

## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2017

East Corning Water  
20 SOUTH MAPLE STREET  
CORNING, NY 14830  
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID NY5030126

### **INTRODUCTION:**

To comply with State and Federal regulations, East Corning 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.

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 includes 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, our water is derived from Three wells on two separate sites. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. The high rating is due primarily to the well drawing from an unconfined aquifer of high hydraulic conductivity and the previous detection of halogenated solvents at levels consistent with a high chemical sensitivity.

While the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water system is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's 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 education programs. A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting your water supplier.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Kenneth Fields [Tocwater@townofcorningny.org](mailto:Tocwater@townofcorningny.org) water dept. office at 936-3254 Ex. 6. 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 provided 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 health.

Our water source which services 1,150 people from 322 service connections. Has 3 ground water well that are approximately 70 feet deep. The water is pumped to 688,000 gallon storage tanks. The water is treated at the pumping facilities with liquid chlorine known as sodium hypochlorite. In 2018 the total water produced was 27 million. The average daily water pumped was 153,100. The amount of water delivered to customers was 16.5 million. This leaves 11 million or 5.5% of unaccounted for. This is used for fires, fire training, flushing and leaks. The cost of water is \$23.00 for the first 7,480 gallons then \$3.50 for every 100 gallons after.

### **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 DEFINITIONS 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 90<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **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.

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

East Corning Water District is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During August of 2016, we did not fully monitor or test for Disinfection Byproducts (Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids}, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time." 1 of 2 samples were taken and were within the appropriate limits.

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).

<b>GIBSON, CM, East Corning WATER DISTRICT</b>									
<b>TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS</b>									
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Max. Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination and Health Effects Language		
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS</b>									
Total Coliform	NO			Pos/Neg	Neg.	Negative	Naturally present in the environment		
Chlorin residuals Well 1	NO	Daily	.31-2.09		4	.20-4.0			
Chlorin residuals Wells 2&3	NO	Daily	.22-2.15	mg/l	4	.20-4.0	additive for control of microbes		
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>									
Nitrate wells 2& 3	NO	Aug-18	1.5	mg/l	10 mg/l	10 mg/l	not conformed by a second positive sample		
Nitrate well 1	NO	Aug-18	0.76	mg/l	10 mg/l	10 mg/l	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.		
Lead	NO	Aug-18	2.1	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.		
		Range:	<1.0-2.8						
Copper	NO	Aug-18	0.25	mg/l	AL=1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives		
		Range:	.033-.086						
Barium well 2&3	NO	May-18	0.167	mg/l	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes: Discharge from metal refineries: Erosion of natural deposits.		
well 1	NO	May-18	0.249	mg/l	2	2			
<b>TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES )</b>									
<b>( CHLOROFORM, BROMODICHLOROMETHANE, DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE, AND BROMOFORM</b>									
NO		Aug-18	16	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.		
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b>									
<b>( mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid</b>									
NO		Aug-18	8.4	ug/l	N/A	60			
		Max Res. Time							
Gross Alpha	NO	May-18	2.7E	pCi/l	0	50	Erosion of natural deposits		
Gross Beta	NO	May-18	2.5 E	pCi/l	0	50	decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions		
Radium 228	NO	May-18	9.4 E	pCi/l	0	combined with 226	decay of natural deposits		
<b>TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES )</b>									
Entry Point	NO	Dec-16	5.9	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.		
Water hardness	NO		250-280	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in the environment		
<b>ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>									
TRICHLOROETHANE	NO	May-18	0.8	ugl	5	n/a	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories		

### **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](http://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 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 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.