

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008
Village of Hilton
59 Henry Street
Hilton, NY 14468-1214
(Public Water Supply ID # 2701045)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Hilton, has prepared this annual 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 years 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 **Tom Tilebein, Superintendent of Public Works, at 392-4144**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, at 5:00 PM in the Hilton Community Center.

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 that must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is Lake Ontario. During 2008, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. After filtration, disinfection, and flouride treatment by the Monroe County Water Authority Shoremont Treatment Plant in Greece, the treated water is distributed to, and purchased by, the Village of Hilton.

The New York State Department of Health has evaluated the susceptibility of water supplies statewide to potential contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). In general, the Lake Ontario source used by the Village of Hilton is not very susceptible because of the size and quality of the Great Lakes. Because storm and wastewater contamination are potential threats to any source water, the water provided to our customers undergoes rigorous treatment and testing prior to its delivery.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves a population of 5,856 people through 1,800 service connections. The total water purchased from the Monroe County Water Authority in 2008 was 180,606,000 gallons with an average daily use of 490,300 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 141,779,000. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 38,827,000 gallons. This water, used to flush mains, fire fighting, and leakage, accounts for the remaining 38,827,000 gallons or 21.5% of the total purchased. In 2008, water customers were charged \$2.58 per 1,000 gallons of water averaging \$251.00 per year.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, might reasonably be 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 (1-800-426-4791) or the Monroe County Department of Public

Health at 753-5057.

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

Table of Detected Contaminants						
Detected Substances - 2008 results except as noted						
Substances	Units	MCLG	MCL	Range of detected values	Likely source	Meets EPA Standards
Barium	ug/L	2	2	.019 - .022	Erosion of natural deposits	Yes
Chloride	mg/L	NA	250	24 – 27	Naturally Occurring	Yes
Fluoride	mg/L	NA	2.2	0.3 – 1.4	Natural & additive for teeth	Yes
Nitrate	mg/L	10	10	0.36 - .45	Erosion of natural deposits	Yes
Sodium	mg/L	NA	NS	13	Naturally Occurring	Yes
Sulfate	mg/L	NA	250	27-29	Naturally Occurring	Yes
Caffeine	ng/l	NS	NS	4	Pharmaceutical	Yes
Cotinine	ng/l	NS	NS	2.1	Pharmaceutical	Yes
Color	Color unit	NA	15	ND	Erosion of natural deposits	Yes
Coliform	% Positive	0	5%	0.4 % Aug	Naturally Occurring	Yes
Treatment Requirements – 95% of samples each month must be less than .3 NTU. 100 % of last years samples were less than 0.3 NTUs. Turbidity is a measure of water clarity and is used to gauge filtration performance.						
Turbidity- Entry Point	NTUs	NA	TT	100% .04 - .13	Soil runoff	Yes
Disinfectant and disinfectant by-products (DBPs) – Average and Range is listed. * The MDRL (Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level) and MDRLG (Maximum Disinfectant Residual Level Goal) for chlorine are both set at 4 mg/l						
Chlorine residual entry point	mg/L	NA	TT	1.0 (0.7 – 1.5)	additive to control microbes	Yes
Total THMs	Ug/L	NA	80	38 (16– 68)	By-product of chlorination	Yes
Haloacetic acids (HAA5)	Ug/L	NA	60	8 (2– 25)	By-product of chlorination	Yes
Lead and copper – 90% of samples must be less than the Action Level (AL). 90 th percentile value and the number of samples exceeding AL is listed						
Copper (Customer Tap Samples)	mg/L	1.3	AL = 1.3	.091 None (2006)	Corrosion of household plumbing	Yes
Lead (Customer Tap samples)	Ug/L	0	AL = 15	4.8 None (2006)	Corrosion of household plumbing	Yes

Definitions:

(MCL): Maximum Contaminant Level, The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

(MCLG): Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, 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.

(MRDL): Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, 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.

(MRDLG): Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

(TT): Treatment Technique A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

(NA) = Not Applicable NR = Not Required NS = No Standard NT = Not Tested

(NTU): Nephelometric Turbidity Unit A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

(mg/l): Milligrams per liter Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

(ug/l): Micrograms per liter Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by New York State.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Village of Hilton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for customer dental health protection. Fluoride is added to your water by the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA) before it is delivered to Hilton. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.8 to 1.2 mg/l (parts per million). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that the MCWA monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2008 monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 80% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2008, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

INFORMATION ON CRYPTOSPORIDIUM AND GIARDIA

Cryptosporidium and Giardia are microbial pathogens found in surface water, and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Although removed by filtration and disinfection, these methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. During 2008, as part of our (6) routine samples, none tested positive for cryptosporidium or giardia cysts.

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 at (1-800-426-4791).

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 cost of installing new pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a drought, helping to avoid restrictions so that essential fire fighting 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 reduce usage whenever you can. Simple conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So 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.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, wait a few hours 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.
- ◆ Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Record the reading and dial location prior to leaving for the day with no one home. Check the meter when you return and before any water use in the home. If it moved, you have a leak.
- ◆ Use rainwater for plants and gardens.

Reminder: When leaving your home for vacation or extended periods of time. *Shut off the water supply valve.*

All streets and parking lots drain to Salmon Creek, “only rain down the drain” to keep our drinking water safe.

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, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have questions, or if you would like to participate in any volunteer water quality programs.