Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019

Pottersville Water District

Chester Town Hall, 6307 State Route 9, Chestertown, NY 12817

Public Water Supply Identification Number NY5600110

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Pottersville Water District, 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 very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. This report is 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 New York State standards. Our constant goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. If you have any questions concerning this report or concerning your drinking water please contact: *Mr. Jason Monroe, PO Box 423, Chestertown, NY 12817; Telephone (518) 494-5434.* We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, 6307 State Route 9; Telephone (518) 494-2711.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Pottersville Water District draws its water from ground water sources. Groundwater or well water is stored below the surface of the earth in deep, porous rocks called "aquifers." Groundwater is purified naturally as it filters through layers of soil, clay, rock and sand. This process, known as percolation takes years to complete. As a result, groundwater requires less treatment than surface water. We pump this groundwater out through our wells. The Pottersville Water District draws its water from two wells located at Gamble Beach Road. Well #2, our main source of water, is a sixty-five-foot drilled well equipped with a 5-horsepower pump and a yield of 60 gallons per minute. Well #1 serves as an emergency back up with a yield of 100 gallons per minute. Each well has a pumphouse where chlorine is added for disinfection to protect against contamination from harmful bacteria and other organisms. We also add soda ash and phosphate to reduce lead and copper leaching from household water lines. After the water is treated it is pumped to our 200,000-gallon water storage tank located on Landon Hill Road. Water storage helps us manage our distribution system effectively and is essential for fire protection. During 2017 the production capacity of well #2 decreased. We drilled a new well and are working to bring it on line in 2020.

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 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.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Water District provides water through 88 service connections to a population of approximately 300 people. Our average daily demand is 24,300 gallons. Our single highest day was 217,000 gallons. The total water produced in 2019 was 8,908,000 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 2,977,582 gallons. The amount of water lost was 4,819,418 gallons. The average charge for water up to 24,000 gallons is $2.90 per 1000 gallons and the rate per 1,000 gallons over 24,000 gallons is $3.00.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SWAP)?

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily 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 consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, and industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to close proximity of a septic system to the well and the commercial land use and related activities in the assessment area. In addition, the well is a high yielding well, drawing from an unconfined aquifer, which is a shallow aquifer that occurs immediately below the ground surface and has no overlying protective layer for protection from potential sources of contamination. While the source water assessment rates our well(s) as being susceptible to microbials, please

note that our water is disinfected to ensure that that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?
In accordance with State regulations, the Pottersville Water District routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. We test your drinking water for inorganic contaminants, radiological contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, and synthetic organic contaminants. In addition, we test 1 sample for coliform bacteria each month. The table presented below depicts which contaminants were detected in your drinking water. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is 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 pose 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 Department of Health Glens Falls District Office at (518) 793-3893.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?
As you can see by the table, we exceeded the Action Level for copper during both the first and second half of 2019 and are required to furnish the following information:

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the Action Level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

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?
During 2019, we were in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

IS OUR WATER SAFE FOR EVERYONE?
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 microbiological pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

INFORMATION ON LEAD
If present, elevated levels of 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 Pottersville WD 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS
The Pottersville Water District encourages water conservation. There are a lot of things you can do to conserve water in your own home. Conservation tips include:

- Only run the dishwasher and clothes washer when there is a full load.
- Use water saving showerheads.
- Water gardens and lawn for only a couple of hours after sunset.
- Check faucets, pipes and toilets for leaks and repair all leaks promptly.
- Take shorter showers.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
There were no major capital improvements in 2018. Future projects include:

- Plans to build a new pumphouse at water tank
- Intend to drill two new wells with soft start motors
- The Ross Valves will only be used on the back-up wells

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our customers. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants (samples from 7/17/19 unless otherwise noted)						
Barium (11/30/17)	N	4.1	ppb	2000	2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	N	120	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Color	N	2	units	N/A	15	
Copper (samples 6/25/19)	**Y**	3.12[1] 0.28-3.88	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (samples 12/6/19)	**Y**	1.73 0.15-2.09				
Lead (samples from 6/25/19)	N	5[2] ND-10	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (samples 12/6/19)	N	ND[2] ND-1[2]				
Iron	N	74	ppb	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Nickel (11/30/17)	N	1	ppb	N/A	100	Discharge from steel industry
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	3.08	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks,
Odor	N	1	units	N/A	3	Natural sources
Sodium[3]	N	64.8	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring; Road salt;
Sulfate	N	9.74	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	N	314	ppb	N/A	5000	Corrosion inhibitor
Disinfection Byproducts (sample from 7/17/19)						
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5]	N	5.2	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM]	N	12.2	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (based on daily readings) average range of values for 2019	N	0.7 0.4-0.9	ppm	MRDLG N/A	MRDL 4	Used in the treatment and disinfection of drinking water

NOTES-

1. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested along with the range of results. The action level for copper was exceeded at 6 of the 10 sites during June 2019 and 2 of the 10 sites tested in December of 2019.
2. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested along with the range of results. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested in June - and December 2019.
3. Water containing more than 20 mg/l should not be consumed by persons 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.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.
90th Percentile Value- The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. 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 and copper values detected at your water system.
Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.
N/A-Not applicable