

NYC DEP 2019 Emerging Contaminants Monitoring Project Summary, 5/15/19

Background

DEP employees closely monitor New York City's drinking water supply to ensure that our customers receive the highest quality water. We annually perform more than 240,000 tests in the upstate watersheds that feed our reservoir system, and another 400,000 tests of water in distribution pipes throughout the five boroughs. These tests continue to show that the City's drinking water is some of the best in the world, meeting or surpassing all state and federal standards. Detailed information about this testing program can be found in DEP's 2018 Drinking Water Supply and Quality Report at <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dep/about/drinking-water-supply-quality-report.page>.

New York City's reservoirs collect water from rain and melting snow throughout our watershed. As water travels over the surface of the land or underground, a variety of minerals, organic materials and other substances can dissolve into the water.

For decades, DEP scientists have regularly tested our water supply to understand the substances that could enter our reservoirs now and in the future. Modern testing techniques allow our laboratory experts to detect some substances at levels as low as one part per trillion – an amount so small that it represents one drop of water in 56 Olympic-sized swimming pools, or 1 second of time in 31,700 years.

In addition to potential contaminants that are known today, DEP also focuses on protecting our drinking water in the future. That's why we worked with the U.S. Geological Survey and the New York State Department of Health in 2009 to develop a list of 72 emerging contaminants – substances that are not regulated today but deserve further analysis. These substances primarily include pharmaceutical and personal-care products that are typically used in our homes. DEP scientists detected some of these materials, but only at levels so low that they posed no concern for the health of our customers. Reports were published and are available at <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dep/about/document-portal.page>.

2019 Monitoring Summary

Experts have added new substances to the list of emerging contaminants over the past decade, prompting DEP scientists to begin a new study in 2019. The latest study focuses on more than 140 materials, the vast majority of which were not detected in our reservoirs or the stream, creeks and rivers that feed them. Our latest analysis also included several perfluorinated compounds. These materials were often not detected, or they were detected at levels far below New York State's proposed standard of 10 parts per trillion, which will become the most stringent limit in the United States when it takes effect later this year. Only two samples, collected from small streams near the Westchester County Airport, measured higher.

The monitoring plan for this new project is published on DEP's website at <https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dep/pdf/water/project-plan-emerging-contaminants-monitoring->

[project.pdf](#)). DEP will repeat this testing every three months this year and it will continue to publish the results, including a full report after completion of the project.

Lidocaine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Lincomycin			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Linuron			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Lopressor			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Meclofenamic Acid			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Meprobamate			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Metazachlor			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Metformin	Diabetes treatment drug	50,000 (NYS UOC MCL)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	11	ND	ND	ND	ND
Metolachlor			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Nifedipine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Norethisterone			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfometuron Methyl			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Oxolinic acid			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Pentoxifylline			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Phenazone			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Primidone			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Progesterone			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Propazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Quinoline	Manufacture of dyes	50,000 (NYS UOC MCL)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	8.6	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Simazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfachloropyridazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfadiazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfadimethoxine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfamerazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfamethazine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfamethoxazole			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfamethizole			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Sulfathiazole			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TCEP			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
T CPP			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
TDCPP			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Testosterone			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Theobromine			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Theophylline			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Thiabendazole			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Trimethoprim			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
<u>RADIONUCLIDE SUITE</u>															
Radium 226 (pC/L)			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Radium 228 (pC/L)			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Alpha, Gross (pC/L)	Natural or man-made sources	15 (NYS MCL)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	3.0	ND	ND
Beta, Gross (pC/L)	Natural or man-made sources	4 mrem/year (MCL)	3.4	ND	ND	ND	ND	3.4	ND	ND	ND	ND	4.3	ND	ND
Uranium (pC/L)			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Uranium (pC/L)			ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

* ng/L = nanograms per liter = parts per trillion (1 ppt = 1 second of time in 31,700 years)

** ND = not detected

*** NYS UOC MCL = New York State Unregulated Organic Contaminant Maximum Contaminant Level