

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2018***  
***Davenport Water District***  
***11790 St. Hw. 23, Davenport Ctr., NY 13751***  
***(Public Water Supply ID# 1200255 )***

## **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. [Last year, your tap water was required to test for disinfectant by products, organic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper.](#) 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, System Operator, 278.6909](#). 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 [3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month, 7pm at Town Hall, Davenport Center, 278.5600](#).

## **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 45 residences (about 150 people), the Charlotte Valley School, a Church, a restaurant, Quickway, and the Davenport Fire House [through 50 service connections](#). Our water source is two 130 foot deep [groundwater wells](#) which are located [behind the Charlotte Valley School](#).

The water is [treated with chlorine](#) prior to distribution at 5 gallons of 12.5% concentration per month. We are close to installing the pumps that will add a caustic soda (at a rate of 50 gallons a week, per DOH mandate) to address the corrosion issue.

The school; is in compliance with the pesticide and chemical restrictions within 200 ft. of our wells. The well heads are caged, set in cement, and locked. The depth and location of the wells insure maximum protection against contamination.

## **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 at [432.3911](#).

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

12 monthly test were conducted at the Charlotte Valley School for the presence of coliform bacteria and e-coli bacteria. All tests resulted in a 'none detected' result.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2018 we [did not complete all monitoring or testing](#). [Included with this report is a document from the Department of health, "Important Information About Your Drinking Water" which details the missed required tests.](#) We will be doing a reevaluation of all available Water Testing Labs in the region to find a more reliable testing partner to help ensure the maximum quality of your drinking water.

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. [We had copper traces at a level higher than the State allows in a some samples.](#) It should be noted that the action level for copper was exceeded, action level is 1.3 mg/l our test 2.5 mg/l. Corrosion of household plumbing is the most common cause of elevated copper. A copy of the results of two sets of 10 samples is included in this report.

[We have contacted a water consulting firm and have a corrective action plan](#) to treat the water and reduce the corrosiveness that produces the copper. [We are proposing to correct](#) this by adding an anticorrosion compound into the system. [We will the implement the plan in a month or two at a cost to ratepayers \(about 50\) of \\$8,000. A year.](#)

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level need to be aware. We are required to present the following information on copper in drinking water.

[The District is in need of 10 more residents to participate in a bi-annual water sample collection program. A participating resident will be asked to collect a 2 pint sample in a bottle provided with simple instructions. To volunteer or get more details call Dennis at 278.5600. Each participant will get a report specific to their home \(tests cost the District \\$65. Each\).](#)

## **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

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. [The 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>.

“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.”

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

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 have made and continue to make significant improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements are proceeding using remaining grant money and in the rate structure. 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.

### 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.

**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.

