

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024

Evergreen Home Owners Association

PO Box 84

Chestertown, NY 12817

Public Water Supply ID#NY5630037

INTRODUCTION

To comply with New York State regulations, the Evergreen Home Owners Association (HOA), 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. We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is 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 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: Mr. Jason J. Monroe, PO Box 592, Chestertown, NY 12817; by telephone (518) 494-5434 or (518)-796-7698 (cell); or by email highway@townofchesterny.org. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

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 New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. For bottled water the NYS DOH and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Evergreen HOA draws its water from "groundwater" sources. Groundwater or well water is stored below the surface of the earth in deep, porous rocks 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 usually requires less treatment than surface water. We have two wells. Well #1 (Well A) serves Buildings 14-18 and is 39 feet deep. Well #2 (Well B) serves Buildings 19 and 20 and is 85 feet deep. The water from each well is stored in two 100-gallon hydropneumatic tanks to meet consumer demand and maintain distribution system pressure. Historically, we have maintained a chlorination waiver, which is issued from year to year, based on the previous year's satisfactory microbiological monitoring results. However, during 2021 we received several positive total coliform sample results for Well # 1 (Buildings 14-18) and could not identify a source. This resulted in the issuance of a boil water order which remained in place until a Department of Health approved disinfection system was installed in August 2022. The disinfection waiver for Well #2 and Buildings 19-20 is still in place.

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 source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how rapidly contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contamination can travel through the environment to reach the well. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, but 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

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have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future. The NYS DOH will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, and planning and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us.

Based on the analysis of available information for this source, there are no water quality concerns found in the assessment area. No land cover water quality concerns, permitted discharges, or other discrete facilities were identified in the assessment area using GIS (Geographic Information System) data.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our system serves approximately 100 people through 28 service connections. When we installed our Department of Health approved disinfection system in 2022 in Buildings 14-18, we also installed flow meters. See the chart below for the average daily demand and the total 6-month demand for all 5 buildings. The winter season is November – April and the summer season is May – October. As expected, winter demand varied depending on the number of units occupied or rented.

	Average Daily Demand (gallons)	Total 6-month Demand (gallons)
2022-23 winter season	700	125,780
2023-24 winter season	527	111,410
2023 summer season	885	163,040
2024 summer season	820	150,860

Buildings 19 and 20 remain unmetered.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. In addition, we test 2 samples for coliform bacteria monthly. 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 New York State Department of Health Glens Falls district office at (518) 793-3893.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

Lead and Copper

In past years we have had violations of the lead and copper action levels at the 90th percentile. In 2021 a pilot study was conducted to demonstrate that the installation of 2 types of point-of-use filters (the Brita faucet filter or the 3M undersink filter) would result in compliance with the lead and copper action levels at the 90th percentile. Several samples were collected in 2021 and 2022 from taps where these filters were installed as part of the pilot, all of which demonstrated this compliance.

Later in 2022 each tap within the association was equipped with one of the 2 point-of-use filters tested in the pilot

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study. As required by the NYS DOH we then tested each tap in 2023 to ensure that each filter was working properly and did reduce the amounts of lead and copper to below action levels. Those tests were completed in August – November, and all the results were well below the action levels for lead and copper.

In 2024 NYS DOH required that we test 5 samples between June 1st and September 30th. One of these samples was mistakenly taken on July 8th from an outside water spigot (untreated water) instead of an inside kitchen faucet (treated water), and the test results for this untreated water sample were above the action level for lead. We were allowed to retest this unit, and the test result for this treated sample was well below the action level for lead. However, because the retest sample was collected after September 30th, we were required by the NYS DOH to issue a lead action level exceedance public notice and a public education notice to all our homeowners in January 2025.

We are required to furnish the following health effects information:

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks."

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Coliform

In November and December 2021 we received confirmed total coliform positive sample results from our well # 1 system, and the NYS DOH issued a boil water order for Buildings 14-18. An investigation and follow-up sampling did not identify the source of the positive sample; therefore, a continuous disinfection system had to be installed. In February 2022 we submitted test results for 8 water quality parameters to the NYS DOH, and in June we submitted a completed Ultraviolet Disinfection System Application. In August 2022 five ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection systems were installed in Buildings 14-18, one in each building, and on August 31st and September 9th the boil water order was lifted. On October 3rd the NYS DOH inspected and approved our disinfection system, and since our UV system has been operating all total coliform test results have been negative.

The well #2 system (Buildings 19-20) continues to operate under a waiver from the disinfection requirements of Subpart 5-1 of the NYSSC. In 2024 all total coliform test results for both wells were negative.

On July 16, 2024 an EF-0 tornado with winds as high as 85 mph hit Green Mansions, taking down thousands of trees and leaving residents without power for a little more than 2 days. Because our water distribution system was depressurized for 4 hours or more creating the possibility of contamination, we were required to issue a boil water order. We tested our system on July 23rd and 24th, the test results were all absent for total coliform and E. coli, and the boil water order was lifted.

We are required to present the following health effects information:

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.

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We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some other constituents have been detected; however, these compounds were detected below New York State requirements. MCL's (Maximum Contaminant Levels) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 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?

Because of the 2016 discovery of significant Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) contaminated drinking water in other areas of New York State, the NYS DOH required the testing of all drinking water for PFOA and PFOS in 2020. As required, we first tested Well #1 and Well #2 for PFOA and PFOS in January 2021. The test results for Well #1 were below the detectable limits for both PFOA and PFOS, which are much lower than the MCL's of 10 ng/l (nanograms per liter) or 10 parts per trillion. The test result for Well #2 for PFOA was 3.09 ng/l or 3 parts per trillion, which is still significantly below the MCL; and for PFOS, below the detectable limit. Since this Well #2 PFOA test result was significantly below the MCL, the NYS DOH did not require any action. We were not able to identify the source of this result.

Since those first tests, we have tested Well #1 4 times and Well #2 5 times in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, and all the results have been below the detectable limits for both PFOA and PFOS.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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) or at safewater@epa.gov.

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. Evergreen HOA (~~Water Supply Name~~) 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 Mr. Jason J. Monroe, PO Box 592, Chestertown, NY 12817; by telephone (518) 494-5434 or (518)-796-7698 (cell); or by email highway@townofchesterny.org. (~~Water Supply Name and Contact Information~~) - 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>. 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 Evergreen HOA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety

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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 (800-426-4791) or at safewater@epa.gov.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

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.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.
- For information purposes only, our water usage is often above the U.S. average of 60-70 gallons per person per day. This is often the case when users do not pay a “per gallon” price.

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. Please contact us, if you have a question.

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Table of Detected Contaminants Evergreen HOA PWS ID# 5630037							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL,TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbial Contaminants							
Coliform	No	12/11/24	Well #1	N/A	Absence	N/A	Naturally occurring
	No	12/11/24	Well #2				
Inorganic Contaminants							
Chloride	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	32.3 Well #1 16.2 Well #2	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Copper	No	7/8/24 7/8/24	0.056 Well #1 ₁ 0.018 Well #2 ₁	ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	1/11/23 1/11/23	<0.10 Well #1 0.30 Well #2	ppm	N/A	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	0.018 Well #1 <0.010 Well #2	ppm	N/A	0.300	Geology, natural occurring
Lead	No	7/8/24 7/8/24	<.0010 Well#1 ₁ <.0010 Well #2 ₁	ppm	0	0.0150	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	0.002 Well #1 <0.001 Well #2	ppm	N/A	0.300	Geology, natural occurring
Nickel	No	1/11/23 1/11/23	0.0014 Well #1 <0.001 Well #2	ppm	N/A	N/A	Discharge from steel mills/metal factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	0.75 Well #1 0.23 Well #2	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Odor	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	<1.0 Well #1 <1.0 Well #2	units	N/A	3	Natural sources
Sodium ^{3a}	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	35.5 Well #1 8.2 Well #2	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softeners, animal waste
Sulfate	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	10.7 Well #1 7.6 Well #2	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	0.013 Well #1 0.826 Well #2	ppm	N/A	5	Corrosion inhibitors, galvanized pipe, naturally occurring
Synthetic Organic Chemicals							
PFOA/S ^{3a}	No	4/18/24 4/18/24	Not Detected Well #1 and #2	ppt	N/A	10	Released into the environ- ment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Lead and Copper							
Copper 90 th %	No	7/8/24	0.143 ¹ (ND -.230) ²	ppm	n/a	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting building to water mains, erosion of natural deposits
Lead 90 th %	Yes	7/8/24	0.124 ¹ (ND -.248) ²	ppm	n/a	AL = 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting building to water mains, erosion of natural deposits

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Notes:

1 - ~~The level presented is the 90th percentile of the 5 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is calculated by taking the average between the highest and second highest sample results. As discussed, one sample exceeded the lead action level which resulted in the 90th percentile to exceed as well. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.~~
~~The level presented represents the highest result of the 5 units sampled. Except for the result from the untreated sample taken on 7/8/24, all other results were less than the level presented.~~
2 - ~~This presents the range of all lead and copper results.~~
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 of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.
~~43~~ – Results are less than the Reporting Limit and should be considered as an estimate.

Glossary

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Action Level – the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
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.
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 (ng/l) – 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 (ng/l) – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 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 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.
N/A – Not applicable.

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