

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023

Saratoga Water Services, Inc.

Stonebreak Road, PO Box 2109, Malta, NY 12020

Public Water Supply Identification Number NY4511620

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Saratoga Water Services 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 is 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 New York State standards. Our constant goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. If you have any questions concerning this report or concerning your drinking water please contact *Jean Marcotte, Superintendent/Chief Water Plant Operator, Saratoga Water Services, Inc. PO Box 2109, Malta, NY 12020; Telephone (518) 899-6001, E mail jmarcotte@saratogawaterservices.com*. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water service. If you want to learn more, please call us.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Saratoga Water Services draws its water from ground water sources. Groundwater or well water is stored below the surface of the earth in deep, porous rocks called aquifers. Groundwater is purified naturally as it filters through layers of soil, clay, rock and sand. This process, known as percolation takes years to complete. As a result, groundwater requires less treatment than surface water. We pump this groundwater out through our 5 wells located at the Knapp Road wellfield and 3 wells located at the Cold Spring Road wellfield. The wells range in depth from 35 to 300 feet. The pumping capacity for all 8 wells is approximately 3.0 million gallons per day. At the Fox Wander Pumphouse there is a 280,000-gallon concrete storage tank to meet consumer demand and to provide adequate fire protection. All 3 pressure pumps are variable speed. At the Cold Spring Road Pumphouse there is a 752,000-gallon, steel/glass lined storage tank which is used to meet consumer demand and to provide adequate fire protection. Water pressure is maintained through 5 pressure pumps via a 300-gallon hydro-tank. All 5 pumps are variable speed. Pumping capacity from both pumphouses is determined by system pressure. Treatment of the water produced by the wells at each pumphouse consists of chlorination to protect against contamination from harmful bacteria and other organisms.

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 Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Saratoga Water Services provides water through 2,789 service connections to a population of approximately 8,950 people. Our average daily demand is 651,737 gallons. Our single highest day was 1,577,000 gallons. The total water produced in 2023 was 227,673,250 gallons. Total metered consumption was 237,884,000 gallons or 95.71% of the metered production. The total unaccounted-for water or non-revenue producing water 10,210,750 gallons or 4.29%. Water rates are \$5.34 per 1000 gallons. The average annual water bill is approximately \$350.00 per year.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In accordance with State regulations, the Saratoga Water Services routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include total coliform, iron, nitrate, primary and secondary inorganic compounds, disinfection byproducts, PFOA/PFOS and 1,4-Dioxane, synthetic, radiological, and principal organic chemicals, and lead and copper. In addition, we test 10 samples per month for coliform bacteria each month. The table presented on page 4 depicts which contaminants 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 the data, though representative, are more than one year old. For a listing of all the parameters that we must analyze and the frequency of testing for compliance with the NYS Sanitary Code, see Appendix A.

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 pose 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 New York State Department of Health Glens Falls District Office at (518) 793-3893.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table on page 4, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these compounds were detected below New York State requirements.

New York State has adopted the first in the nation drinking water standard for 1,4-Dioxane along with one of the lowest maximum contaminant levels for PFOA and PFOS. Public Water Supplies in NYS are required to test for PFOA, PFOS and 1,4-Dioxane. PFOA and PFOS have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) of 10 parts per trillion each while 1,4-Dioxane has an MCL of 1.0 parts per billion. Saratoga Water Services has completed its 2nd quarter of 2023 monitoring with no detects for PFOA, PFOS & 1,4-Dioxane.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2023, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating and monitoring requirements.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

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 service lines and home plumbing. Saratoga Water Services is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Jean Marcotte at Saratoga Water Services. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

IS OUR WATER SAFE FOR EVERYONE?

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 about drinking water 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 microbiological pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHAT IS THE SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SWAP)?

To emphasize the protection of surface and ground water sources used for public drinking water, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in 1996. The amendments require that New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection is responsible for ensuring that source water assessments are completed for all of New York's public water systems. A SWAP summary for our water supply is attached to this report.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- ◆ The Saratoga Water Services encourages water conservation. 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.
- ◆ 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.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

In 2023 there were no major capital improvements.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our customers. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources. Please call our office if you have questions.

**Saratoga Water Services
NY4511620
AWQR SWAP 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 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 a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment did not identify any significant sources of contamination. The well fields draw from sand and gravel aquifers and only one of the well fields has overlying soils that can provide protection from potential contamination. The overlying soils for the remaining wells overlying soils are not known to provide adequate protection from potential contamination and are therefore susceptible to potential sources of contamination. Continued vigilance in compliance with water quality protection and pollution prevention programs as well as continued monitoring and enforcement will help to continue to protect groundwater quality. 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.

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. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us at the number provided in the annual report.

SARATOGA WATER SERVICES TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Public Water Supply Identification Number: NY4511620

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	85.1 26.5	µg/l	2	MCL=2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	16.5 49.8	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250	Geology; Naturally occurring
Chromium Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	1.6 2.0	µg/l	100	MCL=100	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper Range of copper concentration	N	8/11/21- 9/15/21	0.174 ¹ 0.031-0.228	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Iron Cold Spring	N	10/4/23	0.232	µg/l	N/A	MCL=300	Naturally occurring
Lead Range of lead concentration	N	8/11/21- 9/15/21	ND ² ND-0.0145	mg/l	N/A	MCL=0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Manganese Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23 6/20/23	52.1 6.72	µg/L	N/A	MCL=300	Naturally occurring
Nickel Cold Spring	N	6/20/23	1.4	µg/l	N/A	N/A	
pH Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	7.67 7.45	units	N/A	6.5-8.5	
Sodium ³ Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	9.75 22.0	mg/l	N/A	N/A ³	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate Cold Spring Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	64.1 10.9	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250	Geology
Zinc Fox Wander	N	6/20/23	9.3	µg/l	N/A	MCL=5000	Galvanized pipe, corrosion inhibitor

Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria ⁴	N	10/4/23	1 positive sample	N/A	0	TT=2 or more positive samples	Naturally present in the environment.
E. coli Bacteria ⁴	N	10/4/23	1 positive sample	N/A	0	Any positive sample	Human and animal fecal waste.

Disinfection Byproducts

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Luther Forest system	N	7/5/23	2.25	µg/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Luther Forest	N	7/5/23	10.6	µg/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual (average range)	N	Daily	0.32 0.12-0.48	ppm	MRDLG N/A	MRDL MCL=4	Water additive used to control microbes

NOTES-

- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the sample with the third highest value (level detected 0.174 mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.
- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 20 test sites. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 20 sites tested.
- 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.
- Five resamples were collected on 10/5/23. All the resamples tested negative for both total coliform and E. coli resulting in no violation.

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

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)(ng/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000

90th Percentile Value- The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. 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 and copper values detected at your water system

Action Level (AL)- the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

N/A-Not applicable

