

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE WATER UTILITIES DIVISION

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2024

IMPORTANTE! O RELATÓRIO CONTÉM INFORMAÇÕES IMPORTANTES SOBRE A QUALIDADE DA ÁGUA DA COMUNIDADE. TRADUZA-O OU PEÇA AJUDA DE UMA PESSOA AMIGA PARA AJUDÁ-LO A ENTENDER MELHOR OU UM TRADUTOR SERÁ FORNECIDO.



WE WORK FOR YOU

MISSION

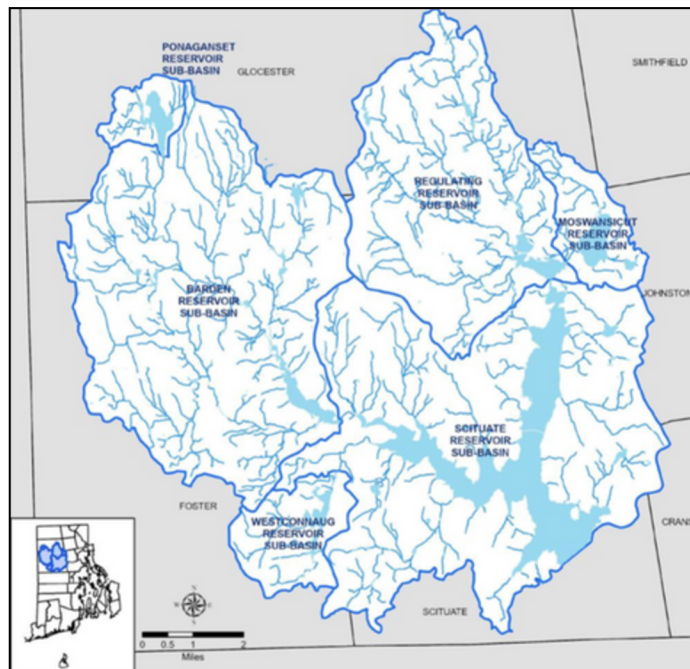
The mission of the City of East Providence Water Utilities Division of the Department of Public Works (PWSID #RI1615610) is to provide its customers with the highest quality drinking water at the flow and pressure necessary to protect the public health and welfare and support economic development within the City of East Providence.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In 2024, the division made infrastructure replacements and improvements to improve the reliability of the water system and improve the quality of service to our consumers.



PROTECTING YOUR WATER



YOUR WATER SOURCE

Your drinking water comes entirely from surface water reservoirs located in a 93-square mile, mostly rural, forested watershed basin located primarily in Scituate, RI. The main source of this water supply is the Scituate Reservoir, which is the terminal reservoir in a network of six interconnected reservoirs: the Scituate Reservoir, Regulating Reservoir, Barden Reservoir, Moswansicut Reservoir, Ponaganset Reservoir, and Westconnaug Reserve.

In 2023 Providence Water formally assessed the threats to the Scituate Reservoir. The assessment considered land use, pollution sources, and overall reservoir condition. The assessment confirmed that

the Scituate Reservoir is at medium risk of contamination and identified the most common potential pollutants as agricultural and automotive. Providence Water is continuing with protection efforts necessary to provide customers with the highest level of water quality. The 2023 Source Water Assessment report is available at provwater.com/swap.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Water Utilities Division resumed flushing water mains in neighborhoods in spring 2024. Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen, disinfectant levels, and an acceptable taste and smell.



During flushing operations in your neighborhood, you may notice some short-term increases in the color and iron level in your cold water. Although harmless to health, you should avoid using your tap water for household purposes during this period as it may cause minor staining of fixtures and laundry. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

The table shown below displays the results of the 2024 water quality analysis performed by the City (EP) and Providence Water. We feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected, how much was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, is listed here along with the highest levels allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amounts detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings and a key to units of measurement.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS¹

Contaminant	Period	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range	Typical Source	Violation
Barium	2024	ppm	2	2	0.007	NA	Erosion of natural deposits	No
Chlorine (as Cl ₂), Free Residual	2024	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	0.39	0.03- 0.93	Water additive used to control microbes	No
Fluoride	2024	ppm	4	4	0.79	0.57 - 0.79	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	No
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) ⁽²⁾	2024	ppb	60	0	21.1	8-28.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Nitrate as N	2024	ppm	10	10	0.08	NA	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) ⁽³⁾ Removal Ratio	2024	Removal Ratio	TT	NA	1.88	1.84 - 2.01	Naturally present in the environment	No
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) ⁽²⁾	2024	ppb	80	0	63	47-67	By-product of drinking water chlorination	No
Turbidity ⁽⁴⁾	2024	NTU	TT	NA	0.42	0.03 - 0.42	Soil runoff	No

LEAD AND COPPER⁵

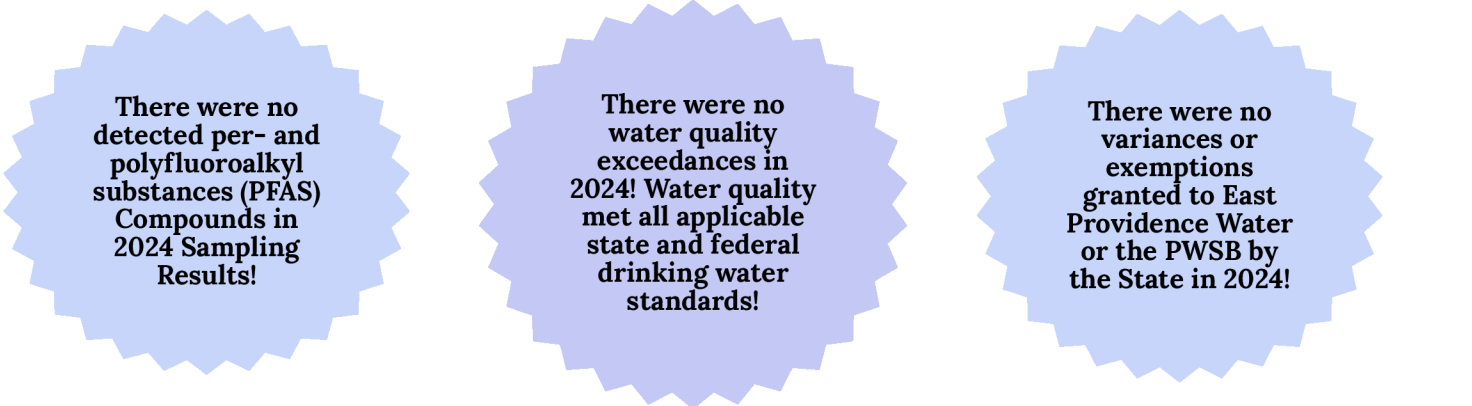
Contaminant	Period	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level (90 th %ile)	Range	Sites > AL/ Total Sites	Typical Source	Violation
Copper	2024	ppm	AL = 1.3	1.3	.073	<0.001 - 0.359	0/30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Lead	2024	ppb	AL = 15	0	0.6	<1 - 8.9	0/30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	No

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS⁶

Contaminant	Period	Unit	Detected Level	Range	Typical Source
Sodium	2024	ppm	13.0	11.2 - 13.0	Runoff from road de-icing operations; Erosion of natural deposits

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TABLE FOOTNOTES

1. In 2024, East Providence Water collected 2,186 samples for Total Coliform Rule compliance monitoring. All 2,186 samples taken for total coliform rule compliance monitoring were absent from Total Coliform and Escherichia Coli (E.Coli) Bacteria.
- 2.Compliance is based on the highest quarterly locational running annual average (LRAA). The range is determined by the lowest and highest individual measurements.
- 3.To comply with the EPA standard, the removal ratio must exceed 1. The detected level is the lowest removal ratio per quarter, and the range indicates the lowest and highest removal ratios per month.
- 4.The highest single turbidity measurement recorded was 0.42 NTU. The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limit was 99.99%. The average turbidity value for 2024 was less than 0.1 NTU.
- 5.Sampling conducted in accordance with the lead/copper rule of the SDWA. The table data represents the most recent results. No samples were above the action level for lead or copper for 2024.
- 6.Unregulated contaminants are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.



DEFINITIONS

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

Removal ratio: A ratio between the percentage of a substance actually removed to the percentage of the substance required to be removed.

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

HEALTH INFORMATION

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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, in some cases radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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 may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

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

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791 or [water.epa.gov/drink/hotline](https://www.epa.gov/drink/hotline).**

LEAD AWARENESS



If present, Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of East Providence is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

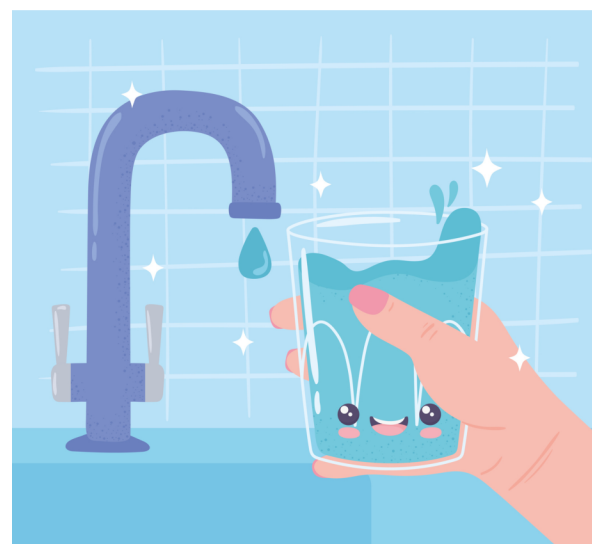
**FLUSH YOUR TAP FOR
30 SECONDS TO 3 MINUTES
& USE COLD WATER FOR
DRINKING AND COOKING!**

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the East Providence Water Utilities Division. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who reported their water service line material! The Water Utilities Division continues to update the inventory and is asking for your help by reporting your water service line material. If you haven't already reported your material, please take a few minutes of your time to locate your line, identify the pipe material and report your findings at the QR Code above (or at www.eastprovidenceri.gov/leadawareness) and using the "START HERE" link. You will be prompted to locate your water meter (typically in the basement, garage or crawlspace) and then focusing on the section of pipe that attaches the meter to the wall/floor). Follow the instructions provided including using a coin to gently scratch the pipe, and using a magnet, to identify the pipe material.

SERVICE
LINE
INVENTORY



REPORT YOUR SERVICE
LINE OR FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT LEAD HERE:



CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

WATER UTILITIES DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PWSID #RI1615610

60 COMMERCIAL WAY, EAST PROVIDENCE, RI 02914-1006
PHONE: 401-435-7741 | FAX: 401-435-7745

QUESTIONS?

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DRINKING WATER QUALITY
PHONE: 401-222-6867 | WEBSITE: WWW.HEALTH.RI.GOV

GENERAL INFORMATION

The East Providence City Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month with the exception of the months of July and August, when one meeting is held. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the Council Chambers at East Providence City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue East Providence, RI. Drinking water issues are discussed as necessary.