

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021***  
***Town of Thompson***  
***Cold Spring Water District***  
***Public Water Supply ID# NY-5220343***

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Cold Spring Water District, 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 Michael Messenger, Town of Thompson Superintendent of Water & Sewer at (845)794-5280. 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 & third Tuesdays of each month at the Thompson Town Hall, 4052 Route 42, Monticello.

## **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 Departments 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 roughly 82 customers through 45 service connections in the vicinity of Cold Spring Road and Fairground Road. Our water source is two wells which are located off Fairground Road. The water is pumped from one of the two wells, uses sodium hypochlorite as a disinfectant, into a holding tank where one or two booster pumps on variable frequency drives pump the water directly into the distribution system. In 2021, we produced a total of 3,034,661 gallons of water, with an average daily flow of 8,314 gallons.

## **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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 or the Sullivan County District Office of the Health Department at (845) 794-2045.

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

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
beta particle and photon activity from manmade radionuclides	NO	4/27/2021	3.17 ± 0.44	Pci/L	0	MCL=50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Gross alpha activity (including radium-226 but excluding radon and uranium)	NO	4/27/2021	1.7	Pci/L	0	MCL=15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Comined Radium -226 & 228	NO	4/27/2021	1.367 ± 0.41	Pci/L	0	MCL=50	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	NO	6/16/2014	5.0 ± 1.0	ug/L	0	MCL=30	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Arsenic	NO	5/1/2018	7.3	ug/l	n/a <sup>1</sup>	MCL=10	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	NO	5/1/2018	0.086	mg/L	2	MCL=2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper <sup>2</sup>	NO	6/11/2020	90th%= 0.189 Range: 0.130 - 0.216	mg/L	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Fluoride	NO	5/1/2018	0.2	mg/L	n/a <sup>1</sup>	MCL=2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Dishcarge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead <sup>3</sup>	NO	6/11/2020	90th%=<1.0 Range: <1.0-<1.0	ug/L	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
<b>Inorganics - Nitrate and Nitrite</b>							
Nitrate	NO	1/6/2021	0.130	mg/L	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Haloacetic Acids (mono-di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid)	NO	8/4/2021	<2.0	ug/L	n/a	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes (THMs- Chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	NO	8/4/2021	0.5	ug/L	n/a	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. THMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.

<sup>1</sup> n/a means not applicable.

<sup>2</sup> The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the five samples collected. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the 5 sites tested.

<sup>3</sup> The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the five samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 5 sites tested.

**Definitions:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)**: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)**: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

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

**Level 1 Assessment**: A Level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment**: A Level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)**: A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

**Micrograms per liter (ug/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

**Picograms per liter (pg/l)**: Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion – ppq).

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

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr)**: A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements. It should be noted that the action level for lead was exceeded in one of the samples collected. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Cold Spring Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 current federal drinking water requirements. Although arsenic was detected below the MCL, it was detected at 5.8 which is greater than one-half of the MCL. Therefore, we are required to present the following information on arsenic in drinking water:

"NYS and EPA have promulgated a drinking water arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion. While your drinking water meets the standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems."

## IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2021, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING RESIDENTS

### Spanish

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### French

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.

### Korean

이 보고서는 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 담고 있습니다. 그것을 번역하거나, 그것을 이해하는 사람과 이야기하십시오.

### Chinese

本报告包含有关饮用水的重要信息。跟某人翻译或理解它。

## **WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?**

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential firefighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- ◆ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- ◆ Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

## **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.