Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility
70 Waterworks Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

September 19, 2025

Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility Advises Customers of Increased Sodium and Chloride Levels in the Drinking Water

The Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility is currently experiencing a salt front episode causing an increase in sodium and chloride levels in drinking water. The drought situation throughout the state has caused reduced Hudson River flows. The lower flow has allowed the salt front from the Atlantic Ocean to travel further up the river than usual. The intrusion of the salt front increases the sodium and chloride concentration in the water. This increase will affect the way the water tastes and smells. During a salt front episode, sodium and chloride concentrations will vary because of the changes in the tide.

What does this mean?
This is not an emergency. Your water may taste and smell different. The water plant is testing your water frequently to monitor the sodium and chloride concentrations.

Sodium concentrations to date averaged to 115 milligrams per liter (mg/L) with a range of 53 to 223 mg/L. Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

Chloride concentrations, at times, have exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 250 mg/L. Concentrations ranged from 84.9 to 415 mg/L with an average of 211 mg/L. Chloride is essential for maintaining good health. Research has not conclusively demonstrated that human exposure to chloride itself causes adverse health effects, although exposure to high levels of certain chloride salts has been associated with adverse health effects in humans. For example, high dietary intake of sodium chloride can be a contributing factor to high blood pressure, but this has been attributed mainly to the presence of sodium. The New York State standard for chloride is 250 milligrams per liter and is based on chloride's effects on the taste and odor of the water.

What is being done?
The water treatment facility is closely monitoring the salt front location and the sodium and chloride concentrations. We do not know how long this event will continue because it is dependent on environmental factors and specifically the amount of rainfall received. We will notify you when conditions return to normal.

For more information, please contact Dottie DiNobile at 845-451-4173 or ddinobile@pokwater.com.
The Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility, Public Water System ID NY1302774, provides water to the following consecutive systems:
City of Poughkeepsie, PWS ID NY1330291
Town of Poughkeepsie, PWS ID NY1302812
Arbors Condominiums Water District, PWS ID NY1303219
Greenbush Water District, PWS ID NY1330629
Central Dutchess Water Transmission Line, PWS ID NY1330640

DCWWA owns and operates the Arbors, Greenbush and Central Dutchess Water Transmission Line as consecutive water systems to the Town of Poughkeepsie

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Who can I contact for more information?
Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority: 845-486-3601
Dutchess County Department of Health, Environmental Health Services: 845-486-3404

Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially anyone who may not get this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).
You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

**** Visit our website www.DCWWA.org to sign up for updates via our Alerts and Advisories Page ****

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Greenbush Water District, PWS ID NY1330629
Central Dutchess Water Transmission Line, PWS ID NY1330640