Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016
Twin Lakes Water Works
PO Box 258, South Salem, NY 10590
(Public Water Supply ID# 5903475)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Twin Lakes Water Works (TLWW) annually issues 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. In 2016, 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. We include 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 president of the TLWW, Lew Terman, at 914 763-5744, or you can talk to one of the volunteers whose names are listed on our general information sheet. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. In addition, TLWW shareholders are invited to the annual meeting.

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 amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves about 366 people in 90 homes. Our water source is groundwater drawn from two wells (300 and 516 feet deep) on TLWW land on North Lake Circle. The water is treated with chlorine and orthophosphate prior to distribution. 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 the contaminants that have been detected. Source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated the TLWW drilled wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are primarily due to the close proximity of residential land use and associated activities, such as fertilizing lawns. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer, which is a shallow aquifer that occurs immediately below the ground surface and has no overlying protective layer for protection from potential sources of contamination, and the hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer is unknown. While the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us, as noted below.

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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table 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 at 800-426-4791 or the Westchester Department of Health (DOH) at 914 813-5000.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganics							
Barium	No	8/15	0.062	mg/L	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	No	8/15	6.2	µg/L	100	100	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	8/15	88.2	mg/L	250	N/A	Naturally occurring or road salt contamination.
Cyanide	No	8/15	124	µg/L	200	200	Discharge from factories
Fluoride by ISE	No	8/15	0.12	mg/L	N/A	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	No	8/15	5.8	µg/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	8/15	27.8 (1)	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners
Nickel	No	8/15	2.7	µg/L	N/A	N/A	
Nitrate	No	6/16	2.7	mg/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate	No	8/15	19.8	mg/L	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	8/15	0.020	mg/L	N/A	5	Naturally occurring
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts							
Trihalomethanes	No	8/16	24.01 (14.91-24.01)	µg/L	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Haloacetic Acids	No	8/16	8.79 (6.41-8.79)	µg/L	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	No	12/16	0.4	mg/L	N/A	4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Beta particle and photon activity from man-made radionuclides	No	12/14	5.54	pCi/L	0	50[(2)]	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Gross Alpha Activity including radium 226 but excluding radon and uranium	No	12/14	5.56	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium 226 and 228	No	12/14	1.93	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	No	12/14	17.80	µg/L	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper							
Lead	No	9/15	0.55[(3)] (ND -1.1)	µg/L	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	9/15	0.73 [(3)] (0.4-0.9)	mg/L	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Notes: 1 – Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets.
2 – The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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 or copper value detected at your water system In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the highest and the second highest values. The action level of copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. The action level for copper is 1.3 mg/L (1300 ug/L). The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. The action level for lead is 15 ug/L.

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.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

Micrograms per liter (µg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

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 the level allowed by the State.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are 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 2016, 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 WATER.

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 reduces the energy cost to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells and pumping systems; and
- Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions.

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 up to 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So load it to capacity.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day: fix it to save up to 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 to save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

CLOSING.

The Twin Lakes Water Works Corporation is run by some of your neighbors on a voluntary basis. We hire advisors to ensure that we comply with all regulations. 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. Please comply with any TLWW notifications posted on the notice pole at the entrance to Twin Lakes Village.