

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Town of Morristown Water District
PO Box 240 Morristown NY
(Public Water Supply ID# 4404391)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Town of Morristown, 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 has not violated 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 **The Development Authority of the North Country, at 315-661-3210**. 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. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the town offices.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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 the tap water is safe to drink, NYS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The NYS Department of Health (DOH) and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) have established regulatory limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection as tap water for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 500 people through 225 service connections. Our water source is the Saint Lawrence River. The intake is approximately 250 feet off shore in 18 feet of water and is located at 300 Caroline St. The water is gravity fed into the wet well where chlorine is added, it is then pumped through two 129 GPM Diatomaceous earth filters where chlorine is added for disinfection prior to distribution.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, E. Coli. Bacteria, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, nitrate, primary inorganic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, and principal organic chemicals. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. 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 NYS Health Department at (315) 386-1040.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Average Level Detected (Range)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity							
Turbidity ¹	No	Daily	100% <1.0	NTU	N/A	TT=95% of all samples ≤ 0.3	Soil runoff
Turbidity ¹	No	01/06/23	.58	NTU	N/A	TT ≤ 1.0	Soil runoff
Turbidity ²	No	01/05/23	.78	NTU	N/A	MCL = 5	Soil runoff
Inorganics							
Nitrate	No	03/09/23	0.272	mg/l	10	MCL=10.0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	12/05/23	0.0161	mg/l	2	MCL=2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	12/05/23	0.125	mg/l	N/A	MCL=2.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	8/21	4.9 ³ (ND- 5.9)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	8/21	0.36 ⁴ (0.12-0.36)	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservative
Disinfection Byproducts							
Haloacetic Acids (Haa5'S)	No	2023/quarterly	22.7 ⁵ (12.3-37.5)	ug/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	No	2023/quarterly	49.1 ⁵ (31.5- 60.8)	ug/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Average Level Detected (Range)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Synthetic Organic Contaminants							
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	No	12/05/23	2.71	ng/l	N/A	MCL=10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Additional Detected Analytes ⁶							
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	No	12/05/23	2.51	ng/l	.002	MCL=50,000	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Notes ¹ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 01/06/23 (0.58 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 5 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 1.0 NTU. ² Distribution Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water found in the distribution system. We monitor it as a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Our highest monthly distribution turbidity measurement detected during the year (.78 NTU) occurred on 01/05/23. This value is below the State's maximum contaminant level (5 NTU). ³ 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 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 your water system. In this case 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value (4.9 ug/l). ⁴ 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 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 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the highest value (0.36 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. ⁵ This level represents the highest locational running average calculated from the data collected. ⁶ Due to the Emerging Contaminant regulation, sampling of PFOA and PFOS is required. Due to a detection of (PFOA or PFOS), additional sampling required all analytics within the method be reported, in accordance with Footnote 3 of Table 9C, Subpart 5-1. This expanded analysis detected the following analytes within this table.							

DEFINITIONS

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 feasible.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

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.

Non Detect (N/D): Concentration of the sample analyzed was below detection levels.

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).

Nanogram per liter (ng/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion-ppt)

Non Applicable (N/A): Does not apply.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by 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 2023, our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water 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).

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 up 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, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.