

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023

Village of Constableville

May 2024

Introduction

To comply with State regulations, the **Village of Constableville**, issues an annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding and awareness of our drinking water and the need to protect our water supply. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality including details about where your water comes from and what it contains as well as how it compares to state standards.

Last year (2023) we were issued four notices of violations (NOV's) from the NYSDOH, Watertown Office for failure to collect all 10 samples for lead and copper, Nitrate, disinfection Byproducts, and PFOA, PFAS, 1-4 Dioxane samples. During the required monitoring period. An explanation of these violations is explained further in this report.

If you have any questions about this report or any concerns with your drinking water, please contact **Mayor Samantha Brown at (315) 778-8710**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you would like to learn more, please come to the scheduled monthly board meetings at the Village Library on the first Monday of the month at 6 pm.

Where does our water come from?

In general, both bottled water and tap water come from many sources, including lakes, rivers, ponds, reservoirs, streams, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves natural minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presents of human or animal activity. Contaminants that may be present in ground water include microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, organic chemical contaminants, and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to consume the State Health Department along with the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in the water provided to the public via public water systems. The State Health Departments and FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is a spring fed reservoir which is located off the Smith Road on Crofoot Hill Road. The water is filtered and chlorinated at a slow sand filtration plant prior to distribution. Our water serves approximately 150 businesses and households.

As the state regulations require, we routinely test our drinking water for numerous contaminants. These include total coli form, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead, copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled water, may be expected to contain at least a small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health risks can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 January 23, 2023 (0.165 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. All measurements for 2023 were below 0.3 NTU. The levels recorded were within the acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.

The tables below depict the sampling and results that were completed by The Village of Constableville. We learn through our testing that some contaminants were detected, however, these levels were below the levels allowed by the State. For 2023 our system received four (4) Notices of Violation of non-compliance with State drinking water requirements, for failing to collect samples as outlined in the annual sampling letter.

Contaminant	Violation Yes / No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Total Coliform	No	Monthly	< 1CFU/ 100ML	N/A	0	No Positive samples	Naturally found in the environment
Turbidity	No	Daily	.056	NTU	N/A	5 NTU	Soil runoff
Disinfection by-product Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs-Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane	Yes	8/16/22	5.2ug/l	ug/l	N/A	80 ug/l	By product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHM's are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
Haloacetic acids (mono-, and trichloroacetic acid and mono-, and dibromoacetic acid.)	No	8/16/22	ND	ug/l	N/A	60 ug/l	By product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Nitrate	Yes	8/16/22	.224	mg/l	0	1.0 mg/l	Fertilizer runoff or leaching of sewage
Primary Inorganic Chemicals	No	7/12/21	All under maximum contaminant level	N/A	N/A	All samples below MCL	Erosion of natural deposits, corrosion proof household plumbing, fertilizer runoff or naturally occurring
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	Yes	Quarterly 2022	ND	ng/l	10 ng/l	N/A	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Perfluorooctanoic sulfonic acid (PFOS)	Yes	Quarterly 2022	ND	ng/l	10 ng/l	N/A	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Contaminant	Violation Yes / No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
1,4-Dioxane	Yes	Quarterly 2022	103	ug/l	1 ug/l	N/A	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous sites.
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	No	7/12/21	All under maximum contaminant level	N/A	N/A	All samples below MCL	Natural occurring chemical reactions
Copper	Yes	9/22/20	.7959	mg/l	1.3 mg/l	1.3 mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	Yes	9/22/20	.0037	mg/l	0	.015 mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits;

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.

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.

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. Village of Constableville 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 *Village of Constableville* contact *Mayor Samantha Brown (315)778-8710*. 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 our system followed applicable State drinking water operation, except for the Water Plant Operator failing to meet all monitoring and reporting requirements. These violations are (see Below).

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2023, we “did not monitor or test” or “did not complete all monitoring or testing” for Lead and Copper, Nitrate, Disinfection Byproducts, PFOA, PFAS and Dioxane sampling. and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. We are working closely with the NYSDOH, Watertown to rectify these violations. Violations can be referenced at the NYS Sanitary code Section 5-1.52 Table 13.

Do I need to take any special precautions?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing micro-organisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplant surgery, people with HIV/Aids or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Why save water and how to avoid wasting it?

Although our water 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 cost associated with these necessities of life.
- ❖ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, as well as pumping systems and water towers.
- ❖ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or draught, 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 looking for ways for your household to use less. It is not hard to conserve water, some easy steps include:

- I. *Check faucets and pipes for leaks.*
A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.
- II. *Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators.*
Inexpensive water-saving low-flow shower heads or restrictors are easy for the homeowner to install.
- III. *Check your toilets for leaks.*
Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately.
- IV. *Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads.*
Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation.
- V. *Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush.*
There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.

These are just a few of the many things that can be done to conserve water in your household and save energy for our water system.

Closing:

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide you and your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we 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 of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.