

# *Village of Wolcott*

## *Water Department*

6015 New Hartford Street

PO Box 85

Wolcott, NY 14590

Phone (315) 594-2288

[vwater@rochester.rr.com](mailto:vwater@rochester.rr.com)

TDD (800) 662-1220

## ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019***

***(Public Water Supply ID#5801245)***

### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Wolcott, will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact **Evan Tyler, Water Department Head, at (315)-594-2288**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Village Board meetings. The meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday in January – April, September and October and the First Tuesday in June-August, November and December at 7:00 pm at the Village Office located at 6015 New Hartford Street, Wolcott, NY.

### **WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

In general, 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 activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves 2200 customers and also supplies water to Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority. Our water comes from two sources, Lake Ontario, which is our primary source and is classified as Surface Water and Weager Springs, which is considered a groundwater source under the influence of surface water. The water produced from the Lake Ontario source is treated at our Water Filtration facility located on East Port Bay Road, in the Town of Wolcott. The water is filtered, disinfected by injection of chlorine gas, and then fluoride is added before it is pumped into the Distribution System. The water produced from the Weager Spring site is filtered, disinfected with ultraviolet light and then chlorinated with Sodium Hypochlorite and Fluoride is added before entering the Distribution System. The State Department of Health has completed its Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) for our resources.

### **ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?**

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: 12 inorganic compounds, 46 synthetic organic compounds, nitrate, nitrites, lead, copper, total trihalomethanes, and 56 volatile organic compounds. In addition, we test the water for coliform bacteria twice a month. Daily testing includes Fluoride, PH, Chlorine residual, and Turbidity.

The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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 about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the New York State Health Department at (315) 789-3030.

**AWQR Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violations (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Detected Avg/Max Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>A. Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Turbidity / Lake	No	Daily	100%	NTU	0	TT = 95% ≤ 0.3	SOIL RUNOFF
Turbidity / Lake Highest Daily Value	No	Daily	0.280	NTU	0	TT ≤ 1.0	
Turbidity / Springs	No	Daily	100%	NTU	0	TT = 95% ≤ 0.3	SOIL RUNOFF
Turbidity / Springs Highest Daily Value	No	Daily	1.9	NTU	0	TT ≤ 1.0	
Total Coliform Lake Plant	No	Monthly		PRESENCE	0	2 or more positive samples	NATURALLY PRESENT IN ENVIRONMENT - HUMAN AND ANIMAL FECAL WASTE
Total Organic Carbon Lake Plant	No	Monthly	1.51		MG/L	N/A	TT
			1.10	2.10			

<b>B. Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>SPRINGS PLANT</b>							
Barium	NO	10-Nov-19	0.23	MG/L	0	2	DISCHARGE OF DRILLING WASTES; DISCHARGE FROM METAL REFINERIES; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Chromium	NO	10-Nov-19	0.0036	MG/L	0	0.1	DISCHARGE FROM STEEL AND PULP MILLS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Fl	NO	10-Nov-19	0.74	MG/L	0	2.2	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS; WATER ADDITIVE THAT PROMOTED STRONG TEETH
Nickle	NO	10-Nov-19	0.002	MG/L	0	N/A	GEOLOGICAL; USED IN ELECTROPLATING, BATTERY PRODUCTION, CERAMICS
Nitrate	NO	10-Nov-19	2.00	MG/L	0	10	RUNOFF FROM FERTILIZER USE; LEACHING FROM SEPTIC TANKS, SEWAGE; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS

<b>LAKE PLANT</b>							
Chromium	NO	10-Nov-19	0.01	MG/L	6.0	6.00	DISCHARGE FROM STEEL AND PULP MILLS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Barium	NO	10-Nov-19	0.19	MG/L	2.0	2.00	DISCHARGE OF DRILLING WASTES; DISCHARGE FROM METAL REFINERIES; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Fl	NO	10-Nov-19	0.98	MG/L	0.0	2.20	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS; WATER ADDITIVE THAT PROMOTED STRONG TEETH
Nickle	NO	10-Nov-19	0.0015	MG/L	0.0	N/A	GEOLOGICAL; USED IN ELECTROPLATING, BATTERY PRODUCTION, CERAMICS
Nitrate	NO	10-Nov-19	0.28	MG/L	0.0	10.00	RUNOFF FROM FERTILIZER USE; LEACHING FROM SEPTIC TANKS, SEWAGE; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS

<b>Distribution System</b>							
Copper 2 (90th percentile)	NO	Sep-17	0.15 0.017   0.180	MG/L	0	1.3(al)	CORROSION OF GALVANIZED PIPES; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Lead 3 (90th percentile)	NO	Sep-17	2.80 N.D.   4.100	UG/L	0	.015(al)	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS

<b>C. Disinfection By-products</b>							
TTHM Stg 2	NO	QTRLY 2019	29.80 8.20   56.00	UG/L	N/A	80	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
HAA5 Stg 2	NO	QTRLY 2019	9.10 0.00   14.00	UG/L	N/A	60	DISINFECTION NEEDED TO KILL HARMFUL ORGANISMS

<b>D. Radiologic</b>							
<b>R226</b>							
Lake	NO	Oct-17	N.D.	pCi/L	0	5	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Spring	NO	Oct-17	N.D.	pCi/L	0	5	
<b>R228</b>							
Lake	NO	Oct-17	0.89	pCi/L	0	5	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Spring	NO	Oct-17	N.D.	pCi/L	0	5	
<b>Gross Alpha</b>							
Lake	NO	Oct-17	N.D.	pCi/L	0	15	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Spring	NO	Oct-17	4.89	pCi/L	0	15	

- 1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
- 2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- 3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 20 sites tested.

### **Definitions:**

**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.

**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 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 contamination.

**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.

**Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

**Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in water.

## **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

## **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

Other than what is reported above, during 2019, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements except for the first quarter of 2019. The Village of Wolcott is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During May of 2019 we did not fully monitor or test for disinfection by-products. Therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. The results that came back from the June 20<sup>th</sup> test were all within standards as were all other tests that were performed daily and weekly during the timeframe in question.

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens 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 from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION**

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.8 to 1.2 mg/l (parts per million). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that we monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2019 monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 88 % of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

## **WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?**

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential firefighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

## **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office at 315-594-2288 with any questions or the New York State Department of Health at 315-789-3030.