

# ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2017

## **Himrod Water District**

137 Main Street, Penn Yan, NY  
(Public Water Supply ID# NY6101264)

### INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Himrod Water District, 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 **Doug Marchionda Jr., Water Operator at 315-694-0829** or the Town of Milo Town Hall at 315-536-8911. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings. **The meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7pm at the Town of Milo office at 137 Main Street, Penn Yan.**

### 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 system serves 100 people through 51 service connections. Our water source is Spring No. 2 which is located at the end of South Street. The water is collected in the raw water reservoir, pumped through filters, disinfected by ultraviolet light, chlorinated for distribution system residual prior to distribution.

Based on New York State Source Water Assessment Program, this spring source is rated as having a medium susceptibility to protozoan and pesticide contamination. This rating is due to pasture and row crop land coverage in the assessment area. There are no noteworthy contamination threats associated with other discrete contaminant sources. A copy of this assessment, including a map of the assessment area can be obtained by contacting us, as noted below.

## 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, turbidity, 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 **NYS Dept. of Health, Geneva District Office at 315-789-3030**.

### AWQR TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINATES

Violation Contaminant (Yes / No)		Date of Sample	Level Detected		Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
			Avg / Max Range					
<b><i>PART k Microbiological Contaminants</i></b>								
(1) Turbidity	N	Daily	100%		NTU	0	95% less or equal to 1	soil run off
Turbidity	N	Weekly	.18		NTU	0	5	soil run off
Coliform	N	Monthly	Negative		N/A	0	2 or more positives	naturally present in environment
<b><i>PART B. Inorganic Contaminants</i></b>								
Barium	N	11/01/2017	41		Ug/L	0	2000	erosion of deposits
Fluoride	N	11/01/2017	<0.2		mg/L	NA	2.2	water additive that promotes strong teeth
Chromium		11/01/2017	<5		Ug/L	100	100	Discharge from steel & pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	Quarterly	7.95 Avg (Range: 5.0-9.3 mg/L)		mg/L	0	10	fertilizer run off leaching from septic tanks and erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	11/01/2017	<5		Ug/L	NA	NA	
<b><i>PART C Lead and Copper</i></b>								
(3) Lead	N	2016	2.9 (ND-3.9 Ug/L)		Ug/L	0	AL.15	household plumbing
(2) Copper	N	2016	.14 (.014-0.17)		mg/L	0	AL=1.3	Household plumbing
<b><i>PART D. Disinfection Byproducts</i></b>								
TTHM (Trihalo methanes)	N	8/11/2017	7.5		Ug/l	0	80	by product of drinking water
HAASS	N	8/18/2017	15		Ug/l	0	60	disinfection
<b><i>Part E. Radiological</i></b>								
Alpha	N	12/20/2017	ND		pci/L	0	15	naturally occurring
Uranium	N	12/20/2017	0.48		Ug/L	0	30	naturally occurring
Combined R226-228	N	12/20/2017	ND		pci/L	0	5	naturally occurring

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1 — Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 06/01/2017 (.26 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 1 NTU. The levels recorded were within the acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.

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 this case, 5 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> highest sample, 0.14 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 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

## **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).
- **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.

Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10mg/l is a health risk for infants of less than 6 months of age.

High Nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rain fall or Agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

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 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 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 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.