Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2026
with 2025 Data

Kittery Water District

17 State Rd., Kittery, ME 03904

The Kittery Water District's Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID) is ME0090790.

MISSION STATEMENT

Kittery Water District's mission is to supply clean, safe, and healthy water for our residential, commercial, and governmental customers and for fire protection. We do this using best practices of water system construction and maintenance, water treatment, and watershed management.

Source Information

The District treats water from four man-made ponds in the town of York, Maine: Boulter Pond, Middle Pond, Folly Pond and Bell Marsh Reservoir. The watershed for these ponds has been tested for potentially harmful pathogens such as cryptosporidium, giardia, and E-Coli. None were detected. Our source water protection program prohibits all but passive recreation around the reservoirs. Frequent watershed protection patrols assure compliance with our watershed protection policies.

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, radioactive material, and substances resulting from human or animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program assessed public water supplies statewide in 2003 as part of the Source Water Assessment Program. The assessment considered geology and hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or local ordinance protection to determine how likely the drinking water source is to be contaminated in the future. This evaluation reflected positively on the District's watershed. The assessment is available to the public upon request. For more information, contact the Drinking Water Program at 207-287-2070.

The District's water treatment facility is located on New Boston Rd, at Boulter Pond in York. The filtration process includes the addition of alum and hydrated lime to coagulate organic materials in the raw water. Sodium permanganate is added to oxidize iron and manganese. As water passes through a sedimentation process, organic materials settle out. Water is filtered as it passes through a bed of washed, filtering sand. After filtering, the water is treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection. Hydrated lime is added to adjust water pH. Prior to leaving the plant, a corrosion control chemical, trade name AQUA MAG 9600, is added to reduce distribution system pipe corrosion.

Important Information:

Lead and Copper

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

Our system submitted a Lead Service Line Inventory that was approved by Maine Drinking Water Program as required by the Revised Lead and Copper Rule. It is publicly accessible at this location: Kittery Water District Office, 17 State Road, Kittery, ME 03904

MCLs

Maximum Contaminant Levels are set at very stringent levels. A person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level over the course of a lifetime to have a one-in-ten thousand chance of acquiring any adverse health effect.

Health Information

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. 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban runoff, and septic systems.

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

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 at the following link: https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports

2025 Water Quality Results

CONTAMINANT:	LEVEL MEASURED:	VIOLATION:	MCLG:	MCL:	LIKELY SOURCE:
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA[9] (2025)	1 positive (Sept 2025)	No	0	1 positive per month or 5%	Naturally present in the environment.
TURBIDITY (10/2025)	0.18 NTU ***Lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting turbidity limit 100%***	No	NA	0.3 NTU 95% 5 NTU 100%	Soil erosion; suspended materials.
BARIUM (6/2025)	< 0.010 ppm	No	2 ppm	2 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
CUTTS ROAD TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	27.6 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 16 – 38 ppb)	No	0	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
CUTTS ROAD TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	20.8 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 10 – 30.6 ppb)	No	0	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
ELIOT TANK TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	37.9 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 13.2 – 72.4 ppb)	No	0	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
ELIOT TANK TOTAL TRI HALOMETHANES	47.9 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 29 – 68.4 ppb)	No	0	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
MARTIN ROAD TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	46.8 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 28 – 59.8 ppb)	No	0	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
MARTIN ROAD TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	49.6 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 30 – 64.1 ppb)	No	0	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
ROUTE 1, YORK TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	45.9 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 23 – 67.5 ppb)	No	0	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
ROUTE 1, YORK TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	41.2 ppb (LRAA) (Range: 26 – 57.7 ppb)	No	0	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
CHLORINE (2025)	Average - 1.21 ppm (Range: .5 – 1.9 ppm)	No	4.0 ppm (MRDL)	4 ppm (MRDLG)	Water additive to control microbes.
NITRATE / NITROGEN (6/2025)	< 1.0 ppm	No	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.
MERCURY (6/2025)	1.5 ppb	No	2 ppb	2 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from refineries and factories. Runoff from landfills. Runoff from crop land
LEAD (1/1/2023 – 12/31/2025) Complete lead tap sampling data are available upon request	90th Percentile = 2 ppb Range (0 – 9 ppb) 0 sites above AL (36 sites sampled)	No	0	AL=15 ppb (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
COPPER (1/1/2023 – 12/31/2025)	90th Percentile = 0.06 ppm Range (0 – 0.095 ppm) 0 sites above AL (36 sites sampled)	No	1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Units:

ppm (Parts per Million): unit of measure; mg/L
ppb (Parts per Billion): unit of measure; µg/L
ppt (Parts per Trillion): unit of measure; or nanograms per liter ng/L
NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
MFL: Million fibers per liter
pos: positive samples

2025 TEST RESULTS FOR SECONDARY STANDARDS

	Maximum Level Detected	SMCL
Manganese	<.01 ppm	.050 ppm
Iron	<.100 ppm	.3 ppm
Sodium	5.8 ppm	N/A
Sulfate	15 ppm	250 ppm
Magnesium	.716 ppm	N/A

Definitions:

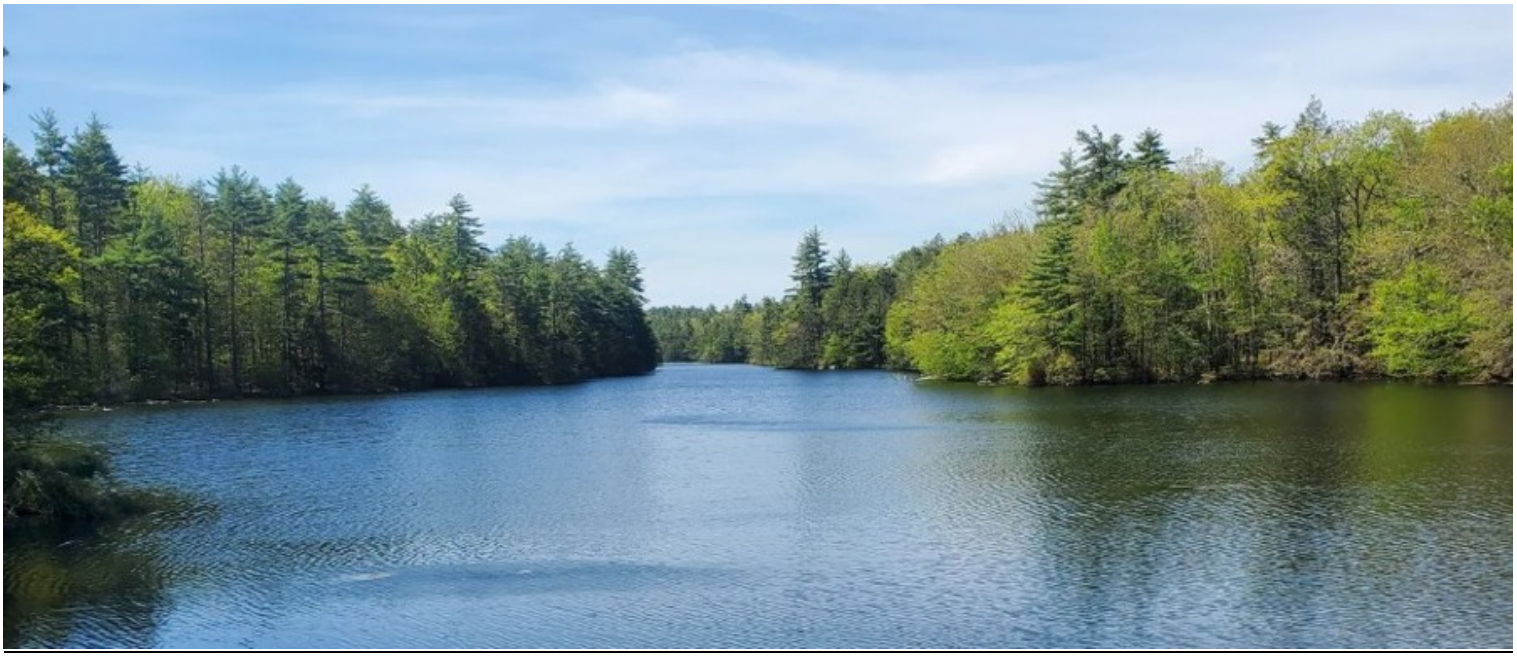
Primary Standards: Water quality standards designed to protect health
Secondary Standards: Water quality standards relating to the aesthetic qualities like taste, odor, and color that do not present a health risk
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
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 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.
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.
Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12-month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at all locations. Calculation of RAA may contain data from previous years.
Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Non-mandatory water quality standards.
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water
Level 1 Assessment (L1A): The RTCR requires public water systems that have an indication of Total Coliform bacteria contamination (TC+ samples, E. coli MCL violations, performance failure) to assess the problem and take action. L1A is triggered by 2 or more TC+ routine/repeat samples in the same month or for systems collecting 40 or more samples each month: greater than 5% of routine/repeat samples positive; and failure to take required repeat sample(s) after any single TC+
Level 2 Assessment (L2A): The RTCR requires public water systems that have an indication of Total Coliform bacteria contamination (TC+ samples, E. coli MCL violations, performance failure) to assess the problem and take action. L2A is triggered by E. coli MCL violation; and second trigger of a Level 1 Assessment within a rolling 12-month period
Variances: The commissioner may grant one or more variances from an applicable state primary drinking water regulation to a public water system if the variance will not result in an unreasonable risk to public health and if: A. Because of the characteristics of the raw water sources reasonably available to the systems, the system cannot meet the maximum contaminant levels of the drinking water regulation despite the application of the best technology, treatment techniques or other means; or
B. Where a specified treatment technique for a contaminant is required by the state primary drinking water regulation, the system demonstrates to the commissioner's satisfaction that the treatment technique is not required to protect the public health because of the nature of the raw water source.
Exemptions: The commissioner may grant one or more exemptions from an applicable state primary drinking water regulation to a public water system, if: A. The exemption will not result in an unreasonable risk to the public's health; B. The public water system is unable to comply with the regulation or to implement measures to develop an alternative source of water supply due to compelling factors, which may include economic factors such as qualification of the public water system serving a disadvantaged community. For purposes of this paragraph "disadvantaged community" means the service area of a public water system that meets affordability criteria established by the department after public review and comments; C. The public water system was in operation on the earliest effective date under present or prior law of the contaminant level or treatment technique requirement; and D. Management or restructuring changes can not reasonably be made that will result in compliance with this chapter or, if compliance cannot be achieved, improve the quality of the drinking water.

Waiver Information:
The Kittery Water District 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.

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels. During 2025, the Kittery Water District (KWD), either met or exceeded all federal and state health safety drinking water requirements and had no violations in 2025.

Additional Notes:
1) 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 costs 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.
2) **E. coli**: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with 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 greater health risks for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
3) **Fluoride**: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.
4) **Gross Alpha**: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.
5) **Lead/Copper**: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.
6) **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.
7) **PFAS**: The degree of risk depends on the level of chemicals and duration of exposure. Laboratory studies of animals exposed to high doses 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. ***In 2024, 29 forms of PFAS & Lithium were tested, and all came back with non-detect.***
8) **Radon**: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for Radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/07. If Radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for Radon.
9) **Total Coliform Bacteria**: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take less than 40 samples per month.
10) **TTHM/HAA5**: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (TTHM 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 LRAA.
11) **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.



Public Participation:

Trustee Meeting

The Kittery Water District was established in 1907 by the Maine Legislature and is not a part of town government. The Board of Trustees meet at the Kittery Town Hall Chambers the third Wednesdays of each month @ 5:00 pm. This meeting is open to public participation.

Service Line Inventory Assistance

In 2021, the EPA mandated that all public water providers in the country create an inventory identifying the water service line material for every customer, from the water main to the curb stop (public side) and from the curb stop to the house (private side). The initial inventory results were submitted to the Maine Drinking Water Program by the October 2024 deadline. With 5700+/- services to identify, the Kittery Water District has been reaching out to customers to provide the service line material entering their homes, or if uncertain, then allowing a KWD employee access to accurately record the data. We are currently working on completing the inventory by November 2027, but we will really need continued assistance from our valued customers.

Important Telephone Numbers and Addresses

Kittery Water District Office	(207) 439-1128, (207) 439-8549 (fax)
Kittery Water District Website	www.kitterywater.org
Email Address	info@kitterywater.org
Kittery Water District Treatment Facility	(207) 363-4252
Kittery Police Dispatch (after hour emergencies)	(207) 439-1638
Matthew Berube, Superintendent	(207) 439-1128
Superintendent's email address	mberube@kitterywater.org
Carl Palm, Assistant Superintendent	(207) 439-1128
Assistant Superintendent's email address	cpalm@kitterywater.org
Michael Melhorn, Trustee, President	mmelhorn@kitterwater.org
Carla J. Robinson, Trustee, Vice President	crobinson@kitterwater.org
James E. Golter, Trustee, Treasurer	jgolter@kitterwater.org
Robert A. Gray, Trustee, Clerk	bgray@kitterywater.org
Chris Andrews, Trustee	candrews@kitterwater.org
ME PUC's Consumer Assistance Division	1-800-452-4699
ME DHHS, Drinking Water Program	1-207-287-2070
EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline	1-800-426-4791

Kittery Water District
17 State Road
Kittery, ME 03904-1565