

2025 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Wells Bridge Water Association Incorporated
County Route 4
Tax Parcel ID: 323.00-1-68.02
Wells Bridge, NY 13859
(Public Water Supply ID# NY3800159)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Wells Bridge Water Association Inc., 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 Andrew Barber, President, at 607-287-4207. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. These meetings are held every two months at the Wells Bridge Fire House located at 116 County Route 4 in Wells Bridge, NY.

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 amount 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.

Our water system is served by three separate water sources. The main sources of water for the system is two wells, named Well #1 and Well #2. Well #1 produces 8 gallons per minute (gpm) of water while Well #2 produces 13 gpm. Sanitization treatment for both wells is provided by pellet chlorinators. Water from both wells is pumped into the disinfection unit and then into a storage reservoir. The 23,000-gallon storage reservoir has been outfitted with a liner and cover to minimize leakage and contamination. From the storage reservoir water flows by gravity into the distribution system. The water system serves approximately 115 people through 40 service connections. Average daily water use cannot be determined because the water system is not equipped with a flow meter to measure the amount of water supplied to customers on a daily basis.

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 contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and synthetic organic contaminants. Additionally, your water was tested for coliform and *E. Coli* monthly. The table presented below depicts which contaminants were detected in your drinking water. 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 Oneonta District Health Department at 607-432-3911.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS							
CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION (Yes/No)	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED (Avg/Max) (Range)	UNIT MEASURE- MENT	REGULATORY LIMIT (MCL or AL)	MCLG	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate	NO	12/10/2025	0.658	mg/L ¹	10	10	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	NO	12/10/2025	0.08	mg/L	2	2	discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	NO	9/4/2024	1.18 ³ (0.109-1.67)	mg/L	AL = 1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs- Chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	NO	9/29/2025	1.1	µg/L	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter

NOTES:

- 1 – Milligrams per liter (mg/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million- PPM)
- 2 – Micrograms per liter (µg/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion- PPB)
- 3– Copper: The level presented represents the 90th 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile values was the average of the 4th & 5th highest values. The action level for copper was exceeded at one of the five sites tested.
- 4— Nanograms per liter (ng/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion-PPT).

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): This is the health-based goal at which no known or anticipated adverse effects on human health occur and for which an adequate margin of safety exists.

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 possible, considering cost, benefits and the ability of public water systems to detect and remove contaminants using suitable treatment technologies.

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.

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.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2025, 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 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).

We are required to provide the following information on lead even though lead was not detected in our most recent samples.

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 Wells Bridge Water Association 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 Andrew Barber. 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 may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. 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 and have made it publicly accessible by contacting Andrew Barber.

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 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. 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 in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our Water Association President if you have questions.