

Truesdale Lake Property Owner's Association Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020

*TLPOA, Box 193, South Salem, NY 10590
Public Water Supply ID# 5903468*

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State and Federal regulations, T.L.P.O.A. annually issues 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 did not violate 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:

John Muro II, President of Allied Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 878-0007 or,
T.L.P.O.A. at the address listed above.

If you want to learn more about your water supply, please contact T.L.P.O.A. to attend a scheduled board meeting.

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 groundwater drawn from two drilled wells located within the property boundaries of the community. There is also a third well, but it is not utilized as part of the water source. The water is pumped from the wells to a storage tank. The well water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite as it is transferred to the storage tank. Our water system serves 450 people through one hundred and thirty-one 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 contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, 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 have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from 2 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are primarily due to the close proximity of residential land use and associated activities, such as fertilizing lawns.

In addition, the wells drawing from unconfined aquifer, which is a shallow aquifer that occurs immediately below the ground surface and has no overlying protective layer for protection from potential sources of contamination and the hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer is unknown. While the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting your water supplier or the Westchester County Health Department.

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, lead and copper, volatile 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 Westchester County Health Department at (914) 813-5000.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant & Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit MCL or AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
1. Gross Alpha (1/22/18) Main Well	No	4	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
2. Gross Beta (1/22/18) Basketball Well	No	4				Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Main Well	No	5	pCi/L	0	*50	
3. Uranium Basketball Entry Point (2/20/19)	No	3				Erosion of natural deposits
Basketball Well (1/22/18)	No	2				
Main Entry Point (2/20/19)	No	3				
Main Well (1/22/18)	No	2	ug/l	0	30	
Disinfection Byproducts						
Total Trihalomethanes						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (8/17/2020) *1 <i>Bromodichloromethane , Bromoform, Chloroform & Dibromochloromethane</i> 48 Hoyt Flushing Hydrant	No	(0.65 - 1.4) 3.71	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. THMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Inorganic Contaminants						
1. Copper *2 (September 2018)	No	0.250 (0.067-0.312)	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
2. Lead *3 (September 2018)	No	11.4 (1.2 - 18.7)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
3. Barium (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	0.043				Erosion of natural deposits
Basketball Well	No	0.043	mg/l	2	2	
4. Chloride (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	83.2				Naturally occurring; road salt
Basketball Well	No	68.9	mg/l	N/A	250	
5. Iron (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	16	ug/l	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
6. Nitrate as Nitrogen (3/5/2020) Main Well	No	2.23				Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Basketball Well	No	2.07	mg/l	10	10	
7. Sodium *4 (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	17.9				Naturally occurring; road salt, water softeners
Basketball Well	No	16.8	mg/l	N/A	*see health effects below	
8. Sulfate (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	19.5				Naturally occurring
Basketball Well	No	18.9	mg/l	N/A	250	
9. Zinc (2/20/2019) Main Well	No	0.019	mg/l	N/A	5	Naturally occurring

Additional Lead and Copper Information *5								
Contaminant & Sample Date	Number of Samples Collected	Number of Exceedances	Range Above Action Level	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5
Lead (ug/l.)								
September 2018	5	1	18.7	1.2	1.2	2	4	18.7
Copper (ppm)								
September 2018	5	0	N/A	0.067	0.068	0.143	0.187	0.312

Notes:

*50 – The State considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

*1 – The level presented in the table above represents the Total Trihalomethanes detected, as well as the range of the individual constituents.

*2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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 September 2018, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest samples which equaled 0.250 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

*3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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 September 2018, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest samples which equaled 11.4 ppb. The action level for lead was exceeded at one of the sites tested.

*4 - Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

*5 - We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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. Truesdale Lake P.O.A. 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) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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.

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).

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

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.

It should be noted that the action level for lead was exceeded at one of the five sample sites collected in 2018. However, overall the system was in compliance with the lead action level. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2020, our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Due to the age of our water distribution system piping, and the fact that several leaks have occurred over the past few years, our water system is creating a plan for future pipe replacement. In addition, engineering design work is completed and permitting is pending approval with the Westchester County Department of Health for an upgrade to the basketball well disinfection system and installation of a backup generator.

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 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.

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.
- ◆ 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.

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL INFORMATION

Cross-connections are any linkage through which contaminants could possibly enter a water supply. The contaminant enters the water system typically by back siphonage when a loss in pressure in the water system siphons contaminants into the distribution system through a submerged inlet. While in a residential water system like ours, such contamination is relatively rare, it is important for all users to understand how cross-connections can occur, your obligation as users to avoid them, and how to prevent contamination from any cross-connections.

Some examples are useful to clarify the situations under which cross-connection contamination might occur. One example is someone using a hose to fill a container of pesticide or weed-killer who left the hose under the surface of the liquid. If a sufficient drop in water pressure from the supply line occurred, it is possible that the pesticide would travel back up the hose and into the house water supply. Another example is if antifreeze is put into the pipes while a house is vacant. If there was a drop in pressure outside the house, it is possible that the antifreeze would drain out of the house and into the public water lines. A private well connected to the plumbing system served by public water is another example of a cross-connection. Such a connection is not permitted unless the public system is protected by an appropriate backflow preventer. Other examples could involve other chemical pollutants, such as photography chemicals, and "used" water, such as bathtubs with a spigot (or a detachable spray handle) which is under the level of the water in the tub.

The first defense is knowledge and common sense. Once you know that cross-connection contamination can occur, you can prevent it. Always be very careful in your use of chemicals, and always have an air gap between a filler hose or spigot and the level of liquid in a container.

If you have cross-connections in your plumbing system, you must have a containment device between your house pipes and the water system. The EPA indicates that a dual check valve supplies reliable and inexpensive protection for individual residences. All hose bibs should have vacuum breakers. Installing these devices is the responsibility of the homeowners and would be done at their expense.

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

This report was compiled and prepared by your water system operator:

Allied Pollution Control, Inc.
Water & Wastewater Specialists

1273 Route 311
Patterson, New York 12563
Phone: (845) 878-0007
Fax: (845) 878-2104