Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Village of Cohocton
10741 State Route 371
(Public Water Supply ID#5001208)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, The Village of Cohocton 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. 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. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality limited to what testing was completed. 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 Terry Mehlenbacher, at (585)991-8374 or Bill Waggoner at (585) 448-2073. 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 third Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Office, 17 South Main Street, Cohocton, NY 14826.

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 system serves 859 people through 362 service connections. Our water sources are well no. 3 and well no. 5. Both wells are located at 10741 State Route 371 in the Town of Cohocton. Well no. 3 is 102 feet deep and is capable of pumping 200 gallons per minute. Well no. 5 is 100 feet deep and is capable of pumping 200 gallons per minute. The water from both wells is treated by sodium hypochlorite prior to distribution. In 2021 the Village was awarded a CBDG grant to develop another well within close proximity of Well #3 and decommission Well #4 due to high Nitrates. The new Well #5 was drilled and tested in December of 2022 and the mechanical connection, decommission bid was received in July of 2023. Well #4 was decommissioned / capped and well #5 was finally put into service in March of 2024 with a final completion in May of 2024. In 1st Quarter of 2024 the Village updated and standardized all consumer water meters. These meters have improved the efficiency of water consumption and will help maintain an accurate budget.
A source water assessment summary will be included when the data is available from the NYS Department of Health.

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 NYS Department of Health - Hornell District Office at 607-324-8371.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead *1	NO	9/4/24	90% = 3 Range: ND – 6.3	ug/l	15	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits
Copper *1	NO	9/4/24	90% = .058 Range: .016 - .067	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household systems. Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Nitrate 2024 Quarterly	NO	Well #3 Well #5	Avg. = .93 Range: <.2 – 1.43 Avg. = 1.33 Range: 0.4 – 2.46	mg/l	N/A	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.
Chlorine	NO	Monthly 2024	Avg. = 0.94 Range: 0.41 – 1.84	mg/l	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
TP-001 Combined Radium: Gross Beta: Gross Alpha:	No	6/17/24	Result: .33 1.7 +/-1.1 1.9 +/- 1.7	PCi/L	0	5 (Combined with 226)	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	No	11/15/24	.240	mg/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Methane	No	9/2/20	16.2	ug/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally, subsurface bacteria and decomposition of organic matter can produce methane, which can dissolve in groundwater.
Organic Contaminants							
Total Trihalomethanes	No	8/21/24 Max Res Time	6.2	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Total Trihalomethanes	No	3/26/14 Entry Point	7.3	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	8/21/24	3.0	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water Cholrination.

- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the total number of samples collected.

The level presented is the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that is equal to or below it. This means in our system copper levels in 8 sites are below the 90th percentile value and 2 sites are above the 90th percentile. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

The level presented is the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. The action level for lead was exceeded at two of the 10 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.

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

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).

Pictograms per liter (pg/l): Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion – ppq).

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

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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 Village of Cohocton 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 Village of Cohocton's water operator, Bill Waggoner at (585) 448-2073. 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.*

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water monitoring and reporting requirements.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by request at the Village Hall and/or emailing us at (villageofcohocton@gmail.com)

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.

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 (585) 384-5252 if you have questions.

Sincerely,
Mathew McCarthy