteria. If E.coli is found in any repeat sample, the system is in violation of the MCL.

Coliforms 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. Any routine sample that shows the presence of total coliform triggers repeat samples that must be analyzed for total coliform and E. coli. If E. coli is found in any repeat sample, the system is in violation of the MCL. On October 14, Total coliforms were detected in 1 routine sample, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution and to correct any issues that were found during these assessments. The location and surrounding locations were tested and none of the samples detected Total coliform. The area was flushed with Freeport chlorinated water and no violation occurred.

INORGANICs and RADIONUCLIDES

Analyte	Test Date	Violation Y/N	Detection Value	Range of Detection	Federal/State Standard		Major Sources in Drinking Water
					MCL/ MRDL	MCLG/ MRDLG	
Barium, ppm	6/21/2023	N	0.0054	NA	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride, ppm	12/8/2025	N	0.82	0.42-0.82	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate, ppm	4/9/2025	N	0.6	NA	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching of septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Results Samples are from consumers' taps. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level for rule compliance.								
Lead and Copper	Test Date	90th Percentile	Range of Detections	Total Number of Samples	Samples Exceeding Action Level	Federal/State Action Level	MCLG	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper, ppm	6/23-8/8 2023	0.0527	0.0162-0.132	10	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead, ppm	6/23-8/8 2023	0	0-1.4	10	0	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing

The table above provides information on the levels of lead and copper detected in your drinking water system. For general information on lead and copper, please refer to the Educational Information about Lead and Copper section of this document. Complete lead tap sampling data available upon request.

Our system completed a Lead Service Line Inventory as required by the Revised Lead and Copper Rule. It is publicly accessible at this location: https://maps.ctwater.com/portal/apps/sites/#/mwc-service-line-inventory

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.

National Secondary Drinking Water Contaminants

Non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

Parameter	Test Results	Secondary MCL	Noticeable effects above MCL
Chloride, ppm	28	250	Salty taste
Sodium, ppm	30.6	No limit	Salty taste
Iron, ppm	<0.01	0.3	Rust color; sediment; metallic taste; reddish orange staining
pH	7.46	6.5-8	Neutral = 7
Manganese, ppm	<0.001	0.05	Black to brown color; black staining; bitter taste
Hardness, ppm	47.2 Soft	No limit	Soft; Scaly residues; soaps that don't lather

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminants that are suspected of being present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)

Per & Poly - fluoroalkyl Substances					
Parameter	Sampling Point	Test Results	State MCL	State MCLG	Sources in Drinking Water
Per & Poly - fluoroalkyl Substances (6 PFAS) (ppt)	Treated Water	4.55	20	0	By-product of industrial process and consumer products such as Stain and water-resistant fabrics, carpeting, non-stick cookware, cleaning and paint products, Class B firefighting foam.

PFAS are not regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and therefore have no federally-established Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) that would require action such as treatment to remove these compounds from drinking water. EPA has established a Health Advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt), combined, for two PFAS compounds: perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS).

PFOA and PFOS are fluorinated organic chemicals that are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. They have been used to make carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and other materials (e.g., cookware) that are resistant to water, grease or stains. They are also used for firefighting at airfields and in several industrial processes.

To provide Americans, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from a lifetime of exposure to PFOA and PFOS from drinking water, EPA established the health advisory levels at 70 parts per trillion. The EPA's health advisories are based on the best available peer-reviewed studies of the effects of PFOA and PFOS on laboratory animals (rats and mice) and were also informed by epidemiological studies of human populations that have been exposed to PFASs.

Notes:

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

Arsenic: While your drinking water may meet EPA's standard for Arsenic, if it contains between 5 to 10 ppb you should know that the standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing it from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Quarterly compliance is based on running annual average.

E. coli: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated by human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Fluoride: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 -1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.

Gross Alpha: Action levels over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action levels over 15 piCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.

Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Some levels are based on a running annual average.

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 contaminants.

MFL: million fibers per liter.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health provider.

PFAS: The degree of risk depends on the level of chemicals and duration of exposure. Laboratory studies of animals exposed to high degree of PFAS have shown numerous negative 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.

Picocuries/Liter, pCi/L: A unit of concentration for radioactive contaminants.

pos: positive sample.

ppb: A unit of concentration equal to one part per billion. Equal to micrograms per liter (ug/L).

ppm: A unit of concentration equal to one part per million. Equal to milligrams per liter (mg/L).

ppt: A unit of concentration equal to one part per trillion. Equal to nanograms per liter (ng/L).

PWSID: Public water supply identification number.

Radon: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for Radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/2007. If Radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for Radon.

Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Non-mandatory water quality standards

TTHM and HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are formed as a byproduct of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on LRAA.

Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take < 40 samples per month.

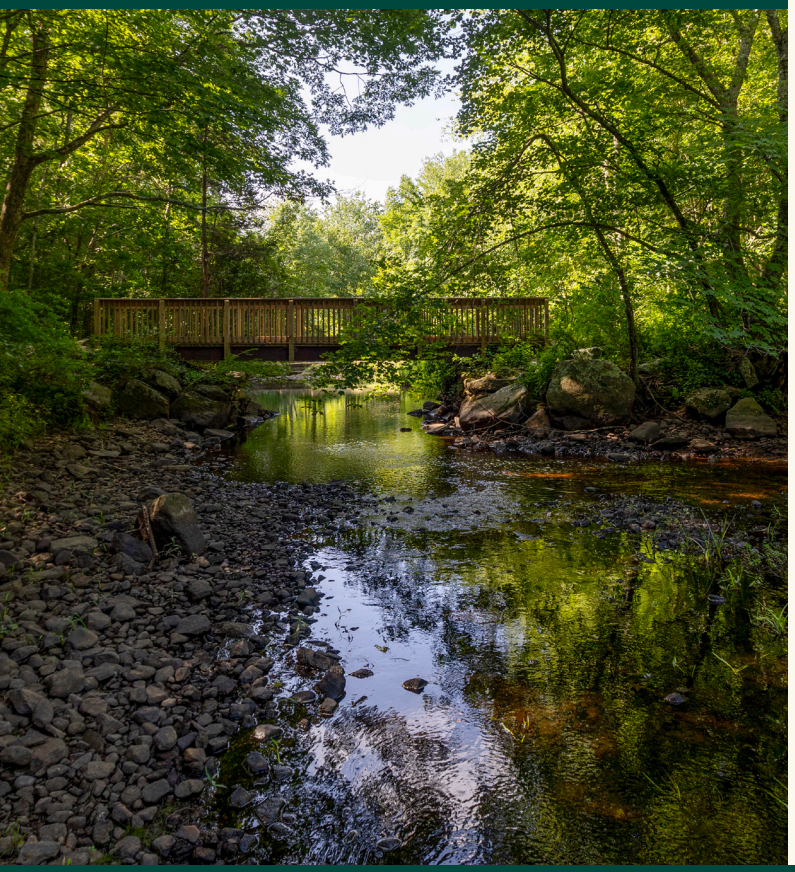
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water.

Turbidity: Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers' plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. This water is disinfected using chlorine, but it is not necessarily sterile. Customers' plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes), should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791

Water Conservation

Conserving water helps ensure that we have an adequate supply of water for public health and safety and reduces demands on the state's water resources. A typical household uses 15,000 gallons of water per quarter, or 60,000 gallons a year. YOU can play a role in conserving water by being conscious about the amount of water your household is using.



Here are some ways to conserve.

Repair leaky toilets

Check for leaks by putting food coloring in the tank. If the food coloring seeps into the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.

Potential Savings: 73,000 gallons/year.

Consider a low flow toilet

Modern toilets use just 1.6 gallons per flush, versus older models using 3.5 gallons per flush.

Potential Savings: 15,000 gallons/year.

Water early, not often

Lawns develop short root systems when watered every day. Water once or twice a week in the morning to maximize root health and avoid water loss from evaporation.

Potential Savings: 6,750 gallons per watering day avoided for every .25 acres of lawn.

Run full loads in the washer & dishwasher

Full loads of laundry and dishes save water and energy.

Potential Savings: 3,400 gallons/year.

Turn off the tap

Running water during toothbrushing and washing dishes adds up. Turn off the tap when you don't need the water.

Potential Savings: 3,000 gallons/year through toothbrushing alone.

Cover up - your pool

Pool covers not only keep out leaves and debris, they reduce up to 95% of evaporation.

Potential Savings: 20,000+ gallons/year.