

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019

Village of Perry

6900 Standpipe Rd., Perry, NY 14530

Public Water Supply ID #NY6000613

Town of Perry – Perry Center District - ID #NY6000614

INFORMATION FOR NON ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Spanish

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Village of Perry, will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of the drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. 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, **Jeff Drain, Chief Water/Sewer Treatment Plant Operator, at 237-3720 or Eric Kelly, DPW Superintendent, at 237-0068**. If you wish to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings.

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 the animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in the 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 Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for the public health.

Perry has one surface source of water, which is Silver Lake. Silver Lake is about two miles long, one half mile wide and is about forty feet deep, in the deepest part. During 2019 our system did not experience any restrictions of our water source. Polyaluminum Chloride (a coagulant) is added to the raw water and is mixed in a flocculation chamber and most of the particles are trapped in the upflow clarifier, then the water flows through three sand GAC filters for final filtration, then chlorine and fluoride are added.

Orthophosphate is added at the water treatment plant to prevent corrosion in the distribution system.

INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at a properly controlled level. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the Village of Perry monitors fluoride levels on a daily basis to make sure fluoride is maintained at a target level of 0.8 mg/l. During 2019 monitoring showed that fluoride levels in your water were within 0.1mg/l of our target level 66% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Village of Perry

Our water system serves 3,673 people through 1,666 service connections. The total water production in 2019 was 124,245,244 gallons of water with an average of 340,397 gallons a day. The amount billed to customers was 104,741,455 which includes services to Perry Center Water District, Gardeau Water District, Silver Lake Institute and the north end of Letchworth State Park. Letchworth State Park purchased 6,822,000 gallons of water from the Village of Perry. Current water rates are \$4.15/per 1000 gallons, with a \$34.00 service charge per quarter. The Town of Castile total water usage in 2019 from the Village of Perry was 8,254,000 gallons of water.

Perry Center Water District

The Perry Center Water District serves about 150 people through 77 service connections. They purchased from the Village of Perry 6,412,000 gallons of water. Current water rates are \$56.50 maintenance fee and \$7.40 for 1 -150,000 gallons, \$6.25 for 151,000 – 500,000 gallons and \$5.90 for 501,000 + gallons.

This leaves 19,503,789 gallons or 16% of the total amount not billed for, of that approximately 13,572,898 gallons were used for backwashing, filling the jetter and street sweeper, flushing fire hydrants, daily blow off waste, water salesmen, and lab sinks which leaves 5% of the total unaccounted for. This water was used for the Village Hall, Village Park, and to leakage and inaccurate water meters.

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, turbidity, inorganic

compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, 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.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, might 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 E P A's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or Wyoming County Health Department at 786-8894.

DEFINITIONS AND KEY TERMS

Turbidity: The measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggered 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 Units (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTUs 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).

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

Cryptosporidium: Is microbial pathogen found in surface water and ground water under the influence of surface water and water, although filtration removes cryptosporidium. Ingestion of cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis a gastrointestinal infection. Symptoms of infections include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Immuno-compromised people are at greater risk. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it is spread through other means than just water.

Giardia: Is a microbial pathogen present in varying concentrations in many surface water and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Giardia is removed/ inactivated through a combination of filtration and disinfection or by disinfection. Ingestion of giardia may cause giardiasis; this is an intestinal illness. Symptoms are mild to severe diarrhea, or in some instance no symptoms at all. Fever is rarely present. Giardiasis can be treated with anti-parasitic medication. The Giardia parasite is passed in the feces of an infected person or animal and may contaminate water or food. Person to person

transmission may also occur in day care centers or other settings where hand washing practices are poor.

Trihalomethanes: Is the reaction of chlorine with organic materials in water. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Haloacetic Acids (5) (HAA5): Means the sum of concentrations in milligrams per liter of five specific haloacetic acid compounds, rounded to two significant figures after addition. The five halo acetic acids that comprise the HAA5 are monochloroacetic acids, dichloroacetic acids, trichloroacetic acids, monobromoacetic acids and dibromoacetic acids.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected in the Town of Perry water system. It should be noted that the MCL for Trihalomethanes have been exceeded on some of the sampling events. Based on annual averages the Village of Perry and the Town of Perry were in compliance with the State Department of Health regulations.

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.

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.

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 at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Our system 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 water for drinking or 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 minimized exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 at (800-426-4791) or the Wyoming County Health Department at (585) 786-8894

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

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. **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 assessment has rated this source as having a medium susceptibility to microbials, phosphorus, DBP precursors, pesticides, nitrates. The source received a low susceptibility to industrial solvents and other solvents. **While the source water assessment rates our well(s) as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State’s drinking water standards for microbial contamination.** These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of agricultural, residential, and commercial land uses in the assessment area.

Our water system did not meet a drinking water monitoring requirement for 2019. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation. 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 our drinking water meets health standards. In December of 2019, we collected a sample for nitrate which was sent to a private lab along with 126 other samples. Our lab did not report results for the nitrate sample we collected and therefore cannot be sure of the nitrate level of your water in 2019.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What happened and what is being done?

The tests for nitrate were conducted yearly for the previous 10 years with no water quality issues detected during those years. A replacement sample was collected in May of 2020 and the results were 0.744 mg/L.

The 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. Continued vigilance in compliance with water quality protection and pollution prevention programs as well as continued monitoring and enforcement of watershed rules and regulations will help to continue to protect groundwater quality. For more information, contact us.

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our area is very fortunate to have access to a water supply, which more than meets our demands, conservation efforts by both the village and the consumer are prudent in deterring increasing costs. As a consumer you can participate in this water conservation effort. The following are some ideas which can be directly applied to your individual homes:

- 1) Use water-saving, flow-restricting shower heads and low flow faucets (aerators)
- 2) Repair dripping faucets and toilets that seem to flush by themselves. 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.
- 3) Replace your toilet with a low flush model or place a brick in your tank to reduce the volume used on each flush.
- 4) Water your garden and lawn only when necessary. Remember that a layer of mulch in the flowerbeds and garden is not only aesthetically pleasing but will help retain moisture.
- 5) Water your lawn after 6:00 PM. This prevents water loss due to evaporation.
- 6) When washing your car do not let the hose run continuously.
- 7) When brushing your teeth, shaving, or shampooing, avoid running the water unnecessarily.

According to State regulations, the Village of Perry routinely monitors your drinking water for various contaminants, which are listed in laboratory reports. Anyone interested in obtaining copies of the laboratory reports may do so at the Village Clerk's Office, located at 46 North Main Street in Perry.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have any questions.