

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019
Village of Walton
21 North Street, Walton, NY 13856
(Public Water Supply ID#1200274)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, [Village of Walton](#), 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. The Village of Walton was in violation of Section 5-1.72© of the New York State Sanitary Code.](#) 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 [Ernest Smith, Public Works Superintendent, at \(607\)865-6110](#). 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 first Monday of each month at 6:00p.m. If the meeting night falls on a holiday, the meeting is held the following Monday at the same time.](#)

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.

Two well fields supply the Village of Walton.

AUSTIN LINCOLN WELL FIELD-Located on Townsend Street in Austin Lincoln Park, this well field contains three wells.

CURRY WELL FIELD- Located on Water Street, this well field contains two wells.

Together, the well fields produce an average of 276,085 gallons per day (gpd) with reserve capacity in excess of 400,000 gpd. The water is treated with sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) for disinfection, and Carus 8600 for corrosion control, before distribution. During 2019, our system didn't experience restrictions.

In September of 2019, the NYS DOH completed a Water System Field Compliance Report for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to the drinking water sources were evaluated. The state water system field compliance report includes a summary description of sanitary code requirements. Part 5 Subsection 1.31. Protect the water distribution system from the creation of cross connections of sufficient hazard to adversely affect the health of water consumers. **IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE WATER DELIVERED TO CONSUMERS IS, OR WILL BECOME, CONTAMINATED.** A copy of the report, can be examined in our office, by contacting us, as noted above.

The Village of Walton commenced on a meter replacement project. Replacing majority of the water meters with the exception of the vacant and abandoned houses. To date the water department has replaced 1,158 water meters.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves 3088 people through 1,198 service connections. The total produced in 2019 was 102,060,000 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 276,085 gallon per day. The amount of water delivered to customers was 59 million gallons. A total of 66,302 gallons was used at the pool. Some water was used to fight fires, flush mains and other non-metered activities. The Village of Walton has an active leak detection program that cut the amount of lost water down significantly. As the water customers are aware, a \$4 million

infrastructure improvement project has completed replacing several antiquated and leaking mains. In 2019, water customers were charged \$5.43 per 1,000 gallons of water and the annual charge per user was \$166.60.

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 Health Department](#) at (607)-432.3911.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)	No	10/2017	3.51	ng/l	MCL=70 ¹	N/A	Surfactant or emulsifier; used in fire-fighting foam, circuit board etching acids, alkaline cleaners, floor polish, and as a pesticide active ingredient for insect bait traps
Nitrate	No	9/2019	A-L ² =0.93 Curry ³ =0.92	mg/l	MCL=10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	No	09/2018	5.1	ug/l	MCL=80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.
Copper	No	9/2017	0.587 ⁴ 0.0439 – 0.635	mg/l	AL=1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Beta particle and photon activity from manmade radionuclides	No	11/2017	A-L=1.71 Curry=2.16	pCi/l	50 ⁵	0	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Barium	No	9/2019	A-L=0.023 Curry=0.021	ug/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel	No	9/2019	Curry =.0010 AL = .0008	mg/l	2	N/A	In the soil are metal plating industries, combustion of fossil fuels, and nickel mining and electroplating

- Notes:**
- To provide consumers, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from a lifetime of exposure to PFOA and PFOS from drinking water, EPA has established the health advisory levels at 70 parts per trillion.
 - A-L is the Austin Lincoln well field.
 - Curry is the Curry well field.
 - The level of copper presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 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, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest values (0.587 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
 - The State considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.
 - Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.

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).

Nanograms per liter (ng/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

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 New York State requirements. It should be noted that the action level for lead was exceeded as well as the level for Iron ([in one of the samples collected](#)). We are required to present the following information on lead and iron 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. [The Village of Walton](#) 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>.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2019, we did not monitor or test for total trihalomethanes from the correct sampling location and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Spanish

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

French

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.

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.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In 2011, we performed a major upgrade of the water infrastructure. The costs of the improvements are reflected in the water capital rate structure. The significant increase in this capital charge is necessary to assure and safe and reliable water supply to our customers. We ask that all our costumers help us protect our waters sources, the heart of this community.

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.