

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2018***  
***Village of Weedsport***  
***8892 South Street, Weedsport, NY 13166***  
***(Public Water Supply ID# 0501726)***

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, **Village of Weedsport**, 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 **Jeffrey Goodell, Superintendent of Public Works at (315)834-6411**. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, located at 8892 South Street, Weedsport, NY. A copy of this annual report may also be viewed at our website: [villageofweedsport.org](http://villageofweedsport.org)**

## **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 2300 people from 720 service connections. Our water source is Owasco Lake. The Village of Weedsport buys their water from the Town of Sennett who in turn is supplied by the City of Auburn. The City of Auburn owns and operates two Water Filtration Plants, a Rapid Sand Filtration Plant and a Slow Sand Filtration Plant both are located at the corner of Swift St. and Pulsifer Drive in the City of Auburn. After filtration the water is disinfected by injection of liquid Chlorine before introduction to the distribution system. The finished water is pumped through the City of Auburn distribution system to the Town of Sennett distribution system and then into the Village of Weedsport system through a meter vault located on Weedsport-Sennett Road near the Village of Weedsport. Prior to entering the Village of Weedsport distribution system the water flows through our chlorine booster station where chlorine is added as necessary to elevate chlorine residuals to acceptable levels. Water not consumed by our customers is then stored in a four hundred fifty thousand-gallon concrete reservoir.

Owasco Lake is classified as a Class-AA Special water body designated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) as listed in 6 NYCRR Part 702. It is considered an excellent source of potable water and must be protected.

In order to ensure that the tap water is safe to drink, the NYSDOH prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The City treats its water according to EPA's and the NYSDOH's regulations. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

The City of Auburn has a program of Watershed Protection to enforce regulations, promulgated by law under NYCRR Section 1100 (Public 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 Cayuga County Health Department at (315) 253-1405.

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED (AVERAGE RANGE)	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCL	REGULATORY LIMIT (MCL, TREATMENT OR AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
PHYSICAL Turbidity	No	5 days per week	0.13 Avg range 0.05-4.65	NTU	N/A	5.0 distribution system	Soil runoff
PHYSICAL Turbidity	No	7 days per week	0.04 Avg range 0.01-0.037	NTU	N/A	0.3-1.0 MCL filter performance	Soil runoff
<b>INORGANICS</b>							
Barium	No	4/17/18	0.021	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	3/23/17	24	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring

Chromium	No	4/17/18	0.0013	ppm	N/A	0.1	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	No	4/17/18	0.0010	ppm	N/A	0.1	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	3/23/17	15	ppm	N/A	No limit	Naturally Occuring
Sulfate	No	3/23/17	12	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	2/14/18 5/16/18 8/16/18 11/15/18	0.97 Avg. Range 0.81-1.1	PPM	10	10.0 MCL	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead <sup>2</sup>	No	6/20/18	1.1 Range <1.0-1.2	PPB	0	AL = 15	Contained in Finished water, an artifact of old piping and lead soldered joints
Copper <sup>1</sup>	No	6/20/18	0.044 Range 0.0066- 0.048	mg/L	1.3	Mg/L= 1.3	Contained in finished water, an artifact of old piping and lead soldered joints
ORGANICS Trihalomethanes, Total	No	2/16/18 5/11/18 8/17/18 11/15/18	57.0 Avg Range 42.0-76.0	ppb	N/A	80 MCL	Contained in Chlorinated Water
Haloacetic Acids, HAA5	No	2/16/18 5/11/18 8/17/18 11/15/18	25.8 Avg. Range 4.5-43.0	ppb	N/A	60 MCL	Contained in Chlorinated Water
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Gross Alpha	No	04/16/15	7.15	PCi/L	0	15 PCi/L	Contained in soil or sedimentary rock formations
Gross Beta	No	04/16/15	ND	PCi/L	0	4 PCi/L	Contained in soil or sedimentary rock formations
Combined Radium 226 & 228	No	4/16/15	ND	PCi/L	0	5 PCi/L	Contained in soil or sedimentary rock formations
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							

Chromium	No	3/18/15 6/18/15	0.29, 0.29 0.095, 0.17	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium-3or-6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Strontium	No	3/18/15 6/18/15 12/17/15	84.1, 86.6 81.9, 80.5 85.5, 82.3	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions
Hexavalent Chromium	No	3/18/15 6/18/15 12/17/15	0.033 0.048, 0.0 30 0.043, 0.0 31	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium -3or-6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Vanadium	No	6/18/15	0.12, 0.11	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst
Chlorate	No	12/17/15	180, 160	ppb	N/A	N/A	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproduct; and used in

							production of chlorine dioxide
Bromide	No	7/02/18 10/02/18	15 15	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.
TOC	No	7/02/18 10/02/18	3.88 4.63	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
Manganese	No	7/02/18 10/02/18	0.86 1.7	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.
Haloacetic Acids, (HAA9)	No	7/05/18 10/02/18	33.2 19.3	ppb	N/A	N/A	Contained in Chlorinated Water.
Haloacetic Acids, (HAA6Br)	No	7/05/18	4.9	ppb	N/A	N/A	Contained in Chlorinated Water.
<b>Cyanotoxin</b>							
Microcystin Finished water	No	8/14/18- 11/8/18	All <0.3	ppb	0	N/A <sup>3</sup>	Naturally occurring due to algae blooms
Microcystin Raw water	N/A	8/14/18- 11/8/18 30 samples	Range <0.3-1.2	ppb	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring due to algae blooms

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1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 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. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value (0.044 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

3 – The United States Environmental Protection Agency 10-day health advisory level for microcystin is 0.3 ppb for children less than or equal to 5 years of age and vulnerable populations; and 1.6 ppb for all other people.

## 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.

**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.

**Level 2 Assessment**: A Level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

**Picograms 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.

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr)**: A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

## 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.

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 Weedsport 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?**

During 2018, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## **INFORMATION ON RADIOLOGICAL TESTING**

Radiological Testing was performed in 2015. Regulatory limits are as listed on the table, and all testing was below limits. Testing will be due again in 2024.

## **Information on Unregulated Contaminants**

We were required to test for the unregulated contaminants in 2015 and 2018. A list of the contaminants found are in the summary of detected contaminants section of this report.

## **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.
- ◆ **A NOTE FROM NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**
- ◆ The NYS Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for the City of Auburn, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. This 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 lakes. 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 the section of this document “Are there contaminants in our drinking water?” for a list of the contaminants that have been detected in the drinking water.) The source water assessments are intended to provide managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.
- ◆ As mentioned before, our water is derived primarily from Owasco Lake. The source water assessment has rated this source as having an elevated susceptibility to protozoa and phosphorus due to the amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area and the quantity of wastewater discharged from municipal wastewater treatment plants to surface water. In addition, this source water assessment rated Owasco Lake as having an elevated susceptibility to pesticide contamination due to the amount of agricultural lands.
- ◆ County and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the complete assessment is available for review by calling the Cayuga County Health Department at 315-253-1405.

## 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 if you have questions.

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Seth Jensen  
 Director of Municipal Utilities  
 315-255-4180  
[sjensen@auburnny.gov](mailto:sjensen@auburnny.gov)

United States Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/">www.epa.gov/safewater/</a>	Cayuga County Health Dept Kathleen Cuddy, Public Health Director 315-253-1560
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John West,  
 Chief Water Plant Operator  
 315-253-8754  
[jwest@auburnny.gov](mailto:jwest@auburnny.gov)

Visit the City’s website for information regarding our water supply <http://www.auburnny.gov>