

**Town of Chazy**  
**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015**  
**Chazy Water District**  
**P.O. Box 217**  
**Chazy, NY, 12921**  
**(Public Water Supply ID # NY0930113)**

**INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Chazy Water District, 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 never 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 Tom Burdo, Water Supervisor, at 518-846-7544 or the Clinton County Health Department at 518-565-4870. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regular scheduled Town of Chazy board meetings. The meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Chazy Town Hall.

**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 EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments 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 approximately 690 people with 240 service connections in the Town of Chazy. The water system consists of three 500-foot deep drilled wells located in the town's well field at 45 Riley Drive. The water is pumped from the wells into a 200,000 gallon storage tank. The water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite as it is transferred to the storage tank prior to distribution.

**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, total haloacetic acids, radiologicals, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented 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 (800-426-4791) or the Clinton County Health Department at 518-565-4870.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Samples	Level Detected (average range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, T or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (1)	N	08/04/15	0.32 Range: 0.046-0.37	mg/l	1.3	1.3 AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2)	N	08/04/15	11 Range: BRL to 11	ug/l	0	15 AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Particles	N	06/30/15	1.4	pCi/l	N/A	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium-226 and 228 (3)	N	06/30/15	2.3	pCi/l	N/A	5 (3)	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	N	11/30/15	0.104	mg/l	2	2	Naturally Occurring
Fluoride	N	11/30/15	0.2	mg/l	N/A	2.2	Naturally Occurring
Chloroform	N	11/30/15	3.8	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	N	11/30/15	9.6	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	N	11/30/15	7.0	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromodichloromethane	N	11/30/15	16	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
STAGE 1 Disinfection by-products (4)							
TTHM's (Total Trihalomethanes) (4,5) Location 1: Chazy Orchard	N	03/04/15	67.83	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		05/19/15					
		08/24/15					
		12/03/15					
TTHM's (Total Trihalomethanes) (4,5) Location 2: WWTP	N	03/04/15	65.48	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		05/19/15					
		08/24/15					
		12/03/15					
HAA5's (Total Haloacetic Acids) (4, 5) Location 1: Chazy Orchard	N	03/04/15	14.1	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		05/19/15					
		08/24/15					
		11/24/15					
HAA5's (Total Haloacetic Acids) (4, 5) Location 2: WWTP	N	03/04/15	14.83	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		05/19/15					
		08/24/15					
		11/24/15					

**Notes:**

(1) 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 from our water system at many different locations around our Town and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the second highest value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper 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.

(2) 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. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

(3) MCL is for combined radium 228 and radium 226.

(4) These compounds are included in the MCL for disinfection by products. Therefore, the MCL for these compounds is 80µg/l (TTHM) and 60µg/l (HAA5).

(5) Two samples of water were collected each quarter and analyzed for TTHM's and HAA5's. The levels presented are the running annual average (RAA) of the two quarterly samples collected.

Stage 2 sampling began with the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013 and compliance will be calculated using the LRAA. This level represents the highest locational running annual average calculated from data collected.

**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 Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's 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.

**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).

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l):** A measure of radioactivity

**WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see by the table, our system had no MCL 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?**

Our system had one Boil Water Order for loss of pressure in March due to a water main break. We also had one routine monitoring violation in December for late submission of a routine TCR sample.

**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).

If present, elevated level of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children, Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with the service lines and home plumbing Chazy Water District 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 3- seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <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 good 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.

### **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continuing 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 cost 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 call our office if you have questions.

Thank You,

Tom Burdo  
Water Supervisor

