

## *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016*

### *Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park Ballard Road, Wilton, Saratoga County, New York Public Water Supply ID #4501825*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State and Federal regulations, we 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. 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 the park office at 518-884-0632.

#### **WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 insure 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.

Our water system serves approximately 80 individuals through 38 service connections and uses approximately 2,000,000 gallons of water a year. Drinking water for the park is groundwater from four driven points located within the park. Water is pumped from the wells, chlorine is added for disinfection, and is then pumped into an 8000 gal storage tank. Water is then pumped from the storage tank to the distribution system maintaining 40-60psi through-out the system.

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, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and the related industrial activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination.

The State Health Department will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us at 518-884-0632.

#### **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 bacteria, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, synthetic organic compounds, lead and copper, radiologicals, disinfection byproducts, and volatile organic compounds. In addition your water is tested for coliform bacteria. The Table presented below lists which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled 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 NYSDOH at 518-793-3893.

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants</b>							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Average) (Range)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Barium	No	10/14/15	35	µg/L	2000	MCL = 2000	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Average) (Range)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	No	09/28/16	0.023 <sup>1</sup> (ND - 0.037) <sup>2</sup>	mg/L	0	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	No	09/28/16	45.5	mg/L	N/A	MCL = 250	By-product of drinking water disinfection treatment plants using chlorine dioxide.
Manganese	No	9/28/16	30	µg/L	N/A	MCL = 300	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination.
Nitrate as N	No	9/28/16	4.66	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Odor	No	9/28/16	1	TON	N/A	MCL = 3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources.
Sodium	No	9/28/16	30	mg/L	N/A	N/A <sup>3</sup>	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Sulfate	No	9/28/16	23.7	mg/L	N/A	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring.
<b>Stage-1 Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	05/18/16	2.39	µg/L	N/A	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
<b>Radiologicals</b>							
Radium 226	No	8/14/14	0.98	pCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	No	8/14/14	2.4	pCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion of natural deposits

#### 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 the average of the two highest sample results. Copper was not detected above the Action Level in any of the 5 samples collected in 2013.

2 - The levels presented represent the range of the five samples.

3 - The Health effects language for sodium is as follows: "Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should 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 (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**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.

**Micrograms per liter (µg/L):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

**Milligrams per liter (mg/L):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr):** A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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

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

#### WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations in 2016. We have 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?

During 2016, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

#### INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN DRINKING WATER AND ITS EFFECT ON CHILDREN:

If present, elevated levels of 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 Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorder. Some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. Additional information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at [1-800-426-4791](tel:1-800-426-4791) or the New York State Health Department, Glens Falls District Office at 793-3893.

#### **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.
- ◆ Water your lawn only when it needs it and avoid running the sprinkler all night long. You can save 750-1,500 gallons per month.
- ◆ Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors. This can save 700 gallons per month.
- ◆ Shorten your showers. Even a one or two minute reduction can save up to 700 gallons per month.
- ◆ Capture tap water, while waiting for hot water to come down the pipes, in a watering can to use later on house plants or your garden. Saves 200 to 300 gallons per month.

#### **CLOSING**

We ask that all our residents help us protect our drinking water source. If you have any questions regarding the information presented in this report, please do not hesitate to contact Randy Rathbun at 518-884-0632.

This report was prepared for the Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park by:

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