

New York State Department of Health
Annual Water Quality Report Certification Form
AWQR YEAR: 2023

Community Water System Name: Adirondack Correctional Facility

Community Water System Address: Ray Brook, New York 12977

PWS ID: 1510497

The community water system named above hereby confirms that its Annual Water Quality Report has been distributed to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the health department.

Certified by: Name: Steven Brown

Title: Sr. Filter Plant Operator

Phone #: 518-891-1343 Date: 04/30/24

Please indicate how your report was distributed to your customers:

Annual Water Quality Report was distributed to bill-paying customers by mail.

Annual Water Quality Report was distributed to bill-paying customers by direct delivery (please specify the direct delivery method used).

Hand delivered.

Published in local paper (i.e., Penney Saver) that was directly delivered or mailed to all bill-paying Customers.

Published in local municipal newsletter that was directly delivered or mailed.

Other (please specify) Posted on Employee Bulletin Boards, Inmate Housing Boards, cottage tentants, Power House, Daycare, Filter Plant, F.C.I., Garage

System does not have bill-paying customers.

For systems serving at least 100,000 persons, in addition to distributing your report using the methods described above, your Annual Water Quality Report must be posted on the internet.

Annual Water Quality Report is posted on the Internet at www. _____

Please indicate what "Good Faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. These efforts included the following methods as recommended by New York State Department of Health.

Posting the Annual Water Quality Report on the Internet at www. _____

Mailing the Annual Water Quality Report to postal patrons within the service area.

Advertising the availability of the Annual Water Quality Report in the news media.

Publication of the Annual Water Quality Report in a local newspaper.

Posting the Annual Water Quality Report in public places (attached a list of locations, see above).

Delivery of multiple copies to single-bill paying addresses serving several persons such as apartments, Businesses, and large private employers.

Delivery to community organizations.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Adirondack Correctional Facility
PO Box 110
Ray Brook, New York
(Public Water Supply ID#1510497)

Introduction

To comply with State regulations, Adirondack Correctional Facility issues a report annually that describes 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 water utility, please contact Eolian Phinney in writing at the Adirondack Correctional Facility.

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 concentration 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.

The Adirondack Correctional Facility serves approximately 2400 people through 20 service connections. There are two main sources of water, impoundments of Craig Brook located on Seymour Mountain and Little Ray Brook located on Haystack Mountain. Water from the Seymour Mountain Reservoir flows by gravity through a transmission line to a 500,000-gallon uncovered raw water storage reservoir. Water from the Haystack Mountain Reservoir flows by gravity through a two-mile long transmission line to the same reservoir. Ray Brook can be used as an emergency source. Filtration is required because our supply water is a surface water source. Filtration is accomplished at the water filtration plant with two package plant Aquarius filters. Each filter is rated for filtering 350 gallons per minute (gpm). The filtration process includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and mixed media filtration. Polyaluminum Chloride is rapid mixed to promote coagulation of turbidity and natural organic material. After the water has been filtered it flows to a 500,000-gallon covered reservoir, where primary disinfection takes place with the use of sodium hypochlorite. Additional caustic soda is added in the covered reservoir to help maintain a pH of 7 for distribution. Phosphoric acid is added to the filtered water at a rate of 1 part per million (ppm) or milligram per liter (mg/l) for corrosion control in the distribution system. Water is then pumped as potable water to a 500,000-gallon stand pipe where it gravity feeds to the consumer. Ray Brook pond is an emergency backup water supply and is used to help maintain proper raw water reservoir levels.

The NYS Dept. of Health completed a source water assessment for this system based on available information. The assessment areas for Haystack and Seymour contains no discrete PCSs, and none of the land cover contaminant prevalence ratings are greater than low. However, the high mobility of microbial contaminants in reservoirs results in this drinking water intake having medium-high susceptibility ratings for protozoa and enteric bacteria and viruses. Furthermore, reservoirs are highly susceptible to water quality problems caused by phosphorus additions. This assessment for Ray Brook found an elevated susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. Land cover and its associated activities within the assessment area does not increase the potential for contamination. Non-sanitary wastewater discharges may also contribute to contamination. Finally, it should be noted that hydrologic characteristics (e.g. basin shape and flushing rates) generally make reservoirs highly sensitive to existing and new sources of phosphorus and microbial contamination.

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, including 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 (800-426-4791) or the New York State Health Department at (518) 891-1800.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity ¹	No	12/25/2023	0.09	NTU	n/a	TT=<1NTU	Soil Runoff
Turbidity ¹	No	2023	100% < 0.3	NTU	n/a	TT=95% of samples < 0.3NTU	Soil Runoff
Radioactive Contaminants							
Radium 228	No	2023	0.0	pCi/L	0	5 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	No	2023	0.0	pCi/L	0	15 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	No	2023	0.0033	mg/L	2	2 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony	No	2021	2.1	ug/L	6	6(MCL)	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; solder.
Chloride	No	2019	16	mg/L	n/a	250 (MCL)	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Sodium	No	2022	8.3	mg/L	n/a	See Note 6	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Sulfate	No	2019	3.1	mg/L	n/a	250 (MCL)	Naturally occurring
Odor	No	2019	1	Unit	n/a	3 (MCL)	Natural sources; Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste.
Copper	No	2021	0.087 ² .027-.12 ³	mg/L	1.3	1.3 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	No	2021	0.002 ² ND-0.013 ³	mg/L	0	0.015 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Nitrate	No	2023	0.33	mg/L	10	10 (MCL)	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection Byproducts – Stage 2							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	2023	19 ⁴ 12 - 24 ⁵	ug/L	n/a	80 (MCL)	By-products of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains measurable amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	2023	27 ⁴ 11 - 48 ⁵	ug/L	n/a	60 (MCL)	By-products of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.

NOTES:

- ¹ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of our water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our single highest measurement for the year occurred on 12/25/2023 (0.09 NTU). The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected in a month have measurements below 0.3 NTU.
- ² The level 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 lead and 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 value.
- ³ The level presented represents a range of the lead and copper samples collected. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the 10 test sites. The action level for lead and copper was not exceeded at any of the 10 sampling locations.
- ⁴ The value represents the highest Locational Running Annual Average of the quarterly samples collected.
- ⁵ The values represent the range of the quarterly samples collected.
- ⁶ Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

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)** – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water

What does this information mean?

As you can see by the table, our system did not have any water quality violations this past year. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. Even though our water does not have lead levels above the Action Limit, we are required to provide the following information on lead in drinking water: 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. Adirondack Correctional Facility is 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, contact Eolian Phinney in writing at the Adirondack Correctional Facility. 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>.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern operations?

We are in full compliance with all applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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. 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).

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;
- ♦ 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 you are using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ♦ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ♦ The repair of one toilet flushometer can save up to 30,000 gallons of water per year.
- ♦ The repair of one leaking faucet can save up to 6,000 gallons of water per year.

Conclusion

We provide high quality safe potable water for your consumption.