

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023**  
**New Woodstock Water District**  
**7 Albany Street**  
**Cazenovia, NY 13035**  
**Public Water Supply ID#NY2602380**



## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations the Town of Cazenovia, 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 Bryan Smith, Highway Superintendent at 315-655-4852. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

## **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 Department's 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 approximately 460 individuals through 155 service connections. Our water sources are two drilled wells approximately 115 feet deep. The wells are located off Pearl Street and the water is disinfected with liquid chlorine prior to being delivered to the customer.

## **NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM:**

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.

The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future. The public water supply serving the New Woodstock Water District is derived from 2 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium to medium-high susceptibility rating for microbials, a medium susceptibility for industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants, and a rating of medium-high for nitrates. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and land use practices (mining) identified within the assessment area. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates the wells as being susceptible to microbials, the water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

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. If you should have

any questions or if you would like to review the Source Water Assessments in our office please feel free to contact the Madison County Department of Health at 315-366-2526.

#### 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, 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 Madison County Health Department at 315-366-2526.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

| <b>Contaminant</b>      | <b>Violation Yes/No</b> | <b>Date of Sample</b> | <b>Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)</b> | <b>Unit of Measurement</b> | <b>MCLG</b> | <b>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)</b> | <b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>                                                                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform Bacteria | No                      | 11/15/22              | 1 positive sample                       | NA                         | NA          | TT= 2 or more positive samples.         | Naturally present in the environment.                                                                                     |
| Barium                  | No                      | 9/8/20                | 114                                     | ug/L                       | 2000        | 2000                                    | Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.                                                                |
| Barium                  | No                      | 6/20/23               | 92                                      | ug/L                       | 2000        | 2000                                    | Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.                                                                |
| Arsenic                 | No                      | 9/8/20                | 5.5                                     | ug/L                       | NA          | 10                                      | Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.                                                                |
| Arsenic                 | No                      | 6/20/23               | 5.39                                    | ug/L                       | NA          | 10                                      | Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.                                                                |
| Fluoride                | No                      | 6/20/23               | 0.2                                     | mg/L                       | NA          | 2.2                                     | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |

| Contaminant                     | Violation Yes/No | Date of Sample | Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range) | Unit of Measurement | MCLG  | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL) | Likely Source of Contamination                                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lead<br><i>See Footnote 1</i>   | No               | 8/26/20        | 1.55<br>Range<br>(ND – 1.8)      | ug/L                | 0     | AL=15                            | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper<br><i>See Footnote 1</i> | No               | 8/26/20        | 0.059<br>Range<br>(0.011-0.085)  | mg/L                | 1.300 | AL=1.300                         | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |

#### Disinfection By-Products

|                               |    |         |      |      |   |    |                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------|----|---------|------|------|---|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)       | No | 8/24/23 | 1.3  | ug/L | 0 | 60 | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.                                                                              |
| Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHM) | No | 8/24/23 | 17.2 | ug/L | 0 | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter. |

#### Organic Contaminants

|                       |    |         |     |      |    |    |                                                                             |
|-----------------------|----|---------|-----|------|----|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chloroform            | No | 8/24/23 | 4.5 | ug/L | NA | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. |
| Bromodi-chloromethane | No | 8/24/23 | 5.7 | ug/L | NA | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. |
| Dibromochloro-methane | No | 8/24/23 | 4.6 | ug/L | NA | 80 | By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. |

## Notes:

**1** – The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 5 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper and lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values were 0.059 mg/L for copper and 1.55 ug/L for lead. The action levels for copper or lead were not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

## Definitions:

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**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.

**Not Applicable (NA):** Indicates that the MCLG is not applicable.

**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).

**Not Detected (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

The table shows that in 2022 a surveillance sample collected indicated the presence of total coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are normally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in the distribution system or water treatment. Two additional samples were subsequently collected on November 17, 2022 and neither of those indicated the presence of total coliform.

Although arsenic was detected below the MCL, on September 8, 2020 it was detected at 5.5 parts per billion, and on June 20, 2024 it was detected at 5.39 parts per billion, which is greater than one-half of the MCL. Therefore, we are required to present the following information on arsenic in drinking water:

“NYS and EPA have promulgated a drinking water arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion. While your drinking water meets the standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.”

In addition we are required to provide the following information on Lead:

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 New Woodstock Water District 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?**

In 2023, our water system operated in general compliance with the applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

### **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

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:

- ◆ 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.

### **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. 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.