

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024

Alpine Estates

29 Allen Road

Porter Corners, NY 12859

(Public Water Supply ID# 4519064)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Alpine Estates 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, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants and detected 19 of those contaminants and only found two of those contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at that time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards and we're in the process of rectifying the problem in consultation with the State Health Department. 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 Raymond Barnes, owner, @ (518) 339-1172. 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 State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is a groundwater well, drawn from an approximately 60-foot drilled well. The water is pumped from the well into a 2,000-gallon storage tank. The water is disinfected with liquid chlorine as it is transferred to the storage tank prior to distribution. Our water system serves approximately 40 people through 15 service connections.

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 source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contaminations and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to customers is, or will become, contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The

source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting waters into the future.

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 compounds, nitrate, nitrite, 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, 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 Glens Falls District Health Department at (518) 793-3893.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measur e-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate	No	8/26/24	3.7	mg/l	10	MCL=10 mg/l	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	5/20/24	19	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring. Road salt. Water softeners: Animal waste.
Chloride	No	5/20/24	94	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Color	No	5/20/24	5.0	Color Units	15	N/A	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products such as trihalomethanes, the presence of metals such as copper, iron and manganese; Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
Odor	No	5/20/24	1	TON	3	N/A	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources.
Sulfate	No	5/20/24	18	mg/l	250	MCL=250	Naturally occurring.
Nickel	No	8/26/24	5.9	ug/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring.
Copper	No	9/24/23	0.005 ¹ ND-0.01	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits
Organic Contaminants							
PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid)	Yes	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24 11/4/24	12.0 12.0 11.0 14.0	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10 ng/l	Typically localized and associated with a specific facility, for example, an industrial facility where these chemicals were produced or used to manufacture other products
PFOS (Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid)	Yes	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24 11/4/24	12.0 13.0 12.0 12.0	ng/l	n/a	MCL=10 ng/l	
1,4 Dioxane	No	11/4/24	0.10	ug/l	<1	MCL=1 ug/l	

Disinfection By-Products							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's)	No	8/14/23	1.2	ug/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Trihalomethanes (THM's)	No	8/14/23	2.7	ug/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

1- The level presented is the 90th percentile of the five sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent measurements that is equal to or below it. This means in our system copper levels in 5 sites are below the 90th percentile value and 0 sites are above the 90th percentile. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

UNREGULATED PERFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG OR HEALTH ADVISORY LEVEL ^{1, 2}
PERFLUOROBUTANESULFONIC ACID (PFBS)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	16 16 15	ng/L	2,000 ng/L
PERFLUOROHEPTANOIC ACID (PFHPA)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	4.3 3.9 3.9	ng/L	NA
PERFLUOROHXANE SULFONIC ACID (PFHXS)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	1.9 1.9 2.1	ng/L	NA
PERFLUOROHXANOIC ACID (PFHXA)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	20 24 23	ng/L	NA
PERFLUOROBUTANOIC ACID (PFBA)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	6.1 6.0 5.9	ng/L	NA
PERFLUOROPENTANOIC ACID (PFPEA)	No	3/5/24 5/20/24 9/16/24	21 24 23	ng/L	NA

- 1 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.
- 2 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.

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.

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.

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 a contaminant in drinking water.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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

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).

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

Picograms per liter (pg/l): Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion – ppq).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr): A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see in the table, our system had MCL violations for PFOA and PFOS. PFOA and PFOS caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high-level exposures to PFOA and PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA and PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOA and PFOS in animals. We are working with the New York State Department of Health and the Saratoga County Department of Health on a compliance schedule that includes steps to reduce levels of PFOA and PFOS. Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. Regarding other contaminants detected, those were detected below the level allowed by the State.

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.

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; however, Alpine Estates has no LSLs. If you have any questions, contact Raymond Barnes, owner, @ (518) 339-1172.

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).

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. Alpine Estates 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 Alpine Estates, and Raymond Barnes, owner, @ (518) 339-1172. 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>.

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 our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary to address these improvements. We ask all our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.