

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for tile Year 2020*  
**Town of Clarendon**  
**P.O. BOX47**  
CLARENDON, NY 14429 ID# 3630023  
[www.townofclarendon.org](http://www.townofclarendon.org)

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Town of Clarendon, 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 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 Matt Campbell, Holley Water Superintendent at 585-638-6587. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town of Clarendon board meetings. The meetings are held at the Town Hall, 16385 Church Street, Clarendon, NY on the 3<sup>d</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm.

## **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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 2460 people through 832 service connections in 11 water districts. Our water source is surface water drawn from Lake Ontario, pumped, filtered, and treated by the Monroe County Water Authority at the Shoremont Water Treatment Plant, in the Town of Greece prior to distribution. All water is purchased from Monroe County Water Authority and enters the town through a 12" transmission main on Jackson Road. The Town of Clarendon Water Department also always adds additional chlorine as necessary to assure a free chlorine residual prior to the water entering our 150,000-gallon elevated storage tank located on RT31A west of the hamlet.

## **ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR 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 Orleans County Health Department at (585)589-3252.

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. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water.

### **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.

### **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the table on back page, our system had **no** violations of contaminants. 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 2020 our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, and reporting requirements. November 2020 we were in violation for not taking our quarterly TTHM sample.

### **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. Immune-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 FLUORIDE ADDITION**

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 consumer dental health protection. Fluoride is added to your water by the Monroe county water authority before it is delivered to us. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal level of 0.7 mg/L. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that Monroe county water authority monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2018, monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 98% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride. The highest monitoring result was 1.03 mg/L well below the 2.2 mg/L MCL for fluoride.

### **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. 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 that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office at 585-638- 8547 if you have questions.

TOWN OF CLARENDON  
TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	level Detected (Avt/MAX) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory limit (MCL, TT oral)	likely Source of Contamination
<b>NON ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
lead (1)	No	2020 sept	0.000	mg/l	0	Al=.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (1)	No	2020 sept	0.1379	mg/L	1.3	Al=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits;
<b>SECTION BY PRODUCTS</b>							
Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	yes	2020	51 38-63	ug/l	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	No	2020	18 9 - 24	ug/l	NA	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	No	(Varies)	0.35	mg/l	NA	MDRL	Added to drinking water to destroy pathogenic organisms and protect water supply from bacterial contamination

1. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten sites tested. A percentile is a value on the 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 and copper values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at various sites in the distribution system and the 90th percentile value was the ninth highest value. Testing is performed every three years as required by the New York State Department of Health.