Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019

Town of Amsterdam
283 Manny Corners Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010
(Public Water Supply Identification Number NY2811730)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Town of Amsterdam, 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 drinking water met all State drinking water health standards. This report is a snapshot 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: *Mr. Carl J. Rust, Water Superintendent, Town of Amsterdam, 283 Manny Corners Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010; Telephone # (518) 842-7961.* We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 PM at the *Town Office Building,* Telephone *(518) 842-7961.*

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Town of Amsterdam purchases its water from the City of Amsterdam. The City of Amsterdam's water sources are the Steele Reservoir, Ireland Vly Reservoir and Round Lake Reservoir which are located in Saratoga County, New York. Each of the 3 Reservoirs has its' own characteristics of water quality. This requires different chemical treatment at their Water Treatment Plant depending on which source is being used. Reservoirs are alternated mainly based on weather conditions or raw water quality. The treatment plant enhances the water quality by removing any solids, metals (primarily iron and manganese), color producing compounds or other organic and inorganic compounds. Chemical treatment consists of coagulation with a cationic polymer blended coagulant aid, an inorganic coagulant and flocculating agent, sodium hydroxide, and a cationic filter aid all prior to filtration. Post filtration consists of ultraviolet disinfection, hydrated lime for corrosion control and chlorine for disinfection. There are also five Carbon Contactors to aid in removing precursors that for THMs & HAA5s when chlorine is added for disinfection. The Town of Amsterdam also adds chlorine at the Pump Station interconnect with the City of Amsterdam to prevent bacterial contamination.

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 Town of Amsterdam provides water through 352 service connections to a population of approximately 3,300 people. Our average daily demand is 150,000 gallons. Our single highest day was 160,000 gallons. The total water pumped in 2019 was 53,831,989 gallons.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In accordance with State regulations, the Town of Amsterdam routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. We test your drinking water for inorganic contaminants, radiological contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, haloacetic acids, trihalomethanes and synthetic organic contaminants. In addition, we test 1 sample for coliform bacteria each month. The table presented below depicts which contaminants were detected in your drinking water. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring 4 was conducted during 2018. This is a requirement of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments. This monitoring provides a basis for future regulatory action to protect the public health. The number in parentheses refers to the number of measured for a total of 30 analytes. The breakdown of analytes is as follows: semi volatile organic chemicals (3), pesticides and pesticide manufacturing byproduct (9), metals (2), alcohols (3), cyanotoxin chemical contaminants (10), brominated haloacetic acid groups (3) and indicator compounds (2). We have listed those compounds that were detected in the table of Detected Contaminants for the Amsterdam Water Works. There are no associated MCL's for these compounds at this time with the exception of Manganese.

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, Herkimer District Office at (315) 866-6879.

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 monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these compounds were detected below New York State requirements. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2019, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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

INFORMATION ON LEAD

If present, elevated levels 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 service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Amsterdam 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 or at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

The Town of Amsterdam encourages water conservation. There are a lot of things you can do to conserve water in your own home. Conservation tips include:

- Only run the dishwasher and clothes washer when there is a full load
- Use water saving showerheads
- Install faucet aerators in the kitchen and the bathroom to reduce the flow from 4 to 2.5 gallons per minute
- Water gardens and lawn for only a couple of hours after sunset
- Check faucets, pipes and toilets for leaks and repair all leaks promptly
- Take shorter showers

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.

TOWN OF AMSTERDAM TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS Public Water Supply Identification Number NY2811730						
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity [1] (Highest turbidity sample 1/5/19 & 3/10/19)	N	0.28[1]	NTU	N/A	TT=1 NTU	Soil runoff
		100%			TT= 95% samples < 0.3 NTU	
Inorganic Contaminants (sample data from 2/20/19 unless otherwise noted)						
Barium	N	7.2	ppb	2000	2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	N	6.61	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Iron	N	31.8	ppb	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Manganese	N	30.6	ppb	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Nickel	N	0.5	ppb	N/A	100	
Odor	N	1	unit	N/A	3	Natural sources
pH	N	5.50	units		6.5-8.5	
Sodium[2]	N	3.7	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Synthetic Organic Chemicals						
2,4-D (from 5/3/19) Quarterly samples collected on 7/1/19 & 11/1/19 were non detectable for 2,4-D	N	0.236	ppb	N/A	50	Release to the environment by its application as a pesticide used to control broad leaf needs in agriculture; for control of woody plants along roadsides, railways, and utility rights-of way.
Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (quarterly samples from 2/8/19, 5/3/19, 8/2/19 & 11/1/19 collected at 2 sites)						
Chlorine (average) [daily samples] Range	N	0.77 0.24-1.4	ppm	MRDLG N/A	MRDL 4	Used in the disinfection and treatment of drinking water
Chlorite (quarterly samples from 2/14/18, 5/7/18, 8/8/18 & 11/14/17) from 3 sites range of samples	N	ND-83	ppb	N/A	1000	Byproduct of chlorine dioxide used in disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)[3] Range of Values for HAA5	N	37.8 4.4-110	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM[Total Trihalomethanes](Average)[3] Range of values for Total Trihalomethanes	N	77.9 31.6-88.1	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (monthly samples for 2019)						
Total Organic Carbon Compliance Ratio	N	2.02-3.35	ppm	NA	TT	Organic material both natural and manmade; Organic pollutants, decaying vegetation.
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring 4[4] (Quarterly samples collected 1/10/18, 4/23/18, 7/25/18, & 10/22/18) (HAA's & TOC samples 2/14/18, 5/7/18, 8/8/18 & 11/14/18)						
Manganese(range of 4 quarters)	N	6.15-31.8	ppb	N/A	300	Erosion of natural deposits
HAA9 (range of 4 quarters)	N/A	13.9-21.1	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA6 (range of 4 quarters)	N/A	<0.3-1.0	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon Raw Water	N/A	3.8-4.63	ppm	N/A	N/A	Organic material both natural and manmade;

NOTES-

1. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Level detected represents the range of levels detected. State regulations require that entry point turbidity must always be below 1.0NTU. The regulations also require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU.
2. Water containing more than 20 mg/l should not be consumed by persons on severely restricted sodium diets.3 The average is based on a Locational Running Annual 3. 3. 3Ave
3. The average shown represents the highest LRAA for the 4 quarters in 2019. The highest LRAA for the HAA5s and THMs was in the 3rd quarter of 2019.
4. There are no regulatory limits for these compounds with the exception of manganese

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 - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
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
Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Treatment Technique (TT) -A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
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.
Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The LRAA is calculated by taking the average of the four most recent samples collected at each individual site
N/A-not applicable

Annual Water Quality Report Certification Form

Water System Name: Town of Amsterdam

Public Water Supply ID #: NY2811730

The community water system named above hereby confirms that its Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) has been distributed to customers and appropriate notices of availability have been given. Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the health department.

Certified by:

Name: Carl J. Rust

Title: Water Superintendent

Phone #: 518-842-7961 Date: 6-29-2020

Please indicate how your report was distributed to your customers:

- [x] AWQR was distributed to bill-paying customers by mail.
- [ ] AWQR was distributed by other direct delivery method(s) (check all that apply)
  - [ ] Hand delivered.
  - [ ] Published in local paper (i.e., *Penny Saver*) that was directly delivered or mailed to all bill-paying customers.
  - [ ] Published in local municipal newsletter that was directly delivered or mailed.
  - [ ] Mailed a notification that AWQR is available on a public website via a direct URL
  - [ ] Emailed with a message containing a direct URL link to the AWQR
  - [ ] Emailed with AWQR sent as an attachment to the email
  - [ ] Emailed with AWQR sent as an embedded image in the email
  - [ ] Additional electronic delivery that meets "otherwise directly deliver" requirement
  - [x] Other (please specify) www.townofamsterdam.org
- [x] System does not have bill-paying customers.
- [ ] *For systems serving at least 100,000 persons*: in addition to direct delivery to bill-paying customer the AWQR was posted on a publicly-accessible website at *www.*_____

Please indicate what "Good Faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers (check all that apply).

- [x] Posting the Annual Water Quality Report on the Internet at www. www.townofamsterdam.org
- [ ] Mailing the Annual Water Quality Report to postal patrons within the service area
- [ ] Advertising the availability of the Annual Water Quality Report in the news media
- [ ] Publication of the Annual Water Quality Report in a local newspaper
- [ ] Posting the Annual Water Quality Report in public places (attach a list of locations)
- [ ] Delivery of multiple copies to single-bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers
- [ ] Delivery to community organizations
- [ ] Other (please specify) _____