Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Village of Port Dickinson
Port Dickinson, New York
Public Water Supply ID# NY0301672

INTRODUCTION:

To comply with State and Federal regulations, this annual report is issued by Port Dickinson Water department describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water. The Village of Port Dickinson does not produce our own water. Presently we purchase about 98% of our water from Hillcrest and the other 2% from the City of Binghamton. This means that if you live between Old State Road and Binghamton, you probably get most of your water from Binghamton. If you live between Wayne Ave. and Hillcrest, you probably get most of your water from Hillcrest. Those between Old State Road and Wayne Ave. are getting a mix of both water systems. Last year, both systems met all State Drinking Water Health Standards. This report provides an overview of both water systems.

If you have any questions about this report or your water, please contact Robert Moss (607-771-8233) during business hours.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM:

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminates. 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.

Hillcrest water comes from three wells, ranging in depth from 210 feet to 219 feet that draw water from a lower aquifer in the Chenango River Basin. The water is pumped from the wells into two covered storage tanks with a combined capacity of 1,250,000 gallons. The water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite as it leaves the well field. Polyphosphate sequestrant is added to keep dissolved iron and manganese found in our water in solution.

The City of Binghamton's primary source is the Susquehanna River. The water is withdrawn and treated at a modern, recently renovated water filtration facility. Binghamton also has a back-up groundwater supply, a well of relatively small capacity compared to their normal water demands. The well is typically exercised 8 hours per week and thus supplies less than one-half of one percent of their water. Water pumped from the well is chlorinated before entering the water distribution system.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER:

Of course! All drinking water, including bottled 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. Regular testing is conducted on both systems and within Port Dickinson itself, to assure our water meets the accepted standards for the Federal Government and the State of New York. These tests include tests for total coliform, lead and copper and disinfection byproducts.

Included at the end of this report are copies of both water systems' testing result for the year 2024. If these tables present any questions, contact Robert Moss (607-771-8233) or stop by the Village Hall during business hours for a more detailed copy.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table below, our system had no 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.

We did not detect lead in any of our samples, however we are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. *The Village of Port Dickinson* is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact *Village of Port Dickinson*. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, 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 infection. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lesson 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:

1. Saving water saves energy and some of the cost associated with both of these necessities of life;
2. Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers.
3 .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 fire fighting 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:

1. 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.
2. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
3. 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 6000 gallons per year.
4. 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.

SYSTEM MAINTANENCE:

Within the Village of Port Dickinson, the public works crew is constantly monitoring our delivery system. If a problem arises, notification and repairs are quickly completed. If you witness or experience any irregularities in the water delivery system, please contact the Village Office or Robert Moss (607-771-8233).

Information on Lead Service Line Inventory

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and has made it publicly accessible by contacting the village office at (607-771-8233)

CLOSING:

Thank you for allowing us to continue to serve you. Together, we can continue to provide safe, efficient service at the most reasonable cost possible.

DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN TABLES:

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.

MAXIUMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL (MRDLG): The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known of expected risk to health. MRLDGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant residual that is allowed in drinking water.

ACTION LEVEL (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

NON-DETECTABLE(ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that a 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)

PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS FOR PORT DICKINSON

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Sample Location	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Meas ure-ment	MCLG	MCL	SOURCE
Coliform Bacteria*	No	Distribution	9/9/24	Positive	N/A	0	Any positive sample	Naturally present in the environment
Lead[1]	No	Distribution	6/21/22	ND (ND)	ug/L	0	15	Corrosion of house-hold plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Copper[1]	No	Distribution	6/21/22	0.295 (0.0116-0.442)	mg/L	0	1.3	Corrosion of house hold plumbing
Total Trihalometha nes[2]	No	Distribution	7/15/24	5.25	ug/l	N/A	80	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids[3]	No	Distribution	7/15/24	1.63	ug/l	N/A	60	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination

* - All required repeat samples were negative for coliform.
1 - The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead/copper values detected at your water systems.
2 - This level represents the total levels of the following contaminants: chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform
3 - This level represents the total levels of the following contaminants: mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono-and di-bromoacetic acid

Following are the Binghamton and Hillcrest Tables of Detected Contaminants.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
Hillcrest Water District #1
Hillcrest, New York
Public Water Supply NYID# NY0301667

INTRODUCTION
To comply with State regulations, Hillcrest Water District #1, 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 The Town Engineer at 607-648-4800 Ext: 6 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, The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street in Port Crane.

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 serves approximately 2,800 people through 856 active service connections. We also provide water to The Village of Port Dickinson. Our water source is from deep wells. The well field contains three wells, ranging in depth from 210 feet to 219 feet that draw water from a lower aquifer in the Chenango River basin. The water is pumped from the wells into two covered storage tanks with a combined capacity of 1,250,000 gallons. The total water produced in 2024 was 81,412,024 gallons (29,600,251 gallons to Port Dickinson). The daily average of water treated and pumped to our storage tanks was 223,000 gallons. A 2024 water analysis shows that about 10% of the production was lost to hydrant flushing, fire department and other unmetered uses and system leaks.

The water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite as it leaves the well field. We also add a polyphosphate sequestrant to keep dissolved iron and manganese found in our water in solution.

A private consultant sponsored by the NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment in 2003. The complete report is available for your review at the Town Engineer's office. A summary report prepared by the Broome County Health Department is attached.

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, 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. None of the compounds we tested for were detected in your drinking water above the regulatory limit.

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 Broome County Health Department at (607) 778-2887.

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS – HILLCREST 2024								
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Well No./ Location	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganics								
Barium	No	Treatment Plant	7/31/23	0.208	mg/l	N/A	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium [1]	No	Well #1 Well #3	8/5/24	54.0 53.9	mg/l	See Health Effects	N/A	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Copper [2]	No	Distribution	8/11/22	0.313 (0.0416-0.352)	mg/l	0	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Lead [2]	No	Distribution	8/11/22	ND (ND – 1.4)	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	No	Well #1 Well #3	8/5/24	1.56 1.55	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection Byproducts								
Total Trihalo-Methanes [3]	No	Distribution	8/5/24	3.62	ug/l	N/A	80	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids 4	No	Distribution	8/5/24	1.01	ug/l	N/A	60	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances								
Perflouropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	no	Well #1 Well #3	8/5/24	2.32	ng/L	N/A	N/A	Released into the environment from wide spread use in commercial and industrial applications
Radiological Contaminants								
Gross Alpha	No	Entry Point	8/8/22	0.442	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	No	Entry Point	8/8/22	0.89	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	No	Entry Point	8/8/22	0.574	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Notes:

1 - 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.

2 - The level presented represents the 90th 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the ninth highest value. The action level for lead or copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – This level represents the total levels of the following contaminants: chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform.

4- this level represents the total of level of the following contaminants, monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, Mon bromoacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid.

5- USEPA Health Advisory levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in the drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Afvisory levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.

6- All Perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered unspecified organic contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 0.05 mg/L = 50,000 ng/L.

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 that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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 the radioactivity in water.

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.

Although our lead levels are well below the Action Level, we are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. *Hillcrest Water District #1* is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact *Hillcrest Water District #1 at 607-648-4800 Ext:6*. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by conacting the hillcrest water department at 607-648-4800 Ext: 188.

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.

A WORD ABOUT WATER SYSTEM SECURITY

The water district has an Emergency Response Plan & Vulnerability Analysis and is continuing to implement improvements in the physical plant that will provide additional security for the system. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. **Any suspicious activity occurring at any of our water district facilities should be immediately reported to 911, Emergency Management Services, for immediate investigation.**

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this past 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 as well as rising operating costs. Please call our office if you have questions.

Town of Fenton
44 Park Street
Port Crane, NY 13833

Hillcrest Water District #1
NY0301667
AWQR 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 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. While nitrate and other inorganic contaminants were detected in our water, 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 from natural sources. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from three drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to halogenated solvents, nitrate and microbials, specifically enteric bacteria and enteric viruses. The wells have a medium susceptibility to other contaminants as noted in the table below. These ratings are due primarily to the proximity to the wells of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and residential areas using individual septic systems. The ratings are also driven by the presence of hazardous waste sites and Toxic Release Inventory sites in the vicinity of the wells. Based on the source water review, the wells draw from a confined aquifer that can provide a measure of protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates our wells as being moderately susceptible to microbials, 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.

SUSCEPTIBILITY TABLE			
CONTAMINANT	WELL #1	WELL #2	WELL #3
Enteric Bacteria	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High
Enteric Viruses	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High
Halogenated Solvents	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High
Herbicides/Pesticides	Medium	Medium	Medium
Metals	Medium	Medium	Medium
Nitrate	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High
Other Industrial Organics	Medium	Medium	Medium
Petroleum Products	Medium	Medium	Medium
Protozoa	Medium	Medium	Medium

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, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the water supplier.

Annual Water Quality Report

Annual Water Quality Report for 2024

Binghamton Water Department

Binghamton, New York 13903

Public Water Supply ID# NY0301651

INTRODUCTION

In compliance with State and Federal regulations the BINGHAMTON WATER DEPARTMENT issues an annual report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and of the need to protect our drinking water sources. In 2024, we conducted tests for over 140 contaminants for each of our two sources. Our primary source is the Susquehanna River and our back-up source is a well. Water produced from both sources was below maximum contaminant levels for all monitored constituents. Monitoring samples taken from the distribution system were in compliance with State standards. 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 concerning this report or your drinking water, please contact the **Water Department at (607) 772-7210 during normal business hours.** We want you to be informed about your drinking water and we would be happy to discuss any drinking water issues with you by phone or in person.

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 of New York and the Environmental Protection Agency prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Health Department and Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Our primary source of water is the Susquehanna River, from which water is withdrawn and treated at a modern, recently renovated water filtration facility. We also have a back-up groundwater supply: a well of relatively small capacity compared to our normal water demand. The well is typically exercised 8 hours per week, and thus supplies less than one-half of one percent of our water. Water pumped from the well is chlorinated before entering the water distribution system.

The New York State Department of Health 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 impact the water at the intake. 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. While nitrate and other inorganic contaminants were detected in our surface and ground water source, 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 from natural sources. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

SURFACE WATER ASSESSMENT (SUSQUEHANNA RIVER)

A surface water assessment found an elevated susceptibility to microbial contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of pastureland in the assessment area results in a high potential for protozoa contamination. While there are some facilities present, permitted discharges do not likely represent an important threat to source water quality based on their density in the assessment area. In addition, it appears that the total amount of wastewater discharged to surface water in this assessment area is high enough to further raise the potential for contamination, particularly for protozoa. There is not any likely contamination threats associated with other discrete contaminant sources, even though discharge contaminants from some facilities were found in low densities. Finally, it should be noted that relatively high flow velocities (*i.e.* spring floods) make river drinking water supplies highly sensitive to existing and new sources of microbial contamination.

GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT (OLMSTEAD WELL)

A ground water assessment has rated the Olmstead Well as having a high susceptibility to nitrate and microbial contamination, specifically enteric bacteria, enteric viruses and protozoa. These ratings are due primarily to the proximity of the well to permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial and municipal facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and private sewage disposal, septic systems and agricultural activities in the upstream area. The well is also rated highly susceptible to chemical contaminants because of several contaminant sources identified in the assessment area and a history of low-level chemical contamination, specifically organic compounds. These ratings are also warranted because the well is relatively shallow and draws from an unconfined productive aquifer that may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. Please note that as stated above, the Olmstead Well contributes a very limited amount of water to the total amount used in the system. While the source water assessment rates our surface water and ground water sources as being moderately to highly susceptible to microbial contamination, 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.

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.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves 44,564 people through 13,681 service connections in the City, and wholesales water to parts of the Towns of Binghamton, Dickinson, and Vestal. The total amount of water pumped out of our production facilities in 2024 was 1,473,201,700 Gallons. The daily average for the year was 4.036 million gallons per day with our highest daily production being 6,719,600 gallons pumped on January 6th. The amount of water billed to all customers was 1,185,928,568 gallons. We attribute the remaining 287,273,132 gallons of water used by the city for firefighting, parks, non-revenue miscellaneous usage, pools and street flushing, a biannual hydrant flushing / flow testing program, and water main breaks and leakage. In 2024, the minimum combined water / sewer bill was $89.75 three times a year. This provides 3,740 gallons of water and sewer usage.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. The contaminants included are: total coliform bacteria (for microbiological quality), turbidity, inorganic group compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, synthetic organic compounds, and miscellaneous chemical compounds. The contaminants detected in your drinking water are included in the **Table of Detected Contaminants.**

During 2024, the Binghamton Water Plant performed 742 (600 required by regulations) microbiological tests for coliform in the distribution system. There were no microbiological standard violations. Over 140 other contaminants were tested for during the year with the majority **not being detected.** A complete listing of contaminants we tested for during 2024 is available for inspection at the Water Plant during normal business hours. In the **Table of Detected Contaminants** is a listing of detected contaminants. All have concentrations below the state regulated maximum contaminant level (MCL).

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, could be more than one year old.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or the Broome County Health Department at (607) 778-2887. Also, the National Sanitation Foundation is a nongovernmental source of free information on water quality issues, with a toll-free consumer hotline at (877) 8NSF-HELP.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN TABLE

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 residual that is allowed in drinking water.

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 that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Non-Detectable (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of the water. We use this test as an indication of the effectiveness of the filtration system as a whole. State regulations in force during 2014 require that our effluent (water leaving the plant) is always below 1.0 NTU, and 95%of the turbidity samples collected from our individual filters must have measurements below 0.3 NTU. These samples from the filters are collected every fifteen minutes utilizing our SCADA system and turbidity monitors located at each filter. 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 (µg/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 in water.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average result of four consecutive quarterly compliance chemical testing series at any one location.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation	Date (Last Tested)	Level Detected (Range)	Unit	MCLG	Regulatory Limit MCL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Microbiological Contaminants							

Coliform Bacteria	**Dist. System**	No	Daily	Negative	N/A	0	Any Positive Sample	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganics								
Barium	**Plant Well**	No	8/16/2023 1/6/2021	0.0166 0.0616	µg/L	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	**Plant Well**	No	Daily 1/19/21	(0.10 – 0.88) 0.170	mg/L	1.0	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	**Plant Well**	No	12/19/2024 12/19/2024	0.55 2.4	mg/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	**Plant Well[1]**	No	6/2/2017 6/5/2024	18.4 111	mg/L	N/A	None	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Emerging Contaminants								
1,4-Dioxane	**Plant Well**	No	Yearly	ND 0.026	µg/L	N/A	1.0	Released into the environment from commercial and industrial sources and is associated with inactive and hazardous waste sites.
PFOS	**Plant Well**	No	Quarterly	ND – 1.9 5.0 – 7.0	ng/L	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
PFOA	**Plant Well**	No	Quarterly	ND – 1.9 3.0 – 6.5	ng/L	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Disinfection By Products								

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)		No	Monthly Raw Fin	1.4 – 3.6 <1.0 – 2.4	mg/L	N/A	35%	Naturally present in the environment. Precursor to disinfection by products.
TOC Percent removal		No	Monthly totals	31.4 – 72.2	49.96% yearly avg	N/A	35% Yearly Avg.	Greater or equal to 35% removal.
Total Trihalomethanes[1]	**Distribution System**	No	Quarterly	39.1 (4.6 – 83.7)	µg/L	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids[2]	**Distribution System**	No	Quarterly	16.8 (2.0 – 33.4)	µg/L	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Chlorite	**In House 2023 Plant Distribution System 2024 Well**	No	Daily Lo/Hi Yearly Quarterly Yearly	0.012 – 0.468 97.4 <10 <10	mg/L µg/L	N/A	1.0 10	By-product of drinking water disinfection at treatment plants using chlorine dioxide.
Chlorine Dioxide	**Plant Average Daily High**	No	Average 7/31/2023	0.094 .279	mg/L	N/A	0.8	Chemical used in taste and odor control at the Water Filtration Plant.
Sodium Hypochlorite Distribution	**Running Annual Average Daily High**	No	Average 09/12/2024	1.105 1.86	mg/L	N/A	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.
			Radiological					
Uranium	**Plant Well**	No	4/27/2022	0.262 0.262	µg/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha	**Plant Well**	No	4/27/2022	1.66 2.58	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta	**Plant Well**	No	4/27/2022	1.97 1.78	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Radium 226	**Plant Well**	No	4/27/2022	.503 .872	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228	**Plant Well**	No	4/27/22	0.789 0.851	pCi/L	0	5	

Health Effects

Total Coliform Bacteria — Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution.

Barium — Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

Fluoride — Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

Nitrate — Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

Sodium — 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.

1,4 Dioxane — Laboratory studies show that 1,4-dioxane caused liver cancer in animals exposed at high levels throughout their lifetime. Whether 1,4-dioxane causes cancer in humans is unknown. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers 1,4-dioxane as likely to be carcinogenic to humans based upon studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

PFOS — PFOS caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high-level exposures to PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOS in animals.

PFOA — PFOA caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high-level exposures to PFOA in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOA in animals.

Total Organic Carbon — Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs — Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Haloacetic Acids HAA5 — Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Chlorite — Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the MCL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the MCL. Some people may experience anemia.

Chlorine Dioxide — Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL. Some people may experience anemia.

Sodium Hypochlorite — Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Uranium — Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Gross Alpha — Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Gross Beta — Certain materials are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta and photon emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Radium 226/228 — Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

***Notes**

1 — This level represents the highest locational running annual average and the range of the following contaminants: Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane & Bromoform.

2 — This level represents the highest locational running annual average and the range of the following contaminants: Monochloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid & Dibromoacetic Acid.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) require that once every five years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants monitored by public water systems (PWSs). The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) provides EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the occurrence of contaminants in drinking water. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by US EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.

The following unregulated contaminants were detected in our water system during 2024:

Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon	1.0 – 3.60	mg/L	Naturally occurring. Tested as a precursor of disinfection byproducts.
Bromide	ND – 0.026	mg/L	Naturally occurring. Tested as a precursor of disinfection byproducts.
Haloacetic Acids*	5.80 – 41.1	µg/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Manganese	0.0093 – 0.074	mg/L	Source is erosion of natural deposits.

* These levels represent the total levels of the following contaminants: Monochloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, Dibromoacetic Acid, Bromochloroacetic Acid, Bromdichloroacetic Acid, Chlorodibromoacetic Acid, Tribromoacetic Acid.

Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG or Health Advisory Level[1,2]
Perfluorobutenesulfonic Acid (pfbs)	No	12/04/2024	2.8	ng/L	2,000 ng/L

Perfluorohexanoic Acid (pfhxa)	No	03/27/2024	3.3	ng/L	na

***Notes**

1 — USEPA Health Advisory Levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Advisory Levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.

2 — All perfluoroalkyl substances beside PFOA and PFOS, are considered Unspecified Organic Contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 0.05 mg/L = 50,000 ng/L

LEAD AND COPPER

In 1994, the City of Binghamton conducted a corrosion optimization study to reduce lead and copper levels in your tap water. The report and study were approved by the New York State Department of Health and the City's corrosion control was deemed optimized. Follow up testing in 1996 and 1999 reaffirmed the study's findings. The City of Binghamton has optimized corrosion control treatment and had previously been monitoring on a reduced schedule (once every three years). Over the past 30 years the original sampling list has become a challenge due to people moving or no longer willing to participate in the sampling program. As a result, starting in 2024 the City of Binghamton is required by EPA to move back to a 6-month sampling schedule with an increased number of samples until there is consistent enough participation demonstrating that levels are consistently low enough to move back to a reduced number of samples and sampling frequency.

2024 Lead/Copper Results	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Range Results	90th%tile Results	Unit	MCLG	Reg. Limit 90th%tile Action Level
Lead	No	2024	<0.0010 – 0.0099>	0.0013	mg/L	0	0.010
Copper	No	2024	<0.0083 – 0.2170>	0.0921	mg/L	1.3	1.3

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Binghamton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing of your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking,

cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact City of Binghamton at (607) 772-7210. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

The City was only able to collect 57 of the 60 Lead and Copper samples required due to lack of participation. As some of your neighbors may attest to, we sent out 136 requests and have been going out door to door in an attempt to recreate a viable candidate list of 60 homes that are willing to participate in this sampling program. We were not able to take all lead and copper samples at required locations since some homeowners did not provide property access as requested — we take the health of all City residents seriously and need a broad sample set to ensure we maintain our high-water quality standards. We are looking for additional volunteers to allow us to sample in your home twice a year. If you would like more information, please contact (607) 772-7210.

As a result of the optimization report, other parameters are monitored to ensure that our water quality remained within the guidelines of the study. These parameters are known as Water Quality Parameters. During 2024 we collected samples that pertained to the study, and the results are compiled below.

Parameter	High Level (mg/L)	Low Level (mg/L)	Mean (mg/L)
Alkalinity (as CaCO3)	93.8	29.2	57.5
Specific Conductance	346	149	244.1
Calcium Hardness (as CaCO3)	88.1	34.5	58.2
Orthophosphate (as PO4)	0.250	0.050	0.101
PH	7.80	6.90	7.35
Temperature	83° F	32° F	57.5° F

INFORMATION ON THE ADDITION OF FLUORIDE

Our system is one of many in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of Fluoride for consumer dental health protection. Fluoride is added to your water by the Water Filtration Plant and is monitored no less than every four hours by water plant operators and laboratory personnel. According to the Center for Disease Control, Fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.6 – 0.8 mg/L. During 2023 monitoring showed Fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 100% of the time.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

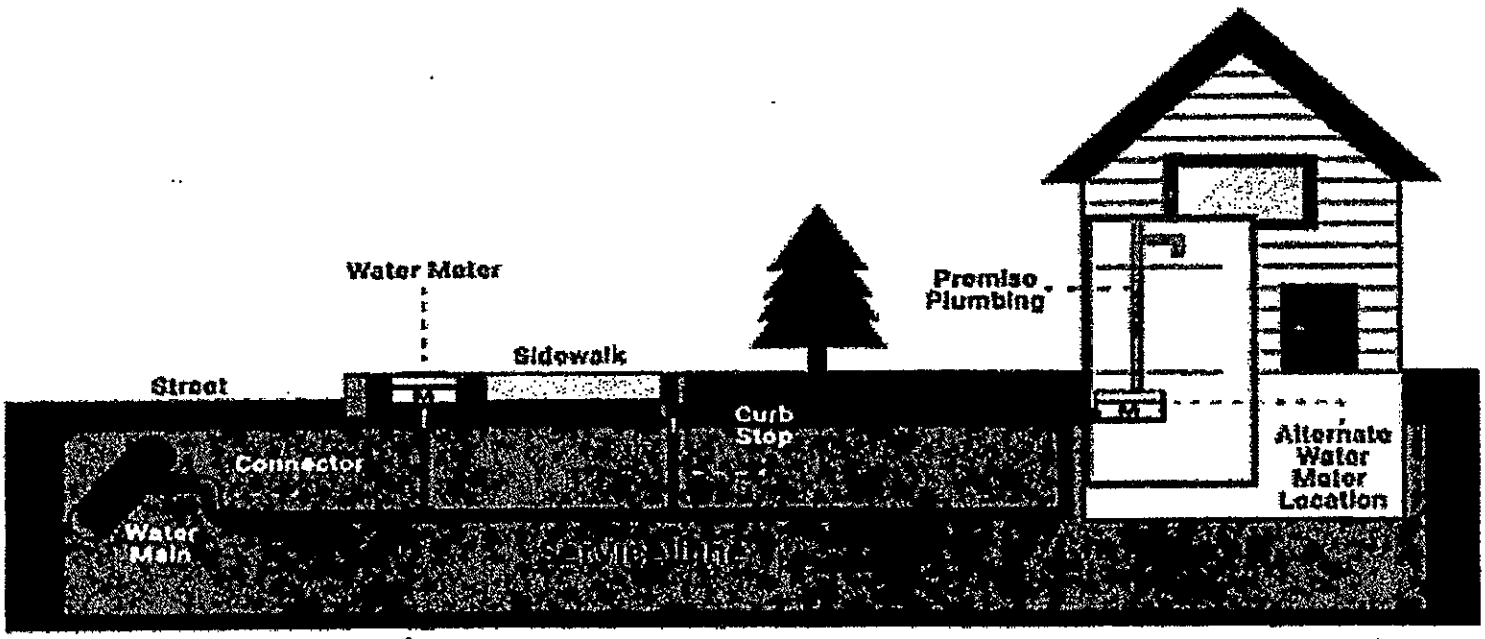
As you can see by the table, our system had Zero MCL violations in 2024. We also learned through our testing that some other contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State, as indicated in the table.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavioral problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these health harmful health effects. Adults have increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your healthcare provider for more information about your risks.

WATER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY FOR THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Under the 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring water systems to provide customers with specific information about their water service lines.

A service line is the pipe connecting the City water main to a building. A typical configuration of a service line is shown in the figure below. The City of Binghamton owns from the water main to the curb stop, a shutoff valve located in front of the building. The property owns from the curb stop to the building.



Example of a Service Line. If any section of the service line is made of lead, the service line is classified as a lead service line.

In response to the updated EPA regulations, the City of Binghamton Water & Sewer Department has been working to create a lead service line inventory for all City properties based on available information. The City needs additional help identifying service lines — please click here to Let Us Know About Your Water Pipes.

A link to the lead service line inventory can be found here. Property owners can use the search function to find their address.

This information is intended to notify consumers of whether the water they are receiving has been delivered through a lead, galvanized requiring replacement (GRR), or lead status unknown service line, and help owners and/or occupants make decisions on what actions to take to reduce their potential exposure to lead in drinking water.

For additional information, residents may contact the Binghamton Water & Sewer Department at (607) 772-7210.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, our system was in substantial compliance with applicable State and Federal drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements with the exception of Lead and Copper sampling as discussed above. During the period of July – December 2024, we did not complete all monitoring or testing and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. However, based on available samples, the results show the City is in compliance with EPA standards and there is no action that you need to take at this time. We want our customers to be aware of how we are improving our practices to ensure that the city continues to provide you a source of safe and reliable drinking water.

An updated list of sampling locations was submitted in April 2024 as requested by EPA, however not all homeowners provided access for sampling. We are seeking the assistance of City residents for future sampling events to help us stay in compliance and help protect the health of our community.

If you have additional questions about any of the above information, please contact:

- Broome County Department of Health (Broome County DOH) at (607) 778-2847
- A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory and have made it publicly accessible by going to City Hall, 2nd floor where you pay your water bills and/or visiting our website at https://www.binghamton-ny.gov/government/departments/water-sewer/water-service-line-inventory.
- Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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 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 several 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.
- 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 aware 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. Partial loads waste money. Fill it to capacity prior to each run.
- 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. Repair these fixtures 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, and then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- The Water Meter Department Cleared 5225 service orders both in the field and office level actions. 583 of them direct meter replacements in addition to meter reading and leak detection services. We have begun increasing the number of radio read water meters including most of our larger buildings and complexes. The Department currently tracks and maintains records for 750 Back Flow Cross Connection devices located in the City of Binghamton and we have several employees certified for back flow testing which take care of our in-house devices.
- The Water Distribution Department replaced 4 hydrants, repaired 15 main breaks replaced 5 water services and over 33 feet of new water main including 9 gate valves and 3 curb stops in addition to standard duties and street

reconstruction projects. We also respond to numerous service calls and many late nights and after hour repairs.

- Our Street utility and reconstruction work included over 2000' of new water main ranging from 6" – 12" diameters. 25 new and replaced water service lines. 20 new fire hydrants. 76 new system gate valves. These replacements help us continue to serve our community for years into the future.

IN 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 to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please feel free to call the Water Department office for any questions concerning this report or additional information concerning your water.

We also ask for your help in maintaining security at any of our unmanned remote facilities. If you ever have any concerns with vandalism or suspicious behavior around any City of Binghamton Water facility, please call the Water Department at (607) 772-7221 or the Binghamton Police Department at (607) 723-5321.