

Davenport Water District

11790 St. Hw. 23, Davenport Center, NY 13751 607-278-5600

Enclosed find:

1. Full year's water bill for 2021 due September 15
2. Budget detail for operation and maintenance
3. Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR)

This year we are starting the practice of once-a-year billing to help lessen the cost of all the new mandates that have been put on the rate payers these last several years. The District is now required to mail out copies of the AWQR to each residence. The report is finalized May 31st each year and will be included with the annual bill. Unpaid bills will be assessed \$15. late charge and added to the January Land Tax Bill.

This year the Department of Health mandated quarterly testing for a series of synthetic compounds found in some water systems and determined to have adverse health impacts. This series of test cost \$1,500. each quarter and would raise rates \$125. per residence. Fortunately, none of these chemicals were discovered in our water. We applied for, and expect to get, reduced monitoring to once a year. This reduced the amount needed to be entered into the testing line of the 2021 budget to about \$30.

Elevated copper levels found in some of the 40 samples taken each year have the District on a sampling schedule that accounts for more than a third of the testing budget. At this time, we suspect that situation is caused by the grounding of electrical services to the copper water pipes. Correcting this condition will all but eliminate the need for this expensive testing. We are working on finding funding for this effort.

Davenport Water District
2021 Budget Operation & Maintenance

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budgeted Amount</u>
FX8320.4 Utilities (NYSEG & DCEC).....	\$2,600
FX8310.4 Water Testing.....	\$6,600
FX8330.4 Chemicals.....	\$1,000
FX1620.1 Designated Opera.....	\$3,750
FX1325.1 Bookkeeper.....	\$1,500
FX9030.8 Soc/Med.....	\$ 400
FX1620.4 Travel/Meetings.....	\$ 500
FX1325.4 Postage/Printing.....	\$ 400
FX1920.4 Dues.....	\$ 230
FX8397.2 Equipment/Facilities.....	\$1,450
FX1420.4 Legal Contractual.....	\$ 150
FX1420.1 Legal Fees.....	\$ 200
FX1440.4 Engineering.....	\$ 25
FX1990.4 Contingency.....	\$ 500
FX5130.23 Machinery	\$1,000
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>	
Total	\$20,305.

Dennis Valente – Designated Operator

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020
Davenport Water District
11790 St. Hwy. 23
Davenport Center, NY 13751
Public Water Supply ID# 1200-255

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Davenport 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. The copper action level was exceeded in some samples collected in the second half of last year. 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 Dennis Valente, operator, 607-278-5600. 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 the third Tuesday of each month, at 7pm, in the Historic Society room on the second floor of Town Hall, 11790 St Highway 23, Davenport Center.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

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 43, mostly single family homes and the Charlotte Valley School. We serve approximately 150 residents and over 500 students and faculty at the school. Our water source is located on the Charlotte Valley School grounds. We pump ground water from two wells about 130 feet deep. The water is injected with sodium hypochlorite, a broad-spectrum disinfectant that is effective for the disinfection of viruses, bacteria, fungi, and mycobacterium, prior to distribution. Levels of this chemical are checked and recorded every day to insure effectiveness and safety. No pesticides, nor other chemicals are allowed near the wells.

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, nitrite, 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 Oneonta Health Department, 607-432-3991

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.

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
Copper 1	no	twice 2020	650	ugl	1300		corrosion
Lead 2	no	twice 2020	6	ugl	15		corrosion
Lead, source water	no	04/2020	2.9	ugl	15		natural occurring
Nitrate	no	04/2020	185	ugl	10,000		natural occurring
Fluoride	no	11/2017	242	ugl	2,200		natural occurring
Trihalomethanes	no	08/2020	13	ugl	80		disinfection bi-products

1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 sites tested twice each. The 90th percentile in each of the two sets was the third highest result. One sample in the January to June testing and three in the July to December testing exceeded the action level for copper.

Likely source for copper in drinking water is corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

In the set of 20 samples collected January - June 2020 the copper 90th percentile was 0.947 mg/l and in the set of 20 samples collected July - December 2020 the copper 90th percentile was 1.40 mg/l.

In the set of 20 samples collected January - June 2020 the lead 90th percentile was 1.7 ug/l and in the set of 20 samples collected July - December 2020 the lead 90th percentile was 1.6 ug/l.

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

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 40 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded in any of the two sets of 20 samples taken of the 20 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?

The table shows that our system continues to experience copper levels that exceed State Action levels, and require some action. The District will respond by increasing the number of times per year the water main gets flushed. Corrosive, acid forming bacteria, make the copper erosion in your home worse. Our goal is to flush the main twice this year. This will cause inconvenience since the process riles up the water and causes cloudiness for several hours. We will use the phone call system set up at Charlotte Valley School to notify all who signed on.

Important: Much of the copper exceedance is showing up as spikes in the reading of several homes. This indicates that some residences might be grounding some or all electrical services to the plumbing. This causes copper to erode into that structure's drinking water. The District recommends that you have a knowledgeable person check for and correct any such connections.

Not all water sampling was completed for 2020. Results for source water lead and copper collected July - December 2020, one set of lead and copper water quality parameter (WQP) samples collected January - June 2020 from the water treatment plant, one set of WQP samples collected from two distribution locations collected January - June 2020, and one set of WQP samples collected from two distribution locations collected July - December 2020 were not submitted to the Department. Please note that your water system is required to collect two sets of WQP samples from two distribution sample sites (four samples total) during each 6-month monitoring period.

Residents that participated in the lead and copper sampling routine can call or email for the exact results from their home. Dennis Valente, denvale@yahoo.com or 278-5600. Lead results were sent after each test to the participating residences.

If you want your residence added to the list of participating families contact Dennis Valente.

The District tests for bacteria in the system once a month to evaluate the effect of our disinfection program. Thirteen tests were done and all came back with no detected bacteria.

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

Lead warning

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. Davenport 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, but we have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements. Nitrate was detected below the MCL, it was detected at 0.185 mg/L information on nitrate in drinking water:

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

During 2020, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

INFORMATION ON RADON

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.

In 2017 we collected one sample for Radon. For additional information call your state radon program (1-800-458-1158) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-Radon).

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

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

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

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

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

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We 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.

In 2021 we are required to conduct a series of expensive testing regimen each quarter for a commonly used set of chemicals that have recently been declared detrimental to public health and in some public water systems. As currently required the series of test will cost the District rate payers \$6,000. Or

about \$150. added to the annual water rates. Information is being sought to access methods of testing that can reduce the financial in half with out reducing accurate test results.

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