

***Annual Water Quality Report for 2018***  
***Village of Washingtonville***  
***9 Fairlawn Drive***  
***Washingtonville, NY 10992***  
***Public Water Supply ID# 3503567***

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Washingtonville, 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. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. 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 Marco Salome, JCO Operator Superintendent, Department of Water Department at (845) 888-5755. 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 on the first Monday and the third Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:00 p.m., at the Washingtonville Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive.

## **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 Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is from two (2) sand and gravel wells identified as Wells 1A and 3, each approximately 45 feet deep. During 2018, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

## **Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Summary**

The NYSDOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based upon available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The State source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based upon the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily the contaminants can move through the subsurface, to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to customers is, or will be, contaminated. See "Table of Detected Contaminants" for a list of contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future. As mentioned before, our water is derived from two (2) drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having medium-high to very high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due to the close proximity of a SPDES permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and the low level residential activity that are located in the assessment area. In addition, the wells are high yielding wells drawing from an unconfined aquifer and the overlying soils are not known to provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets or exceeds New York State's drinking water standards for microbial disinfection.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us, as noted in this report.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 7,000 people through 1,843 service connections. The total water produced in 2018 was 286 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 783,000 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 979,500 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 104 million gallons. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 182 million gallons, or 516,600 gallons per day. This water, used to flush mains, fight fires and leakage and under registering service connection water meters, accounts for the remaining 182 million gallons (64% of the total amount produced). In 2018, water customers were charged \$3.50 per 1,000 gallons of water and the annual average water charge per user was \$225.

## ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. 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 Orange County Health Department at (845) 291-2331.

| Table of Detected Contaminants |                  |                |                                      |                  |      |   |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|------|---|--|
| Contaminant                    | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample | Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)     | Unit Measurement | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)            | Likely Source of Contamination   |
| Total Coliform                 | No               | 12/12/18       | 2 positive samples                   | n/a              | n/a  | MCL=2 or more positive samples <sup>4</sup> | Naturally present in the environment                                       |
| Sodium                         | No               | 12/10/18       | 81 (max)                             | mg/l             | N/A  | See Note 1                                  | Naturally Occurring  |
| Lead                           | No               | 8/21/15        | ND to 290<br>8.6<br>(See Note 2)     | ug/l             | 0    | AL-15                                       | Corrosion of household plumbing systems                                    |
| Copper                         | No               | 8/21/15        | 0.034 to 2.3<br>0.14<br>(See Note 3) | mg/l             | 1.3  | AL-1.3                                      | Corrosion of household plumbing systems                                    |
| Nitrate                        | No               | 12/10/18       | 1.7                                  | mg/l             | 10   | MCL=10                                      | Run-off from fertilizer use  |
| Total Tri-Halomethanes         | No               | 8/10/17        | 35                                   | ug/l             | N/A  | MCL=80                                      | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms |
| Haloacetic Acids               | No               | 8/10/17        | 3.5                                  | ug/l             | N/A  | MCL=60                                      | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms |
| Barium                         | No               | 12/10/18       | 0.022                                | mg/l             | 2    | MCL=2                                       | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Nickel                         | No               | 12/10/18       | 1.1                                  | ug/l             | 100  | 100 MCL                                     | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Iron                           | No               | 3/1/17         | 60                                   | ug/l             | 300  | MCL=300                                     | Naturally Occurring  |
| Manganese                      | No               | 3/1/17         | 10                                   | Ug/l             | 300  | MCL=300                                     | Naturally Occurring  |

### Notes:

1 – 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.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 samples collected. 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 lead values detected in the water system. The action level for lead was exceeded at 2 of the sites tested. The 90th percentile was 8.6 ug/l, which is below the action level.

3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 samples collected. 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 in the water system. In this case, 20 samples were collected from the water system, and the 90th percentile value was 0.14 mg/l. The action level for copper was exceeded at 1 of the sites tested.

4 – Six repeat coliform samples were collected as required, all repeat samples were negative for coliform; therefore, these positive samples were never confirmed. *We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year we were required to conduct 1 Level 1 assessment. 1 Level 1 assessment was completed. We were not required to take any further corrective actions.*

#### **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.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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

**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).

#### **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 New York State requirements. It should be noted that the action level for lead was exceeded at 2 of the sites tested. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Village of Washingtonville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

We are 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 2018, we did not test for Disinfection By-Products (DBPs) OR Lead & Copper, as we are required to do; therefore, we cannot be sure of your drinking water quality during that time. We plan to collect these samples during 2019.

#### **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).

## **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.

## **VIOLATIONS**

The Village of Washingtonville had 2 Violations occur under the 2018 year.

- Missing Sample of THM/HAA5 during the September Month
- Lead and Copper Samples missed during 6/1/2018- 9/1/2018

## **Conservation**

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.
- ◆ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

In 2018, normal water operations were undertaken. Both of the Village's water tanks were inspected and found to be in satisfactory condition.

## **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

JCO Environmental is the new licensed water operators as of November 2018. There 24 hour service line is listed on the first page.