Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016

Gibson Water
20 SOUTH MAPLE STREET
CORNING, NY 14830
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID NY5001213

INTRODUCTION:

To comply with State and Federal regulations, Gibson Water 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 the State drinking water health standards. 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 the State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Kenneth Fields Tocwater@townofcorningny.org 738-2376 or the water dept office at 936-3254. 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 the Third Tuesday of every month.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

"The revised source Water Assessment Program report was not available at the time of printing. This information will be printed in next year's Annual Water Quality Report"

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 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 proved by public water systems. The State Health department's said the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public heath.

Our water source which services 152 service connections and around 450 people from 1 ground water well that is 73 feet deep, which is located on Main Street. The water is pumped to a 158,000 gallon storage tank that is located on the hillside off Cowan Avenue. The water is treated at the pumping facilities with liquid chlorine known as sodium hypochlorite. A metering pump is used to control the amount injected to the water as it is pumped to the storage tank prior to distribution.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

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 Hornell Health Department at 604-324-8371. 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.

THE FOLLOWING DEFINIATIONS ARE TO BE USED WITH TABLE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE:

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 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 that are longer than 10 micrometers.

NOTE:

Lead & Copper detection levels…

The level presented represents the 90 percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system.

Sodium levels….

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.

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.

	GIBSON WATER DISTRICT						
TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Violation	Date of	Level	Unit	MCLG	Regulatory	Likely Source of Contamination
	Yes/No	Sample	Detected	Measure-		Limit	and Health Effects Language
			(Max.	ment		(MCL, TT	
			Range)			or AL)	
MICROBOIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliform	NO			Pos/Neg	Neg.	Negative	Naturally present in the environment
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS				pos			not confermed by a second positve sample
Nitrate	NO	8/1/2016	0.83	mg/l	10 mg/l	10 mg/l	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks
							sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	NO	Aug-15	1.35	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing sytems; Erosion of
		Range:	<1.0-1.5				natural deposits.
Copper	NO	Aug-15	0.097	mg/l	AL=1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion
		Range:	0.017-0.12				of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Barium	NO	Dec-16	0.249	mg/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes: Discharge from metal
							refineries: Erosion of nautral deposits.
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES)			**Max Res. Time**		**10-Sep**	**<.5**	
(CHLOROFORM,BROMODICHLOROMETHANE,DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE, AND BROMOFORM							
	NO	August-14	20	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed
Haleocetic Acids		Max Res. Time					to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed
(mono-,di-,and trichloroacetic acid, and mono-and di-bromoacetic acid							when source water cotnains large amounts of
	NO	Aug-14	4.9	ug/l	N/A	60	organic matter.
Gross Alpha	NO	May-15	<3 E	pCi/l	0	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta	NO	May-15	3.7 E	pCi/l	0	50	decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Radium 228	NO	May-15	<3 E	pCi/l	0	5 combined	Errosion of natural deposits
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES)						with 226	
							By-product of drinking water chlorination needed
Entry Point	NO	Dec-16	5.9	ug/l	N/A	80	to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed
							when source water cotnains large amounts of
							organic matter.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We constantly test for various contaminants in the water supply to comply with regulatory requirements. This past year a lab error occurred with reporting nitrate sampling to the NYSDOH in a timely manner. This does not pose a threat to the quality of our water supply.

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. Immune-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, Guardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 that at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Town of Corning Water Dept. 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 for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at 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 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 up 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.

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.

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 and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.