Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2022
Village of Cato
2564 MILLARD AVE
CATO, NY 13033
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID# 0501715

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Village of Cato, 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 Brad Milton, Water Superintendent at 315-626-2397. 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 normally on second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Office, 2564 Millard Avenue, Cato N.Y 13033.

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 number 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 source is a ground water source consisting of two well fields. Schuler well #2 is located off Rte. 34 just south of the Village. Well #10, 14, 15 are located on Bonta Bridge Road in Meridian and are owned and operated by Dudley Water Supply. The water is chlorinated by injection of sodium hypochlorite solution for disinfection purpose and is then pumped to the distribution system. Water not consumed by our customers is then stored in a 178,000-thousand-gallon elevated storage tank located on East Mechanic Street in the Village of Cato. Our water system serves 580 people through 267 service connections.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYSDOH 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 water source, 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. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters in the future.

Our well #2 source is the Cato well which is a single drilled well. The source water assessment has rated this well as having no or low susceptibility to any contamination. No significant sources of contamination were identified. The well draws from an unconfined aquifer and the hydraulic conductivity is unknown. Please Note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

Our well # 10, 14, & 15 source is from Dudley Water Supply, which is derived from 3 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high to microbial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of animal pastures in relation to the wells. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer with unknown hydraulic conductivity. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates these wells as being susceptible to microbials, the water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

County and State Health Departments will use this information to direct future source water protection act1v1t1es. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the assessment is available for review by calling the Cayuga County Health Department at 315-253-1405.

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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, halo acetic 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).

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
MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS							
NITRATE	NO	7/11/22 7/15/22	Source#1-0.52 Source #2-Avg. 1.7 Range 0.93-2.38	mg/L	10	10	Run off fertilizer use leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
SODIUM	NO	7/11/2022 7/14/2022	Source# 1-48 Source #2-29	mg/I..	N/A	NO LIMIT	Naturally occurring: road salt; water softeners; animal wastes
BARIUM	NO	10/26/2022 2/24/2022	Source# 1 .55 Source #2-.102	ug/L	ppm	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes: discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Dibromochloromethane	NO	8/10/2022 2/24/2022	Source#1 0.0063 Source# 2 0.0008	ppm	ppm	N/A	Byproduct of chlorine
COPPER	NO	07/11/2022 8/4/2020	Source# 1-AL=0.88 Range 0.1-0.97 Source #2-AL=0.32 Range 0.030-0.62	mg/L	1.3	AL=l.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
LEAD'	NO	07/11/2022 8/4/2020	Source #1-AL=2.1 Range <1-2.3 Source #2-AL=0.65 Range <1-IJ	ug/L	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
ASBESTOS	NO	10/19/2020	Source# I ND	MFL	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits.
VOLATILE ORGANIC							

CONTAMINANTS							
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	NO	8/3/2022 8/4/2020	Source#1-15.1 Source #2-20	ug/L	*NIA*	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMS are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
HAA5 (Halo acetic Acids)	NO	8/3/2022 8/4/2020	Source #1-3.9 Source #2-12	ug/1.	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Gross Alpha	NO	10/4/2017 4/9/2017	Source# I-1.8 Source #2-0.707	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
1,4-Dioxane	NO	10/20/22	Source# I <0.20 Source #2<0.20	ug/L	0	1	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.
Pernuorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	NO	10/20/2022 *10/22/2022*	Source #1-<1.8 Source #2 ND	ng/L	*NIA*	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Perlluorooctanc Sul Ionic acid (PFOS)	NO	10/20/2022 10/22/2022	Source #1-<1.8 Source #2 ND	ng/L	*NIA*	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.

Source#1=Village of Cato

Source#2=Dudley Water Supply

1-Water containing more than 20 mg/I of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/I 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 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 0.88 mg/I for well# I and 0.32mg/L for well #2. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten samples collected in each system. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 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.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant 111 drinking water.

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 (ugll): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (pa1is per billion - ppb).

Nanograms per liter (ngll): Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

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

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.

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 Cato 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 *Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)*. 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 2022, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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 I 00 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 if you have questions (315-626-2397).