

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Village of Pulaski
4917 Jefferson Street, Pulaski, NY 13142
Public Water Supply ID # 3704364

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Village of Pulaski will be issuing an annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water awareness and 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 Michele Cusyck at 298-2622. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Water Board meetings. They are generally held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Snow Memorial Building located at 4917 Jefferson Street, in the Village of Pulaski.

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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 New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

FACTS AND FIGURES:

Our water system serves 2,400 people via 861 service connections. The Village's water source consists of five (5) concrete-lined wells, or cisterns, which intercept groundwater flow from the tug hill aquifer. The cistern wells are eight to 10 feet in diameter and they have an average depth of 10-12 feet. The well field is located in the Town of Richland, approximately three miles east of the Village of Pulaski. The water is treated with sodium hypochlorite at our water treatment plant prior to distribution. Fire protection and system pressure is provided to the village by a 900,000 - gallon water

storage tank. The Village has a daily system production capacity of approximately 800,000 gallons, with an average daily production of 400,000 gallons. **The village completed Phase I of our water systems improvements project in 2022 replacing water mains, valves and fire hydrants in our distribution system. We are currently seeking funding to complete Phase II of the project to replace the remaining water mains, valves and hydrants.**

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated by reviewing limited existing mapped data and available information from past sanitary surveys. The state source water assessment provides a susceptibility rating based on the potential risk posed by each possible source of contamination and how easily contaminants could 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 assessment was completed to provide owners and operators with additional information to help them protect your source waters into the future.

As mentioned above, our water is derived from five wells that draw from an unconfined aquifer with an unknown hydraulic conductivity. The source water assessment rated these wells as having a low susceptibility rating for viruses due to the location of nearby septic systems. The assessment also rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility rating for cations/anions, halogenated solvents, herbicides/pesticides, metals, nitrates, petroleum products, and other industrial organics. No other significant sources of possible contamination were identified.

Please note that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State’s drinking water standards for microbial and nitrate contamination. We have never detected any volatile organics, petroleum products, or pesticides/herbicides in the drinking water wells for the Village. County and State Health Departments will use this risk assessment information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, wellhead protection, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted below.

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, 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 Oswego County Health Department at (315) 349-3564.

Table Of Detected Compounds

Contaminate	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminates							
Copper 90th percentile*	No	Sep-23	52.2 ug/L Range (15.5-52.9)	ppm	1.3 mg/L	AL = 1.3 mg/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead 90th percentile*	No	Sep-23	1.1 ug/L Range (0-1.2)	ppb	0	AL = 15 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Barium	No	10/3/2022	0.0065 mg/L	ppm	2 mg/L	2mg/L	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	No	12/5/2022	12.8 mg/L	ppm	N/A	250mg/L	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt.
Nitrate (As Nitrogen)	No	10/18/2023	1.1 mg/L	ppm	10 mg/L	10mg/L	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium **	No	12/5/2022	7.4 mg/L	ppm	N/A	2 mg/L	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softener treatment, animal waste.
Sulfate	No	12/5/2022	4.88 mg/L	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally Occuring
Zinc	No	12/5/2022	12.2 ug/l	ppb	N/A	5,000 ug/l	Naturally Occuring; Mining Waste
Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	8/15/2023	1.8 ug/L	ppb	N/A	80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Radioactive Contaminants

Radium 226	No	12/5/2022	0.382 pCi/L	pCi/L	0pCi/L	5pCi/L ³	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	No	12/5/2022	2.89 pCi/L	pCi/L	0pCi/L	15pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits

Notes:

* The levels presented for copper and lead represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of the distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile value is equal to or greater than 90% of the values detected in your water system. In this case 10 samples were collected and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value. The action levels for copper and lead were not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

** No State standards exist for levels of sodium in public drinking water. However, the State recommends that water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on

moderately restricted sodium diets.

DEFINITIONS:

Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The “Goal” (MCLG) is 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.

Non-Detects (ND or <number value) – Laboratory analysis indicates that the tested compound is not present in the sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million – ppm). Or one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion – ppb). Or one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no MCL violations during 2023.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. The village had no monitoring violations and reporting violations in 2023.

DO I NEED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS? IS OUR WATER SAFE FOR EVERYONE?

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). Please note that testing of the water at this system has shown that this water is suitable for drinking water purposes, and contains very low amounts of contaminants and should not pose any health risks.

INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Spanish:

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

French:

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.

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 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 up 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 providing 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 to address improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please review the attached water source protection, and water conservation tips sheet. Please call our office if you have questions.