Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025

Montvale Water, Inc. PWS ID No. 5019675

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for calendar year 2025 is designed to inform you about your drinking water quality. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The quality of your drinking water must meet state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

The Bedford Regional Water Authority (Bedford Water) began assisting with the operations of the Montvale water system in July 2025 and formally assumed ownership in June 2026. Because the 2025 monitoring year occurred prior to that ownership transfer, the previous operator, Montvale Water, Inc., conducted all sampling and water-quality testing for 2025. This report reflects data that Montvale Water, Inc. collected during that period.

If you have questions about this report, want additional information about any aspect of your drinking water, or want to know how to participate in decisions that may affect the quality of your drinking water, please contact:

Bedford Regional Water Authority
William Swain III – Water Operations Manager
1723 Falling Creek Rd. Bedford, VA 24523
(540) 586-7679 Ext 154

GENERAL INFORMATION

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 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, 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 byproducts 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.

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the EPA sets regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

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 from their health care providers about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by C*ryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

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. Bedford Water 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 doing 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 want to have it tested, contact Bedford Water and Thomas Cherro at 540-586-7679 ext. 123. 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.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have an increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

The Montvale Water System is required to complete a lead service line inventory. To date, a completed inventory has not been submitted by Montvale Water, Inc. With the recent transition of ownership to Bedford Water, VDH has provided a one-year period to complete the inventory. Bedford Water is actively working to fulfill this requirement within the timeframe established by VDH. You may contact Bedford Water for additional information.

SOURCES AND TREATMENT OF YOUR DRINKING WATER

Your drinking water comes from groundwater drawn from two drilled wells. The groundwater is treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection purposes.

The Virginia Department of Health conducted a source water assessment of our system in 2018. The wells were determined to be highly susceptible to contamination using criteria developed by the state in its approved Source Water Assessment Program.

The assessment report consists of maps showing the source water assessment area, an inventory of known land use activities of concern, and documentation of any known contamination within the last 5 years. You can obtain the report by contacting Bedford Water using the contact information noted above.

DEFINITIONS

In this report, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. The following definitions are provided to help you better understand these terms:

Non-detects (ND) - lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not detectable, based on the limits of the analytical equipment used.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or one penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l)- one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or one penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the cloudiness of water. Turbidity in

excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) – the highest level recommended for a contaminant in drinking water, based on aesthetic considerations.

Variances and exemptions - state or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions

WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Contaminants in your drinking water are routinely monitored according to federal and state regulations. The following table shows the results of this monitoring for January 1st through December 31st, 2025. However, the state allows monitoring of some contaminants less than once per year because their concentrations do not change frequently. Some of the results, though deemed representative, are more than one year old. The table lists only those contaminants that had some level of detection noted in the last five years. Many other contaminants have been analyzed but were not present or were below the lab equipment's detection limits. The monitoring data presented in the following table was provided by VDH and reflects testing performed by Montvale Water, Inc. Bedford Water neither conducted this monitoring nor had knowledge of the results during calendar year 2025.

Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant /Unit of Measurement	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Level Found /Range**	**Violation**	**Date of Sample**	**Typical Source of Contamination**
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	**0.44**	No	January 2025	Fertilizer use runoff; septic tank / sewage leaching; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	**0.056**	No	November 2024	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from metal refineries, discharge from drilling wastes
Lead and Copper						
Contaminant /Unit of Measurement	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Level Found /Range**	**Exceedance**	**Date of Sample**	**Typical Source of Contamination**
Lead (ppb)	N/A	AL 15	< 2 ppb (90th percentile) Range: < 2 to 10.5 Of the ten samples collected none exceeded the AL.	No	September 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	N/A	AL 1.3	0.07 ppm (90th percentile) Range: < 0.02 to 0.09 Of the ten samples collected none exceeded the AL.	No	September 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts						
Contaminant /Unit of Measurement	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Level Found /Range**	**Exceedance**	**Date of Sample**	**Typical Source of Contamination**
HAA5s (Total Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	N/A	60	**ND**	No	September 2025	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	N/A	80	**7**	No	September 2025	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG =4	MRDL = 4	Highest Quarterly Avg- **1.03** Range 0.04 – 1.61 mg/L	No	Tested Monthly 2025	Water additive used to control microbes

Radiological Quality						
Contaminant /Unit of Measurement	**MCLG**	**SMCL**	**Level Found /Range**	**Exceedance**	**Date of Sample**	**Typical Source of Contamination**
Alpha emitters *(including uranium)* (pCi/L)	0	15	**ND**	No	March 2023	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	0	5	**ND**	No	March 2023	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	**1.9**	No	March 2023	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

SODIUM: According to the results of the chemical analysis for Metals based on samples collected on November 18, 2024, the sodium in the treated water is 1.58 mg/L. This is below the EPA-recommended optimal level of less than 20 mg/L for sodium in drinking water, which is established for individuals on a strict sodium-intake diet.

BACTERIAL TESTING:

During the 2025 calendar year, there was one routine water sample that detected coliform bacteria in June 2025. None of the subsequent repeat bacterial samples confirmed the presence of bacteria.

Presence of coliforms

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. 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 problems and to correct any problems that are found.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets MCLs at very stringent levels. In developing the standards, EPA assumes that the average adult drinks 2 liters of water each day throughout a 70-year lifespan. EPA generally sets MCLs at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-ten-thousand to one-in-one-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.

VIOLATION INFORMATIO0N

During the time that The Montvale Water, Inc. operated and maintained the system, the facility had no monitoring or reporting violations for the 2025 period.