Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020
TOWN OF POESTENKILL
38 DAVIS DRIVE, POESTENKILL, NY 12140
Public Water Supply ID# NY4130338

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Town of Poestenkill , 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 did not violate 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 Robert Brunet, Poestenkill Water Manager (518-283-5100 Ext.110 or cell 518-542-4960). 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 which are held the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Poestenkill 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 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 purchases its water from the City of Troy, which is then pumped from Troy to Poestenkill, through Brunswick. The City of Troy draws its water from a "Surface Water Supply", the spring fed Tomhannock Reservoir. It is located northeast of the City of Troy. Water flows from the Reservoir to the Troy Water Treatment Plant (TWTP), a complete treatment facility.

Our water system serves approximately 400 service connections with approximately 980 people using water daily. The water is chlorinated as it enters the Town of Poestenkill.

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, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, 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 Rensselaer County Department of Health at (518) 270-2632 (Mr. Rich Elder).

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample (2020)	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloroform	No	2/3	61.5/62 61-62	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Chloroform	No	4/1	53.8/54.6 53-54.6	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Chloroform	No	7/2	75.6/75.8 75.5-75.8	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Chloroform	No	12/2	52.5/52.6 52.4-52.6	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromodichlorom-ethane	No	2/3	8.15 8.1-8.2	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromodichlorom-ethane	No	4/1	7.2/7.2 7.2-7.2	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromodichlorom-ethane	No	7/2	9.1/9.2 9.1-9.2	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromodichlorom-ethane	No	12/2	8.5/8.6 8.4-8.6	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics

Dibrochlorom-ethane	No	2/3	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibrochlorom-ethane	No	4/1	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibrochlorom-ethane	No	7/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibrochlorom-ethane	No	12/2	1.3/1.3 1.3-1.3 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromoform	No	2/3	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromoform	No	4/1	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Bromoform	No	7/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring
Bromoform	No	12/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring
Total Trihalomethanes	No*	2/3	69.6/70.1 69.2-70.1	Ug/L		80 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Total Trihalomethanes	No*	4/1	61/61.8 60.2-61.8	Ug/L		80 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Total Trihalomethanes	No*	7/2	84.3/85.9 82.8-85.9	Ug/L		80 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Total Trihalomethanes	No*	12/2	62.3/62.3 62.3-62.3	Ug/L		80 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics

Dibromoacetic Acid	No	2/3	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibromoacetic Acid	No	4/1	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibromoacetic Acid	No	7/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dibromoacetic Acid	No	12/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dichloroacedic Acid	No	2/3	15.8/16 15.7-16	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dichloroacedic Acid	No	4/1	23.9/24 23.9-24	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dichloroacedic Acid	No	7/2	6.9/8.0 5.8-8.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Dichloroacedic Acid	No	12/2	6.0/6.3 5.8-6.3	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Monobromoacetic Acid	No	2/3	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Monobromoacetic Acid	No	4/1	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics
Monobromoacetic Acid	No	7/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally 0ccurring organics

Monobromoacetic Acid	No	12/2	<1.0/<1.0 <1.0-<1.0	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Monochloroacetic Acid	No	2/3	4.4/4.9 3.9-4.9	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Monochloroacetic Acid	No	4/1	4.8/4.9 4.7-4.9	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Monochloroacetic Acid	No	7/2	2.1/2.2 2.1-2.2	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Monochloroacetic Acid	No	12/2	2.1/2.2 2.0-2.2	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Trichloroacetic Acid	No	2/3	26.9/27.5 26.3-27.5	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Trichloroacetic Acid	No	4/1	22.2/22.5 21.9-22.5	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Trichloroacetic Acid	No	7/2	12.2/13.5 11.0-13.5	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Trichloroacetic Acid	No	12/2	9.2/9.7 8.7-9.7	Ug/L			Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Total Haloacetic Acid	No	2/3	42.6/49.3 45.9-49.3	Ug/L		60 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Total Haloacetic Acid	No	4/1	48.1/48.3 48-48.3	Ug/L		60 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics

Total Haloacetic Acid	No	7/2	20.2/23.7 16.7-23.7	Ug/L		60 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Total Haloacetic Acid	No	12/2	16.3/18.2 14.4-18.2	Ug/L		60 ug/l	Formed by reaction of chlorine with naturally Occurring organics
Copper	No	6/16	.04/.09 .01-.09	Mg/L		<1.3 mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	No	6/16	<.001/<.001 <.001<.001	Mg/L		<.015mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrates	No	2/3/20	0.305	Mg/L		<0.2-10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

- * Trihalomethane Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) is based on an average of the four quarterly samples.
- During 2020 we collected and analyzed 12 samples for lead. The level included in the table represents the average for all 12 locations. The MCL was not exceeded at any of the sites we tested.

The following table is provided for Total Haloacetic Acid and Total Trihalomethanes since the MCLs for these contaminants are based upon a Rolling Annual Average.

Total Trihalomethanes	2nd Qtr. 2019	3rd Qtr. 2019	4th Qtr. 2019	1st Qtr. 2020	2nd Qtr. 2020	3rd Qtr. 2020	4th Qtr. 2020
Quarterly Average	39.3	92.7	61.1	69.6	61	84.3	62.3
Rolling Annual Average	-	-	-	65.8	71.1	69.0	66.3
Total Haloacetic Acid	2nd Qtr. 2019	3rd Qtr. 2019	4th Qtr. 2019	1st Qtr. 2020	2nd Qtr. 2020	3rd Qtr. 2020	4th Qtr. 2020
Quarterly Average	44.6	33.3	24.4	42.6	48.1	20.2	16.3
Rolling Annual Average	-	-	-	36.2	37.1	33.8	27.9

Coliform and E Coli Test Results

Date (2020)	Sample ID:	Result	Analysis Units
1/2	BA00016	Negative	Per ml
2/3	BA01860	Negative	Per ml
3/2	BA03504	Negative	Per ml
4/1	BA05084	Negative	Per ml
5/1	BA06126	Negative	Per ml
6/1	BA07540	Negative	Per ml
7/2	BA09765	Negative	Per ml
8/3	BA11873	Negative	Per ml
9/2	BA13985	Negative	Per ml
10/1	JH2007567	Negative	Per ml
11/2	CREL00313	Negative	Per ml
12/2	BB00823	Negative	Per ml

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected higher than the regulatory level in your drinking water.

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.
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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.

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 New York State requirements. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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 at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Town of Poestenkill 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 minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Nitrate :

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations, but we have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements. Although nitrate was detected below the MCL, it was detected at .305 Mg/ L. Therefore, we are required to present the following information on nitrate in drinking water:

"Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/l is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider."

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2020, 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?

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 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.

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 have no such plans in the works at this time; however, as water standards become more challenging, as I expect, the need may arise to plan for improvements. We ask that all our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact me, Robert Brunet, Poestenkill Water Manager 518- 283-5100 Ext. 110 or my cell 518-542-4960. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Brunet

Robert L. Brunet, P.E.
Water Manager