

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2007
SANDUSKY WATER SYSTEM
OPERATED BY VILLAGE OF ARCADE
17 CHURCH STREET, ARCADE, NEW YORK
(Public Water Supply ID# NY 0400350)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Village of Arcade 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 has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality statement. 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 about your drinking water, please contact Larry Kilburn, Superintendent of Public Works at 585-492-1111 x113. We want you to be informed. If you want to learn more, please feel free to attend any of the regularly scheduled Village of Arcade Board of Trustee meetings held the first and third Tuesdays of every month.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR DRINKING WATER?

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 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 that 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 source is one well located on Mutton Hollow Road in Sandusky. The well can produce about 300 gpm. The water is chlorinated and fluoridated prior to distribution. The water system serves about 336 people through 112 connections.

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for our water system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to the drinking waters sources were evaluated. The 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 contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section "ARE 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. As was mentioned before, our water is derived from a single well. The source water assessment has rated the susceptibility to contamination for this well as high from enteric viruses and nitrates; and medium-high from cations/anions (salts, sulfate), enteric bacteria, halogenated solvents, herbicides/pesticides, metals, other industrial organics, petroleum products and protozoa. The ratings for the well are due to its proximity to agricultural activities and specific aquifer characteristics. While the assessment rates our source as being susceptible to enteric bacteria, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards.

ARE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, metals (including lead and copper), trihalomethanes, volatile organic compounds 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 Cattaraugus County Health Department at 716-373-8050.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Average) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	N	01/13/05	92	ug/l	2000	MCL=2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper *	N	08/21/03	260 (ND-260)	ug/l	1300	AL=1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
Fluoride	N	Daily	1,100	ug/l	N/A	MCL=2,200	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Lead **	N	10/11/06	3 (ND-3)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	8/30/06	2,120	ug/l	10,000	MCL=10,000	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (SO4)	N	01/13/05	16	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250	Naturally occurring
Gross Alpha	N	01/02/07	.08	Pci/l	NA		Naturally occurring
Gross Beta	N	01/02/07	1.7	Pci/l	NA		Naturally occurring
Radium 226	N	01/02/07	.07	Pci/l	NA		Naturally occurring
Radium 228	N	01/02/07	0.7	Pci/l	NA		Naturally occurring

Notes

* The level presented represents the 90th 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the highest and second highest values, 260 ug/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

** The 90th percentile level for lead was 3 ug/l. None of the samples from five sites exceeded the action level of 15 ug/l.

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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. The table shows that we had an MCL violation for odor.

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 (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 our table, our system had no violations. We 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?

We constantly test for various contaminants in our water supply to comply with regulatory requirements. In 2007, all results were satisfactory.

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 SAVING WATER IS IMPORTANT

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 droughts and helps to avoid severe water use restrictions, so that essential fire fighting 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.
- ♦ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

CLOSING

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. If you see any suspicious activity please report it immediately to the Village Office at 585-492-1111. Also, please call our office if you have questions.