

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020
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. Mike Wheelock 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, and haloacetic acids. 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 Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate Well #1	No	8/18/20	2.32	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate Well #2	No	8/18/20	2.25	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate Well #3	No	8/18/20	1.42	mg/L	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	No	7/30/19	0.0029 ¹ (<0.0010-0.0030)	mg/L	0	AL= 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	7/30/19	0.1620 ¹ (0.0260-0.2130)	mg/L	1.3	AL= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Barium Well #1	No	7/29/20	0.0776	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium Well #2	No	7/29/20	0.122	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium Well #3	No	7/29/20	0.203	mg/L	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic Well #3	No	7/29/20	0.0018	mg/L	n/a	MCL = 0.0010	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Radiological Contaminants							
Combined Radium (226 and 228) WTP #1	No	8/25/20	0.766	PCi/L	0	MCL = 5	Erosion of Natural Deposits

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
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	11/18/20	0.804	PCi/L	0	MCL=5	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Tri-Halomethanes Village LRAA1	No	8/18/20	20.40	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.
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD #1 LRAA1	No	8/22/19	15.0	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD#2 LRAA1	No	8/29/19	16.0	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Total Tri-Halomethanes WD#3 LRAA1	No	8/29/19	3.8	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 80	
Haloacetic Acids WD#1 LRAA1	No	8/22/19	1.5	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 60	
Haloacetic Acids WD#2 LRAA1	No	8/29/19	1.4	µg/L	n/a	MCL = 60	
1-The level presented represents the 90 th 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 90 th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. The action level for lead and copper was 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 2020 our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Important Information Regarding Lead:

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 Greene 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>.

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.