

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025
Indian Lake Water District #2
PO Box 730 Indian Lake, NY 12842
Public Water Supply ID NY2000126

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Town of Indian Lake annually issues a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to deepen our understanding of drinking water resources and raise awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, our 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 standards. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where our water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report, or your drinking water, please contact Water Superintendent Evan Laprarie at (518) 648-5303. We want our customers to be informed about their water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every month at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall.

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 levels 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.

The sources of water for Indian Lake Water District #2 are four drilled wells. The water from the wells is pumped into the water plant where it is pre-treated with sodium hydroxide and chlorine before it is pumped through iron and manganese removal filters. The water is disinfected with chlorine before it flows into the 42,000-gallon storage tank below the treatment building. The water is pumped into the distribution system with two 250-gpm pumps. There is an emergency generator that can run the water plant in the event of power failure. The distribution system consists mostly of 6 and 8 inch cast iron piping and some AC piping. There are two storage tanks; a 100,000-gallon glass lined tank and a 150,000-gallon steel tank located on Tower Road. The system serves 900 people via 424 service connections.

The NYS Dept. of Health has completed a source water assessment for this system based on available information. The assessment includes an assigned susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each possible source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the ground to the wells. The susceptibility rating is only a rough estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, and it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is or will become contaminated. As mentioned earlier in this report, our water is derived from drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having an elevated susceptibility. No significant sources of contamination were identified. The health department will use this information to direct future source water protection activities.

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, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain some small amounts of 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 New York State Health Department (518) 891-1800.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	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 Contaminants							
Barium	no	2023	0.0091	mg/L	2	2(MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	no	2025	0.29	mg/L	n/a	10 (MCL)	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic systems & erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	no	2019	0.01	mg/L	n/a	5 (MCL)	Naturally occurring; mining waste
Sulfate	no	2019	6.63	mg/L	n/a	250 (MCL)	Naturally occurring
Chloride	no	2019	72.1	mg/L	n/a	250 (MCL)	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Sodium	no	2025	46	mg/L	n/a	See Note 3	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Lead	no	2025	0.003 ¹ ND – 0.0171 ²	mg/L	0	0.015 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	no	2025	0.98 ¹ 0.16 - 1.1 ²	mg/L	1.3	1.3 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Synthetic Organic Chemicals							
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	no	2024	1.26	ng/l	n/a	10 (MCL)	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	no	2025	63.6 – 70.5	ug/L	n/a	80 (MCL)	By-products of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains measurable amounts of organic matter.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)	no	2025	1.4 - 13.6	ug/L	n/a	60 (MCL)	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Radium 226	no	2020	0.6	pCi/L	0	5 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	no	2020	1.2	pCi/L	0	15 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits.

Notes:

- 1 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percentage of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead or copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value – only one of the ten samples was higher.
- 2 - The levels presented represent the range of the lead and copper samples collected. The action level copper was not exceeded at any location. The action level was exceeded at one sampling location and this resident was notified and educated on how to reduce lead levels.
- 3 - 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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of 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 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): If this concentration is exceeded, it triggers water treatment or other requirements that must be followed.

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

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).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nanograms per liter (ng/l) - Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

EPA Test Method 533 is used to measure PFOA and PFOS which are regulated perfluoroalkyl analytes with an MCL level of 10 nanograms per liter (ng/L) or 10 parts of liquid per 1 trillion parts of liquid. As part of EPA Test Method 533 a total of 25 analytes are also measured as part of that test. Unregulated perfluoroalkyl analytes that were analyzed in our water samples and had detectable levels are shown in the Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances table provided below.

Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances					
MCL level for each Unregulated PFAS Substance = 50,000 ng/L					
Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCGL or Health Advisory Level ^{1,2}
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA)	No	2024	0.794	ng/L	NA
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	No	2024	2.87	ng/L	NA
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPEA)	No	2024	0.921	ng/L	NA

- 1 - USEPA Health Advisory Levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Advisory Levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.
- 2 - All perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered Unspecified Organic Contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 50,000 ng/L.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see in the Table, we had no violations in 2025. In 2021, we had an Action Level exceedance for copper. As a result of this Action Level Exceedance, we began adding a zinc orthophosphate corrosion control inhibitor to our water. 2025 sampling results indicate that the corrosion control inhibitor continues to do its job. The lead action level was exceeded at one sampling location, and this resident was notified and provided public education regarding was to reduce lead levels.

We have learned through our testing that other contaminants have been detected, however, these contaminants were below the level allowed by the state. Even though the action level for lead was not exceeded at any of our sampling locations, we are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water: Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Indian Lake Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formulas, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Indian Lake Water District – Pat Mahoney at (518) 648-5303. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

Last year, our system was in compliance with all applicable New York State drinking water operating, monitoring, and reporting requirements, including the preparation of a lead service line inventory. This inventory is publicly available and can be accessed at the **Indian Lake Town Office**.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

The Town of Indian Lake recently completed a Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) of the Indian Lake Water District and submitted it to the NYS Department of Health on October 16, 2024. The LSLI was updated in December 2025. Our system has a total of 425 service connections. We have identified 367 of these service lines. We have not identified any lead service lines or galvanized service lines requiring replacement. There are still 58 service lines that are of unknown material. Please contact the Town to let us know if your service line is either lead, galvanized pipe, copper, or plastic. If you need help making this determination, please contact the Town.

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 people such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, 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 several reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ♦ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs that are associated with both 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.
- ♦ 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 – 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.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. 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 these improvements. We ask all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.