

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024

Cottage Park Apartments
1261 Hoosick Street {Route 7}
Public Water Supply Identification Number NY4117220

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Cottage Park Apartments will be annually publishing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and your 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 is a snapshot of the past year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to New York State standards. Our constant goal is and always has been to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. If you have any questions concerning this report or concerning your drinking water please contact: *Ed Huneau, System Operator; Telephone (518) 776-0090. System Management Company – Rooted 518-655-3515 email office@rooted518.com*. We want our valued tenants to be informed about their water service.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Cottage Park Apartments draws its water from a ground water source. Groundwater or well water is stored below the surface of the earth in deep, porous rock called, "aquifers." Groundwater is purified naturally as it filters through layers of soil, clay, rock, and sand. This process, known as percolation, takes years to complete. As a result, groundwater requires less treatment than surface water. This ground water is pumped out of the ground through a drilled well. The well is drilled to a depth of approximately 240 feet. Chlorine in the form of sodium hypochlorite is added to the water, which is used for disinfection to protect against contamination from harmful bacteria and other organisms.

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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and EPA prescribe regulations, which limit the number of certain contaminants in water, provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

FACTS AND FIGURES

In 2024 Cottage Park Apartments provided water for twenty-four units and approximately fifty people, with eight service connections. The yearly water usage for the year was 433,190 gallons, average was 36,099 gallons a month and 1,184 gallons a day.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In accordance with State regulations, the Cottage Park Apartments routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. We test your drinking water for inorganic contaminants, radiological contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, and synthetic organic contaminants. In addition, we test 1 sample for coliform bacteria once every 3 months. The table presented below depicts which contaminants detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not expect to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old and is noted.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be expected to contain at least tiny amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily pose 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 Rensselaer County Health Department (518) 270-2711.

COTTAGE PARK APARTMENTS TEST RESULTS Public Water Supply Identification Number NY4117220						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measureme nt	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants (sample data from 5/07 unless otherwise noted)						
Barium (8/15/2017)	N	0.0928	ug/l	2000	MCL=2000	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
¹ Copper (sample data from 6/16/2023) 90 th Percentile Range of copper concentrations	N	0.0574 0.0065- 0.00719	mg/l	1.30	AL=1.30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Chloride (8/15/2017)	N	7.80mg/L	ppm	N/A	MCL=250	Geology; Naturally occurring
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (sample from 0)	N	4.76 1/17/24 3.61 5/1/24 3.91 8/1/24 2.40 11/1/24	ppm	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
pH (8/15/2017)	N	7.68	units	N/A	0	
³ Sodium (8/15/2017)	N	7.53mg/L	ppm	N/A	N/A	Geology; Road Salt
Sulfate (8/15/2017)	N	25.1 mg/L	ppm	N/A	MCL=250	Naturally Occurring
Zinc (8/15/2017)	N	0.0061 mg/L	ppb	N/A	5000	Galvanized pipe; corrosion inhibitor
Radioactive Contaminants (composite sample from 12/21/18)						
Radium 226	N	0.330	pCi/L	0	5	Naturally occurring
Radium 228	N	0.570	pCi/L	0	5	Naturally occurring
Combined Radium	N	0.900	pCi/L	0	5	Naturally occurring
Gross alpha	N	1.23	pCi/L	0	5	Naturally occurring

Chlorine Residual (range based on daily testing)	N	0.32-3.30	ppm	MRDLG N/A	MRDL MCL=4.00	Used in the treatment and disinfection of drinking water
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NOTES-

1. Copper is reported at 90 percentile, where 90% of samples collected are less than the average value. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 5 test sites 0.0574.
2. Lead is reported at 90 percentile, where 90% of samples collected are less than the average value. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 5 test sites 1.5ug.
3. Water containing more than 20 mg/l should not be consumed by persons on severely restricted sodium diets; Water containing more than 270 mg/l should not be consumed by persons on moderately restricted sodium diets

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - 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 - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in two million years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

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

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.

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 contaminant in drinking water.

N/A-Not applicable

90th Percentile Value- The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. 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 lead and copper values detected at your water system.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see from the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and assessing that those contaminants have been detected; however, these compounds were detected below New York State requirements. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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 people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 microbiological pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHAT IS THE SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SWAP)?

To emphasize the protection of surface and ground water sources used for public drinking water, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in 1996. The amendments require that the New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection is responsible for ensuring that source water assessments are completed for all of New York's public water systems.

A source water assessment provides information on the potential contaminant threats to public drinking water sources:

- Each source water assessment will: determine where water is used for public drinking water comes from (delineate the source areas)
- Inventory potential sources of contamination that may impact public drinking water sources
- Assess the likelihood of a source water area becoming potentially contaminated

A SWAP summary for your water supply is attached in this report.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

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. Cottage Park Apts. 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 formula, 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 *Ed Huneau, System Operator; Telephone (518) 776-0090. System Management Company – Rooted 518-655-3515 email office@rooted518.com*. 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>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL is owned by the property owner. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory, it is publicly available by using the URL:

https://health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/service_line/NY4117220.htm.

The distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

The Cottage Park Apt. Water System encourages water conservation. There are a lot of things you can do to conserve water in your own home. Conservation tips include: 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:

- ◆ 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 providing your family with clean, quality water this year. To maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our customers. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water source, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and children's future. Please call us if you have questions.

**Cottage Park Apartments
Water System
PWSID NY4117220
Source Water Assessment Summary**

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 water source 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 source water assessment has rated these wells as having medium-high susceptibility to microbial, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the proximity of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) to the wells and the associated industrial activity in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer of high hydraulic conductivity.

While the source water assessments rate our wells as being susceptible to microbial, 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 for microbial contamination.