



**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
for the Year 2020  
"THE WATER WE DRINK"  
WAYNE COUNTY WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY  
3377 Daansen Road, Walworth, N.Y. 14568**

For water customers in the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority's ***Ingersoll Drive Service Area (SA)*** (PWS ID #NY5830093) supplied by the Village of Fair Haven for the Ingersoll Drive Area located in the Town of Wolcott in Wayne County, New York.

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority 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 any maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Mr. Martin J. Aman, Executive Director, Phone: (315) 986-1929, Fax: (315) 986-1687 or email: [maman@wcwsa.org](mailto:maman@wcwsa.org). We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. The meetings are held on the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority building, 3377 Daansen Road, Walworth. Or you may visit our website at [www.wcwsa.org](http://www.wcwsa.org).

## **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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority receives its water from the Village of Fair Haven for the Ingersoll Drive Service Area. That water source is groundwater drawn from two groundwater wells located in the Town of Sterling. The water drawn from these wells is chlorinated prior to distribution.

## **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment included a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water; it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, the Village of Fair Haven water is derived primarily from 2 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a high susceptibility to microbials and nitrates. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of a permitted discharge facility (a commercial facility that discharges wastewater into the environment and is regulated by the state government) and animal pastures in relation to the wells. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer with high hydraulic conductivity. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates these wells as being susceptible to microbials, this water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination. County and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and educational programs. A copy of the assessment is available for review.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

This water system serves approximately 123 people through 41 service connections. The total water purchased by W.C.W. & S.A. in 2020 for the Fair Haven service area was approximately 600 thousand gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was approximately 573 thousand gallons. This unsold water being water used to regularly flush this low use, dead end water line to maintain water quality. Some may also be water lost due to leaks and/or fire fighting. In 2020, water customers were charged a minimum charge of \$25.00 for the first 5,000 gallons, and \$5.00 per 1,000 gallons of water used beyond 5,000 gallons per quarter. This rate would result in an annual water charge of \$250.00 for a customer using 50,000 gallons per year, an average use for a family of three.

## **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, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority and its suppliers send their samples to independent New York State certified water quality testing laboratories. The accompanying table 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 log on to EPA's Drinking Water Website [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/). If you have questions or concerns about the quality of your water, please feel free to contact the Authority or the local office of the NYSDOH.

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The Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority is required to collect and analyze at least one (1) total coliform sample from various points within the Ingersoll Drive Service Area per month. No samples exceeded New York State Health Department or EPA drinking water standards. We make every effort to provide the best quality of water to our customers.

The accompanying table depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water, based upon information provided by *The Village of Fair Haven*.

<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Date of Sample</b>	<b>Village of Fair Haven Results</b>	<b>WCWSA Results</b>	<b>Source</b>
Asbestos Chrysotile	MFL	No	NA	7	10/28/2020	2	NS	Decay of asbestos cement mains; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	mg/l	No	2	2	9/17/2018	0.184	NS	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha activity	pCi/L	No	n/a	15	1/18/2019	0.2	NS	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	mg/l	No	10	10	12/8/2020	1.73, 2.11	NS	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes *footnote 3	ug/l	No	n/a	80	8/17/2020	9.2	11	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids *footnote 3	ug/l	No	n/a	60	8/17/2020	1.4	1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Lead *footnote 1	ug/l	No	0	AL=15	2018	2 <1-6.3 (0 out of 10 exceeded) 8/25/18	2 <1-6.3 (0 out of 10 exceeded) 8/25/18	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper *footnote 2	ug/l	No	1300	AL=1300	2018	99 8.3-220 (0 out of 10 exceeded) 8/25/18	99 8.3-220 (0 out of 10 exceeded) 8/25/18	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	No	0	5	1/21/2019 1/17/2019	0.777	NS	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	Mg/L	No	n/a	n/a	12/4/2019	4.16, 5.01	NS	Naturally occurring

\*footnote 1 – The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 10 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

\*footnote 2 - The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> 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 90<sup>th</sup> 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the second highest value detected 99 ug/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

\*footnote 3 – As required one sample is collected during August of each calendar year.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced. Please visit our website, [www.wcwsa.org](http://www.wcwsa.org) for more information on lead.

**Copper:** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

#### **DEFINITIONS OF TERMS IN TABLE**

**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.

**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).

**Picograms per liter (pg/l):** Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion - ppq).

**Not Sampled (NS):** This contaminant was not sampled by the supplier.

#### **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the above table, this 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?**

The Village of Fair Haven is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. During 2020 they were in compliance with 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).

### **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 transmission mains, 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. Conservation tips include:
- Automatic dishwashers use 4-6 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn water off while shaving and/or 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 can save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes; if it moved, you have a leak.
- Replace older fixtures with water-saving devices.
- When washing your car, use a bucket for washing and turn on the hose only for rinsing.
- Take showers instead of baths.
- Curb lawn watering – water your lawn only when necessary, and water between the hours of 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to hold water for your plants.
- If you have a swimming pool, fill it during the night when demands on power and water production systems are less.

### **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

The Authority continued to work on the distribution system maintenance program. This included flushing of dead end water mains, maintenance and painting of fire hydrants, monitoring the cross connection back flow prevention program with three certified backflow testers, exercising of main line and gate valves throughout the system, and continuation of the residential water meter replacement program within the Authority's service area.

### **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources and systems, which are the heart of our community. In addition to helping us with the conservation measures as outlined in this report, we also ask for your co-operation in reporting any unusual or suspicious activity

around any of our water facilities, including tanks, hydrants, pump stations, etc. We encourage you to notify us immediately at (315) 986-1929 if you observe any suspicious activities, or if you notice any new or unusual wet spots or other signs that may indicate a leak in the water system. As always, please feel free to call at any time if you have any questions or concerns about your water supply or our operation in general.