ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2022
Routes 38/31 WATER DISTRICT
(Public Water Supply ID # NY0530012)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority, will issue an annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and the 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 any maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to NYS standards is contained in this report.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please contact a CCWSA Water Operator @ (315)252-0920. We want you to be informed of your drinking water and any concerns you may have. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled Board meetings – meetings are scheduled the third Wednesday of each month @ 1pm in the Hotaling Conference Room (7413 County House Road Auburn NY 13021).

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 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 and the FDA have regulations that establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide protection for public health.

The CCWSA purchases water from the city of Auburn. Please refer to the 2022 Annual Water Quality Report for the City of Auburn.
https://www.auburnny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4131/f/uploads/auburn_2022_water_quality_report.pdf
Our water system for Routes 38/31 serves approximately 958 people through 383 meter/service connections. Our water source is Owasco Lake, located in Cayuga County on the south edge of the City of Auburn, in Auburn, NY. The surface water is filtered by the City of Auburn at the source. As it enters the CCWSA system, subsequent chlorination is introduced.

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, 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 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 (#1-800-426-4791) or the Cayuga County Health Department (#315-253-1405).

Contaminant	Violation	Sample Date	Result	Units	MCL	MCLG	Sources in Drinking Water
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	No	2/14/22 5/16/22 8/15/22 11/14/22	Avg. 68[3] Range 50.7-83.9	ug/l	80	n/a	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 (mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid)	No	2/14/22 5/16/22 8/15/22 11/14/22	Avg. 33[3] Range 9.5-37	ug/l	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Lead	No	7/27/22	0 [1] Range <1	ug/L	AL= 15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	7/27/22	0.07[2] Range 0.0062-0.072	mg/L	AL= 1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 11 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 lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 11 samples were collected at your water system and sample results were <1 ug/L. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 11 samples collected. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – This level represents the highest locational running average calculated from data collected.

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 is 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.*

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

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).*

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 New York State requirements.
We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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 hour home's plumbing. The Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority 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 2022, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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 – 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 – 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 unseen 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 of our customers help us protect our water sources – the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority
7413 County House Road
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(315-252-0920)