Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Village of Greene and Greene Water Districts
PO Box 207
Greene, NY 13778
(Public Water Supply ID: #NY0801740, NY#0816133, NY#0816134, NY#0816135)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Greene Water Department and Greene Water Districts 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 we conducted tests for an array of contaminants. 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, **Village water customers should contact Mr. Steve Ingraham at (607) 656-8812; Water District customers should contact Mr. Stephen Smith, Code Enforcement at (607) 656-4191.** 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 the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall, 49 Genesee Street, Greene, New York.

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 and the FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 2400 customers through 830 service connections. Our water sources are three drilled, groundwater wells that are all approximately 150 feet deep. The wells are located within the village limits on parcels of land owned by the Village. The water is treated with NSF approved, gas chlorine for disinfection prior to distribution. The treated water then flows into the distribution system and into two storage facilities (a 600,000 gallon steel tank and a 300,000 masonry reservoir).

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, nitrate, radiological, inorganic compounds, synthetic organic compounds, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, PFAS, and 1,4-Dioxane. 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 (1-800-426-4791) or the Chenango County Health Department at (607-337-1673).

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measure ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate Well #1	No	8/22/23	2.47	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate Well #2	No	8/22/23	1.21	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate Well #3	No	8/22/23	3.18	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	No	9/8/22	0.0017[1] (<0.0010-0.0019)	mg/L	0	AL= 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	9/8/22	0.0879[1] (0.0437-0.0994)	mg/L	1.3	AL= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	5/1/23	0.004	mg/l	0	0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium Well #1	No	5/1/23	0.0810	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium Well #2	No	5/1/23	0.132	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium Well #3	No	5/1/23	0.197	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic Well #3	No	5/1/23	0.00207	mg/L	n/a	MCL = 0.01	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.

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Radiological Contaminants							
Combined Radium (226 and 228) WTP#2	No	8/25/20	2.72	PCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Combined Radium (226 and 228) WTP #3	No	1/14/21	1.224	PCi/L	0	MCL= 5	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Combined Radium (226 and 228) WTP #1	No	8/25/20	0.766	PCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Gross Alpha WTP #3	No	1/14/21	0.301	PCi/L	0	MCL= 15	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Tri-Halomethanes Village LRAA1	No	8/22/23	14.4	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter. Haloacetic acids are by-products of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Haloacetic Acids Village LRAA1	No	8/22/23	2.2	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 60	
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD #1 LRAA1	No	8/11/22	6.1	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD#2 LRAA1	No	8/11/22	7.6	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD#3 LRAA1	No	8/11/22	5.5	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Haloacetic Acids WD#1 LRAA1	No	8/11/22	<1	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 60	
Haloacetic Acids WD#2 LRAA1	No	8/29/22	1.4	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 60	

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Disinfection Byproducts							
Haloacetic Acids WD#3 LRAA1	No	8/11/22	1.1	ug/l	n/a	MCL= 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

1-The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 10 tested sites. 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. The action levels for lead and copper were not exceeded at any of the test sites. For more information about lead contact your local health department or www.epa.gov .

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 longer than 10 micrometers.

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.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern operations?

During 2023 our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Important Information Regarding Lead:

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. The Village of Greene and the Village of Greene Water Districts are 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, Village water customers should contact Mr. Steve Ingraham at (607) 656-8812; Water District customers should contact Mr. Stephen Smith at (607) 656-4191. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. 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*.

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 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 our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

Appendix D
Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) Delivery Options
Questions and Answers for Water Suppliers

In January 2013, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) determined that specific methods of electronic delivery may be used by a community water supplier to meet the regulatory requirement to "mail or otherwise directly deliver" Consumer Confidence Reports, also known as the Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR), to their bill paying customers. In conformance with the USEPA's efforts, community water systems in New York State may now use electronic delivery as an additional option in order to distribute the AWQR. A list of frequently asked questions along with the answers is provided to assist you with the different acceptable options.

Q. Why the change?

A. There has been an increase in the number and type of communication tools available to water systems since AWQR requirements were first enacted in 1999. This updated interpretation of the rules for direct delivery will improve the communication with your customers and may reduce costs associated with printing and mailing your AWQR to customers.

Q. What does this mean for a water supplier?

A. Beginning in 2013, there were additional options for directly delivering an AWQR. You may continue to report as you have always reported, or you may decide to use some alternative methods to distribute the AWQR to your water customers.

Q. Does this mean I can go totally electronic (paperless)?

A. No. It will depend on your customers. More than one method of delivery may be necessary to reach all your bill paying customers. You will be required to provide a paper copy to those customers who cannot receive the report electronically or who prefer to receive a paper copy.

Q. What new AWQR delivery methods are now acceptable?

A. In addition to mailing paper copies to your customers, you may now also use the following methods:

- Notification by monthly/quarterly bill, newsletter or separate mailing that the AWQR is available on a public website via a direct URL;
- Email with a message containing a direct URL link to the AWQR;
- Email with the AWQR, in electronic form, as an attachment;
- Email with the AWQR included as an embedded image.

Q. How do we implement an electronic AWQR delivery approach?

A. There are two overall approaches you can take: (1) a paper AWQR delivery with an electronic AWQR delivery option; or (2) an electronic delivery with a paper AWQR delivery option.

Q. Are there any restrictions on the URL used to provide access to the AWQR?

A. Yes. The URL must take the customer directly to the entire AWQR. The URL must be to a public webpage that is readily viewed by commonly available browsers, and that does not require subscription, payment or login accounts. The URL must be live when the notification of the AWQR's availability on the website goes out to your customers. It is recommended that the URL be short and easy to type. Any URL that requires the customer to search for or navigate through a website to retrieve the AWQR does not meet the "directly deliver" requirement. A Community Water System should have the AWQR maintained in a prominent location on their website throughout the year.

Q. What electronic methods are <u>not</u> allowed?

A. Social media such as Twitter and Facebook, automated telephone notifications systems, and using an indirect URL that requires the customer to search for the AWQR on your water systems main website are not acceptable methods for direct delivery.

Q. If the AWQR is posted on a website, how often do we need to make notification to our customers?

A. At a minimum, notification must be made once annually. However, we recommend that notification be made on a more frequent basis (e.g. on customer billing statements, in newsletters, or in correspondence) to ensure the message is widely delivered.

Q. If we decide to mail notifications that the AWQR is available on our website via a direct URL, are there rules about how the notification is displayed?

A. Yes. The message and direct URL must be prominently displayed in a typeface that is at least as large as the largest type on the statement or other mail notification. There must also be an option included (e.g. a checkbox on return portion of the utility bill) for customers to request a paper copy, and directions must be provided on how to request a paper copy via phone, mail, or email.

Q. What if we email a direct URL to the AWQR to customers?

A. The email must include a direct URL link and should also include a short statement encouraging readership. The message must also provide information on how to request a paper copy of the AWQR. If an email is returned undelivered, the email must be sent to a corrected email address or the report delivered by another acceptable direct delivery method.

Q. Is it acceptable to email customers and include the AWQR as an attachment?

A. Yes. The AWQR as an electronic file (e.g. portable document format PDF) can be attached to an email. The email should also include a short statement encouraging readership and it must provide information on how to request a paper copy of the AWQR. If an email is returned undelivered, the

email must be sent to a corrected email address or the report delivered by another acceptable direct delivery method.

Q. Is it acceptable to email the AWQR embedded in the message?

A. Yes. You may email the AWQR text and tables as an image inserted into the body of an email. The email must also provide information on how to request a paper copy of the AWQR. If an email is returned undelivered, the email must be sent to a corrected email address or the report delivered by another acceptable direct delivery method.

Q. What if I select more than one delivery method? How do I know I've reached my intended audience?

A. It is your responsibility to ensure delivery of the AWQR to each bill paying customer. Employing a variety of delivery methods enhances the likelihood you reached all customers.

Q. What do I need to consider as I plan my AWQR delivery program?

A. Here are some recommendations:

Know your customer base: Find out if there are customers who don't have internet service. Learn from your past experiences including e-bill or e-pay participation, other electronic communication efforts and current website usage.

Know your electronic delivery method capabilities: Research the various delivery methods and your system's technical capabilities. Are you able to send mass emails? Do you have the resources to handle emails returned as undeliverable? Do you have a public website? Will your computer network, internet server, etc. support electronic AWQR delivery?

Know your costs: Determine the costs and benefits. Would a gradual transition benefit your system? What resources will you need and which approach will be best? Are you ready to make a change?

Give customers a heads up and an option: Inform customers of the change in delivery approach before delivery of the AWQRs to the customers. Give them a chance to choose if they prefer to receive paper or electronic reports.

Get the word out and catch customers' attention: If you are mailing a direct URL, include an option on every water bill for a customer to choose to receive a paper AWQR. Include a short message to encourage readership of the AWQR.

Keep a record: Record customer delivery preferences for future AWQR deliveries.

Remind auto-pay customers: To ensure that electronic bill and auto-pay customers are aware of their AWQR, a separate email should be sent to them.

Respond to requests and email: Be prepared to respond to requests for mailed paper copies of the AWQRs. If an email is returned as undeliverable, resend the AWQR by an alternative means.

Keep your email database up to date.

Q. Do we still need to certify how the AWQR was distributed?

A. Yes. By September 1, of each year, you must provide certification on how the AWQR was distributed. The certification form has been revised to include the electronic delivery options.

Q. Where can we obtain more information?

A. Information on AWQR preparation and delivery options can be found on the New York State Health Department's website in the document, Preparing Your Drinking Water Annual Report – Guidance for Water Suppliers at:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/annual_water_quality_report/

or you may contact your local health department.