



TOWN OF GREENBURGH

Consolidated Water & Sewer Districts

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2023 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Public Water Supply ID #5903429

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Town of Greenburgh Consolidated Water District No. 1, 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 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 Steven Houst, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator at (914) 989-1900. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled town board meetings. These meetings are normally held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Town Hall at 7:30 PM. Only one meeting is scheduled for July and August.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap 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 amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The District purchases all of its water from the City of New York, Department of Environmental Protection - Bureau of Water Supply via the Catskill and Delaware aqueducts. This "surface" water originates in protected watershed areas 120 miles northwest of Greenburgh in the Catskill Mountains after which it travels through a New York City owned system. During 2023, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. EPA now requires that most surface drinking water be filtered. The water we received from New York City's system had already undergone some of the required treatment prior to reaching us. This source water continues to be of such high quality that it meets the requirements for a "Filtration Avoidance" waiver from the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This is due to New York City's \$1.5 billion investment in watershed protection programs; the federal government allows New York City to continue receiving unfiltered drinking water from the Catskill and Delaware watersheds. The holistic approach exempts New York City from being required to build a filtration plant that could cost \$10 billion or more and therefore help reduce the cost increases we are already experiencing. However, under the requirements of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR), Catskill/Delaware water is required to have two types of disinfection. The water is already disinfected with chlorine, and the Catskill/Delaware Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection Facility provides the federally required secondary level of disinfection against potentially harmful microbiological contaminants such as Cryptosporidium and Giardia. The plant, which was put into operation in 2012, is located at the New York City-owned Eastview site in the towns of Mount Pleasant and Greenburgh. Additionally, New York City adds a small amount of fluoride to help prevent tooth decay. The District performed additional treatment consisting of additional disinfection utilizing chlorine and corrosion control utilizing blended liquid zinc orthophosphate and sodium hydroxide.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has evaluated the susceptibility of water supplies statewide to potential contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). Summarized in the paragraphs below are their findings related to our source of supply which are the Catskill/Delaware watersheds. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Furthermore, elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this Public Water System (PWS). Please be advised this PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

Specifically, the reservoirs in the Catskill/Delaware watersheds, a mountainous rural area, are relatively deep with little development along their shorelines. The main water quality concerns associated with land cover is agriculture, which can contribute microbial contaminants, pesticides and algae producing nutrients. There are also some potential contamination concerns associated with residential lands and associated wastewater discharges. However, advanced treatments which reduce contaminants are in place for most of these discharges. There are also a number of other discrete facilities, such as landfills, chemical bulk storages, etc. that have the potential to impact local water quality, but large significant water quality problems associated with these facilities are unlikely due to the size of the watershed and surveillance and management practices.

Furthermore, the NYC DEP has implemented a series of programs to evaluate and protect source water quality within these watersheds. Their efforts focus on three important program areas: the enforcement of strengthened watershed rules and regulations; the acquisitions and protection of watershed lands; and implementation partnership programs that target specific sources of pollution in the watersheds. Additional information on the water quality and protection efforts in these New York City watersheds can be found at DEP's website at:

www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/watershed_protection/home.html

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 43,000 people through 10,500 service connections. The total water produced in 2023 was 2.672 billion gallons. Of the total amount produced 351.3 million gallons was sold to other water districts. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 7.25 million gallons per day. Our highest single day was 10.81 million gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 2.291 billion gallons. This leaves an unaccounted total of 371.2 million gallons (13.91% of the total amount produced). This water was used to flush mains and fight fires; the remaining unaccounted-for balance was due to water main and service line breaks. As of July 1, 2023, water customers were charged quarterly, \$7.79 per 1,000 gallons for the first 11,999 gallons in a three-month period; \$9.77 per 1,000 gallons for 12,000 up to 50,999 gallons and \$11.61 per 1,000 gallons for 51,000 gallons and up. Customers billed on a monthly basis have the same rates with limits 1/3 of the quarterly limits. Out of District customers are charged \$14.83 per 1,000 gallons. The residential household average usage was approximately 89,356 gallons for the year and the approximate annual average water charge per user was \$794.

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, is 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 Westchester County Health Department at (914-813-5000).

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected Maximum/Average (Range)	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform ¹	No	4/2023, 5/2023	1 positive sample in each month	n/a	0	TT >5.0% of Samples	Naturally Present in the Environment
Turbidity – Distribution ²	No	10/2023	1.03	NTU	n/a	MCL= 5	Soil Runoff
Turbidity – Entry Point ³	No	3/2023	2.04	NTU	n/a	MCL = 5	Soil Runoff
Inorganic Contaminants							
Aluminum	No	4/4/23	13.8 (13.2-13.8)	ug/l	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	4/4/23	0.0130 (0.0128-0.0130)	mg/l	2	MCL=2	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	No	5/3/23	6.09 (5.77-6.09)	mg/l	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	5/3/23	14.0 (13.6-14.0)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Chlorine (Entry Point)	No	2023	1.44 (1.17-1.56)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (Distribution System)	No		0.98 (0.26-1.31)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Color (apparent)	No	5/3/23	5 (5-5)	Units	n/a	MCL=15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, decaying leaves, plants and soil organic matter
Fluoride	No	2023	0.82 (0.50-1.09)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=2.2	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive that promotes strong teeth
Iron	No	4/4/23	38.9 (33.9-38.9)	ug/l	n/a	MCL=300	Erosion of soils & natural deposits, corrosion of water main
Manganese	No	4/4/23	14.3 (13.2-14.3)	ug/l	n/a	MCL=300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Nickel	No	4/4/23	0.252 (0.237-0.252)	ug/l	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	No	5/3/23	0.11 (0.11-0.11)	mg/l	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer
Sulfate	No	5/3/23	4.22 (4.16-4.22)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=250	Naturally occurring
Sodium ⁴	No	4/4/23	10.2 (9.33-10.2)	mg/l	n/a	See Note 3	Naturally occurring; Animal waste
Zinc	No	4/4/23	0.877 (0.558-0.877)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=5.0	Naturally occurring; water additive for corrosion treatment
Water Quality Parameters							
Alkalinity	No	2023	16.0 (12.5-19.8)	mg/l	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
PH	No	2023	7.39 (7.10-7.51)	Units	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits, chemical addition to control corrosion
Phosphate	No	2023	1.21 (0.98-1.43)	mg/l	n/a	n/a	Chemical addition to control corrosion
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes	No	10/2023	39 ⁵ (15-49)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	No	10/2023	40 ⁵ (24-55)	mg/l	n/a	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Customer Lead & Copper							
Lead	No	6/2023	1.29 ⁶ (ND-13.5)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	6/2023	.1036 ⁷ (.012-.130)	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits
UCMR4							
Haloacetic Acid 6 (HAA6Br)	No	2018/2019	1.9-4.1	ug/l	n/a	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acid 9 (HAA9)	No	2018/2019	37-61	ug/l	n/a	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Undetected Perfluoroalkyl Substances							
PFOA-Delaware	No	10/2023	ND	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
PFOS-Delaware	No	10/2023	ND	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
1,4-Dioxane-Delaware	No	10/2023	ND	ug/l	n/a	MCL=1	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
PFOA-Catskill	No	10/2023	ND	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
PFOS-Catskill	No	10/2023	ND	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
1,4-Dioxane-Catskill	No	10/2023	ND	ug/l	n/a	MCL=1	Released from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

- 1- In April and May 2023, total coliforms were detected in 1 of the 50 routine monthly compliance samples collected at our system. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. Nine additional samples were subsequently collected and total coliforms were not detected in those samples. Since total coliforms were detected in <5% of the samples collected during the month, the system did not trigger a Level 1 assessment. It should be noted that E.coli, associated with human and animal fecal waste, was not detected in any of the samples collected.
- 2 - A MCL violation occurs when the average of all distribution system analyses for the month exceeds the MCL rounded off to the nearest whole number.
- 3- A violation occurs when the average of two consecutive daily entry point analyses exceeds the MCL rounded off to the nearest whole number
- 4- 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.
- 5- This level represents the highest locational running annual average calculated from the data collected
- 6 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 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 Lead values detected at our water system. In this case, 30 samples were collected in our water system and the 90th percentile value was the fourth highest value (1.29 ug/l). The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- 7 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 30 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 in our water system. In this case, 30 samples were collected in our water system and the 90th percentile value was the fourth highest value (1.036 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- 8- 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.
- 9- All perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered Unspecified Organic Contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 0.05 mg/L = 50,000 ng/L.

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)– The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as possible.

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 that, 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 a contaminant in drinking water

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

Turbidity – A measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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)

NON-DETECTED CONTAMINANTS:

The contaminants listed below were required to be tested for in our drinking water. The results showed that **none of these contaminants were detected** in our water. These Non-Detected contaminants are: Asbestos, Antimony, Arsenic, Beryllium, Cadmium, Mercury (Inorganic), Chromium, Copper, Silver, Cyanide, Lead, Selenium, Thallium, Nitrite (as N), Gross Alpha, Gross Beta, Radium-226, Radium-228, Benzene; 1,3-Dichloropropane; 1,3, 5-Trimethylbenzene; Bromobenzene, 2, 2- Dichloropropane; P & M-Xylene; Bromochloromethane; 1,1-Dichloropropene; O-Xylene; Bromomethane; cis-1, 3-Dichloropropene; Aldrin, N-Butylbenzene; trans-1,3-Dichloropropene; Carbaryl; sec-Butylbenzene; Ethylbenzene; Dalapon; tert-Butylbenzene; Hexachlorobutadiene; Carbon Tetrachloride; Chloromethane; Isopropylbenzene; Dicamba; Chlorobenzene; p-Isopropyltoluene; Dieldrin; Chloroethane; Methylene Chloride; Chloromethane; n-Propylbenzene; Hexachlorocyclopentadiene; 2-Chlorotoluene; Styrene; 3-Hydroxy Carbofuran; 4-Chlorotoluene, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane; Methomyl; Dibromomethane; 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane; 1,2-Dichlorobenzene; Tetrachloroethene, Picloram; 1, 3-Dichlorobenzene; Toluene; Propachlor; 1,4-Dichlorobenzene 1, 2, 3-; Trichlorobenzene; Naphthalene; Dichlorodifluoromethane; 1, 2, 4-Trichlorobenzene; Methyl T-Butyl Ether; 1,1-Dichloroethane; 1,1,1-Trichloroethane; 1, 2-Dichloroethane; 1,1,2-Trichloroethane; 1,2-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane; 1,1-Dichloroethene; Trichloroethene; 2,4,5-TP (Silvex); cis-1, 2-Dichloroethene; Trichlorofluoromethane; 1,2-Dibromoethane; trans-1,2-Dichloroethene; 1,2,3-Trichloropropane; 1,2-Dichloropropane; 1, 2, 4-Trimethylbenzene; Alachlor; Aldicarb; Endrin; Aldicarb Sufone; Heptachlor; Heptachlor epoxide; Aldicarb sulfoxide; Hexachlorobenzene; Atrazine; Lindane; Benzo(a)pyrene; Methoxychlor; PCB's-Screen; Carbofuran; Pentachlorophenol; Chlordane; bis(2-ethylhexl)adipate; bis(2-ethylhexl)phthalate; Butachlor; Metolachlor; Metribuzin; Simazine; 2,4-D; Toxaphene; Dinoseb; 2,4,5-TP (Silvex); Vinyl chloride; Oxamyl; 1,4-Dioxane; Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (POFS); Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA); Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS).

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see from the table our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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. Greenburgh Consolidated Water District #1 is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Town of Greenburgh Water & Sewer Department at 914-989-1900. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2023, The Greenburgh Consolidated Water District # 1 system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water monitoring and reporting requirements.

INFORMATION ON CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water and groundwater under the influence of surface water. NYC has collected and analyzed for *Cryptosporidium* oocysts since 1992. During 2023 as part of their routine sampling The City of New York, Department of Environmental Protection - Bureau of Water Supply collected a total of 52 routine samples from the Kensico Reservoir effluent and analyzed them for *Cryptosporidium* oocysts. Of these samples, 4 were positive for *Cryptosporidium*. Therefore their testing indicates the presence of *Cryptosporidium* in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, a gastrointestinal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

INFORMATION ON GIARDIA

Giardia is a microbial pathogen present in varying concentrations in many surface waters and groundwater under the influence of surface water. *Giardia* is inactivated by disinfection. During 2023 as part of their routine sampling The City of New York, Department of Environmental Protection - Bureau of Water Supply collected a total of 52 routine samples from the Kensico reservoir effluent and analyzed them for *Giardia* cysts. Of these samples, 25 were positive for *Giardia* cysts. Therefore their testing indicates the presence of *Giardia* in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Giardia* may cause giardiasis, an intestinal illness. People exposed to *Giardia* may experience mild or severe diarrhea, or in some instances no symptoms at all. Fever is rarely present. Occasionally, some individuals will have chronic diarrhea over several weeks or a month, with significant weight loss. Giardiasis can be treated with anti-parasitic medication. Individuals with weakened immune systems should consult with their health care providers about what steps would best reduce their risks of becoming infected with Giardiasis. Individuals who think that they may have been exposed to Giardiasis should contact their health care providers immediately. The *Giardia* parasite is passed in the feces of an infected person or animal and may contaminate water or food. Person to person transmission may also occur in day care centers or other settings where hand washing practices are poor.

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 \(800-426-4791\)](tel:800-426-4791).

INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. Fluoride is added to your water by the New York City DEP – Bureau of Water Supply (NYDEP) before it is delivered to us. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at a properly controlled level. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, NYDEP monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis to make sure fluoride is maintained at a target level of 0.7 mg/l. During (year) monitoring showed that fluoride levels in your water were within 0.2 mg/l of the target level for 85% of the time. During 2023, 99.9% of the water produced by the Catskill/Delaware supply was fluoridated.

INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS

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

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The Knollwood Water Storage Tank rehabilitation began in spring 2023. The work is ongoing and the tank is anticipated to be online by June 2024. The Fairview Water Storage Tank replacement is finishing design and will proceed to the Department of Health for approval upon completion. The Water District is constructing a new water storage tank and treatment facility on Town owned land adjacent to the Knollwood Pump Station. The work began in winter 2022 and is expected to be operational in late winter/early spring 2024. This work is being done to remain compliant with all Federal, State and Local water quality standards and as a result of NYC DEP's anticipated changes to the pretreatment of our source water. The Water District will begin a program to replace the older water mains in the system as an ongoing project with the goal of replacing 1% of the system a year.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Water conservation does not have to mean suffering or inconvenience. It does mean making the most efficient use of the supply available. Water conservation means changing our habits permanently - being aware of water and thinking how much we can save every time we water the lawn, turn on a faucet, push the button to start a dish or clothes-washer, or flush a toilet. 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
- 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 major 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:

- Use only the water needed to do the task.
- Turn off the water when you are not using it.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fixing a faucet leak, often only requires replacing a washer, and you can save almost 6000 gallons a year.
- 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.
- Water your yard only when necessary, you could cut your outdoor use in half.
- 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, and then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.
- Take your water-conserving habits to school or work. Leaks or running faucets are wasting your money here, too. Notify the building superintendent when something needs to be fixed.

For more conservation tips go to <http://planning.westchestergov.com/county-water-agency/water-conservation-tips>

CLOSING

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

Please share this report with others! Landlords, businesses, and other enterprises are encouraged to share this important water quality information with users at their locations. Additional copies of this report may be obtained by contacting the Town of Greenburgh Water & Sewer Department at (914) 989-1900.

