

**ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025  
TOWN OF STUART  
PWSID 5141640**

**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). If you have questions about this report or 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:

**Mr. Tony Boothe, Water Plant Manager  
(276) 694-3902**

The time and location of the regularly scheduled council meeting is as follows:

**Third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Town Office**

*Please note: To responsibly manage Town resources, this report will not be mailed directly to individual customers. A copy of the CCR will be published in the local newspaper and is available to the public upon request at the Town Office.*

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

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 and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Water from surface sources is treated to make it drinkable while groundwater may or may not have any treatment.

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 storm water 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount 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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking 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 can be obtained by calling 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. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791 ).

**SOURCE(S) AND TREATMENT OF YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Our water supply is from surface water. The primary raw water source is the South Mayo River. An auxiliary source of water is available from Carter Mountain Reservoirs.

Treatment of the surface water consists of chemical addition, coagulation, flocculation, settling, filtration, fluoridation and chlorination. All of these processes work together to remove the physical, chemical and biological contaminants to make the water safe for drinking.

A source water assessment of our system was conducted in 2001 by the Virginia Department of Health. The river source was determined to be of high susceptibility to contamination while the reservoir sources were determined to be of moderate susceptibility to contamination. These determinations were based upon 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 five years. The report is available by contacting your water system representative at the phone number given elsewhere in this drinking water report.

**WATER CONSERVATION TIPS**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving; 3-5 gallons go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

**DEFINITIONS**

Contaminants in your drinking water are routinely monitored according to federal and state regulations. The table on the next page shows the results of this monitoring for the period of January 1 st through December 31 st, 2025. In the table and elsewhere 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.

**Primary Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water based on health considerations.

**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.

**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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.

**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.

**Not Applicable (NA)** - The standard does not apply or no standard has been established for this contaminant.

**Running Annual Average (RAA)** - The average of sample analytical results taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

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

**WATER QUALITY RESULTS**

*We routinely monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. The tables below list only those contaminants that had some level of detection. Many other contaminants have been analyzed but were not present or were below the detection limits of the lab equipment.*

Contaminant/ Unit of Measurement	Violation Y/N	Level Detected/ Range	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (NTU)	N	0.090 (highest level) 100%<0.3	Daily	NA	TT=Max 0.3 in 95% of monthly samples	Soil runoff
Lead (ppb)	N	< 2 (90th percentile) Range: All=ND (0 of 10 samples exceeded the AL	2024	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	N	0.042 (90th percentile) Range: All=ND (0 of 10 samples exceeded the AL	2024	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm) (Split Samples)	N	Average=072 Range: 0.63-0.84	Monthly 2025	4	4	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm) (Entry Point)	N	Average=0.74 Range= 0.66-0.88	Daily 2025	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Chlorine (ppm)	N	Average = 1.2 Range= 0.5-1.6	Monthly at two sample sites	4 (MRDLG)	4 (MRDL)	Chlorine is added to ensure that water is disinfected
TTHM [Total trihalome- thanes] (ppb)	N	RRA=42 Range= 34-60	Quarterly 2025	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	N	RAA=19 Range= 14-27	Quarterly 2025	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N	Removal Ratio=1.0 Range= 1.0 to 1.0	Quarterly 2025	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

**UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS**

*Monitoring for unregulated contaminants helps the EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.*

Contaminant / Unit of Measurement	Level Detected	Sample Date	EPA Recommended Level / Health Guideline
Sodium (mg/L)	8.32	Nov. 2025	20 mg/L
Combined Radium (-226 & -228, pCi/L)	0.2	Nov. 2025	5 pCi/L

**Additional Water Quality Information & Special Notices:**

- **Total Coliform Bacteria:** We monitored for Total Coliform Bacteria monthly at two sample sites throughout 2025. We are pleased to report that no samples indicated the presence of total coliform.
- **Sodium Notice:** Compliance sampling in November 2025 showed the Sodium concentration to be 8.32 mg/L, which is below the maximum recommended level of 20 mg/L set by the EPA. The recommended level is established for those individuals on a sodium-restricted diet. If you have any concerns about the Sodium level in your drinking water, you may wish to consult with your physician.
- **Nitrate/Nitrite:** We are pleased to report that testing yielded no detectable levels of Nitrate + Nitrite
- **Combined Radium:** Compliance sampling in November 2025 showed the Combined Radium concentration to be 0.2 pCi/L, which is below the maximum recommended level of 5 pCi/L set by the EPA.
- **Special Notice of the Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Results:** Any resident wishing to obtain further information regarding the unregulated contaminant monitoring results may contact Mr. Tony Boothe, Water Plant Manager, at (276) 694-3902.

*Note: The results in these tables are from testing done in 2025. However, the State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Other contaminants were either not present or below the detection limits of the laboratory equipment. Some of our results, though representative, are more than one year old. 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 life span. EPA generally sets MCLs at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-tenthousand to one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.*

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

In accordance with 40 CFR 5141.84(a), the Town of Stuart contracted services to perform a Lead Service Line Inventory for all connections to our public water system. We are pleased to report that NO LEAD SERVICE LINES were found. This information is available to residents upon request at the Town Office (276-694-3811).

**Additional information on Lead:**

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 Town of Stuart 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 the Stuart Water Treatment Plant at (276) 694-3902. 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>.

**VIOLATIONS:** The Town of Stuart had no violations in 2025.

**AWARDS:**

The Town of Stuart has earned a 2025 "Silver" Excellence in Waterworks Operations/ Performance Award. The Town of Stuart Water Plant has received a VOP award every year since the award program was implemented in 2005.

This Drinking Water Quality Report was presented by:  
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