

TOWN OF PARISHVILLE WATER DISTRICT NO. 1  
FEDERAL ID # 4404395  
ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT-2015

**Introduction**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and the services delivered to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Included in this report are details about where your water comes from, what it may contain, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Standards. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact, the town office at (315) 265-2131.

**Where does our water come from?**

Sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, 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. It can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal and/or from human activity.

The Parishville Water District obtains its water from a developed spring located approximately one mile from the hamlet on the White Hill Road. The water flows into a 6,400 gallon wet well, where it is disinfected with chlorine prior to being pumped into the 340,000-gallon storage tank. The District services 252 connections.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include:

- Microbiological contaminants (viruses and bacteria) may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that the quality of your tap water is acceptable, the EPA and State prescribe regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

**What does the information mean?**

As you can see by the table, our system had **no violations**. We are proud that our water meets or exceeds Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The levels have been determined to be within acceptable ranges.

**Is our water safe for everyone?**

Although our drinking water met or exceeded State and Federal regulations, it should be noted that some people might be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 the advice about drinking water from their health care provider. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

**Are there contaminants in your drinking water?**

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain 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 State Health Department (315) 386-1040.

The Parishville Water District routinely monitors for various parameters in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The water is tested monthly for coliform bacteria, and daily for chlorine residuals. In addition, the water is monitored in accordance with State and Federal regulations for 19 inorganic compounds, nitrites, nitrates, 52 volatile organic compounds (POC $\phi$ s) and 43 synthetic organic compounds (SOC $\phi$ s). The following table lists which components were detected in your drinking water.

The NYSDOH has evaluated Parishville $\phi$ s public water supply and noted that the spring source has a potentially medium susceptibility to protozoan and pesticide contamination. The source was determined not to be under direct influence of surface water (St. Regis river) as shown by a study (GWUDI) performed during the summer of 2003. Treatment and regular monitoring is done to ensure the water delivered to customers meets acceptable standards. In addition the town has put in place an Aquifer Protection Plan to ensure protection from contamination on watershed lands impacting the source.

### Test Results

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Sample Date	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper 1.	N	9/15	1.15	ppm	1.3	AL= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead 1.	N	9/15	0.014	ppm	0	AL= .015	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	8/15	0.75	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta 2.	N	10/08	0.01	ppb	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Gross Alpha	N	10/08	0.01	ppb	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Tri-Halomethanes	N	09/13	27 (MRDL)	ug/l	80 (MRDLG)	80	By- product of water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.
Haloacetic Acid	N	09/13	1.3 (MRDL)	ug/l	60 (MRDLG)	60	
Barium	N	4/13	16	ug/l	2 mg/l	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

1. Level present represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the five samples collected. Action level was not exceeded at the five sites tested.

2. The state of New York considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for the beta particles.

#### **Definitions:**

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**  $\phi$  The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL $\phi$ s are set as close to the MCLG $\phi$ s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**  $\phi$  The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG $\phi$ s allow for a margin of safety.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** ó One part per million corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000 or one black marble in 1 million white marbles.

**Maximum Residual Level (MRDL)** – The level of disinfection by-product measured in ug/l (micrograms per liter).

**Maximum Residual Level Goal (MRDLG)**- The level of disinfection by-product allowed, which there is no known risk to health.

### **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 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 fire fighting 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 15-20 gallons per day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6000 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 providing your family with clean, quality water. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. We ask that you, our customer, help us to protect our water source, which is at the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please call our office if you have any questions at (315) 265-2131.