

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023  
Town of Wilna Water District #2  
Rt. 3 Natural Bridge, NY  
(Public Water Supply ID# 2230096)*

## **Introduction**

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Town of Wilna, 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 has not violated 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 drinking water, please contact **The Development Authority of the North Country, at 315-661-3210**. 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 on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the town offices.

## **Where does our water come from?**

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and groundwater 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 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 the tap water is safe to drink, NYS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The NYS Department of Health (DOH) and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) have established regulatory limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection as tap water for public health

Our water source is groundwater wells: groundwater drawn from two 260 to 330-foot deep drilled wells which is located across from the fire station on Ridge Road. The water is pumped to 4 pressure vessels and chlorinated prior to distribution. Our water system serves approximately 289 people through 53 service connections.

## **Are there contaminants in our drinking water?**

In accordance with New York State requirements, the Town of Wilna regularly tests drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include Total Coliform, Ecoli, Inorganic Compounds, Nitrate, Nitrite, Sodium, Chlorides, Lead & Copper, Volatile Organic Compounds, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs), Haloacetic acids (HAA5s) and Synthetic Organic Compounds (which include herbicides, pesticides etc.) and radiological contaminants. NYS regulations allow the Town to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. The table presented below depicts the most recent values for the contaminants that were detected in the drinking water supply. None of the compounds analyzed were detected in drinking water above the NYS allowable levels. 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. By Calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the New York State Department of Health at (315) 785-2277, you can obtain more information about contaminants and potential health effects.

## TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Average Level Detected (Range)	Unit of Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Barium	No	6/21/21	0.0324	mg/l	2	MCL=2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	9/23	2.7 <sup>1</sup> (ND-4.7)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	9/23	0.1881 <sup>2</sup> (0.0355-0.5844)	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservative
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	No	8/29/23	3.2 <sup>3</sup>	ug/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms; TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
Haloacetic Acids (Haa5'S)	No	8/29/23	2.8 <sup>3</sup>	ug/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms
<b>Additional Detected Analytes<sup>4</sup></b>							
1H,1H,2H,2H-Perfluorooctane-sulfonic Acid (6:2FTS)	No	12/14/23	3.01	ng/l	N/A	MCL=50,000	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
<p>Notes</p> <p><sup>1</sup> 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 lead 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 (2.7 ug/l). The action level for lead was exceeded at one of the sites tested.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> 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 highest value (0.1881 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> This level represents the highest locational running average calculated from the data collected.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Due to the Emerging Contaminant regulation, sampling of PFOA and PFOS is required. Due to a detection of (PFOA or PFOS), additional sampling required all analytics within the method be reported, in accordance with Footnote 3 of Table 9C, Subpart 5-1. This expanded analysis detected the following analytes within this table.</p>							

## **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.

**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).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion – ppt).

**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 Applicable (N/A):** Does not apply.

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

Laboratory results indicate that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by NYS.

## **IS MY WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

During 2023, our system was 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?**

The Town's system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future water demand. However, 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 treating and operating the water system.
- 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.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks; just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons per day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.
- 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 your bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons per day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save 30,000 gallons a 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 the Town of Wilna to provide your family with quality drinking water again this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply the Village sometimes needs 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. The Town asks that all customers help to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.