

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008

Village of Orchard Park Water Department
4295 South Buffalo Street (Administrative)
100 West Highland Avenue (Dept. Of Public Works)
Orchard Park, New York 14127

*Public Water Supply
ID #1400537*

Introduction

To comply with State and County regulations, the Village of Orchard Park 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 awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. 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.

The Village of Orchard Park does not produce the water which you consume, but distributes water treated by the Erie County Water Authority (ECWA). The ECWA has reported that the ECWA's water system operated under "NO VARIANCE or EXEMPTION" from any federal or state regulatory requirements. The Village of Orchard Park performs no additional treatment of water. More information regarding ECWA can be found on their web site at www.ecwa.org. 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.

The Village of Orchard Park's water system serves approximately 3,294 people (2000 Census) through 1,065 accounts. The Village of Orchard Park purchased 107 million gallons of treated water during 2008. Of the 107 million gallons purchased, the Village sold 89 million gallons at a rate of \$4.45 per 1,000 gallons. The remaining, unaccounted for, was water used during fire fighting, flushing or lost through water main breaks or leaks. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 297,000 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 444,000 gallons on June 9, 2008.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Andrew Slotman, Director of Public Works at 662-3866. If you notice any suspicious activity that would affect the water supply, call the police @ 911. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Village Board meetings. The meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 8:00 P.M. at 4295 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, New York

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, it is important to conserve water:

- Saving water saves energy
- Saving water reduces the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid use restrictions

You can conserve water and save yourself money by being conscious of the amount of water your household uses & look for ways to use less and conserve water:

- Use low flow shower heads and faucets
 - Water your lawn sparingly, early morning or late evening (a layer of mulch in the flower beds and garden will help retain moisture)
 - Don't cut the lawn too short; longer grass saves water
 - Do only full loads of wash and dishes
 - Repair all leaks in your plumbing system. (Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes; if it moved, you have a leak.)
 - Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth
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INFORMATION ON FLOURIDE ADDITION

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems 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 Erie County Water Authority before it is delivered to us. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.8 to 1.2 mg/liter (parts per million). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that Erie County Water Authority monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2008 monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 100% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL (maximum contaminate level) for fluoride. The average level detected was .97 mg/liter.

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 materials, 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.

Prior to distribution, water from either Lake Erie or the Niagara River is treated at one of two Erie County Water Authority's water treatment plants by the conventional filtration method as follows:

- Water flows by gravity through a large intake tunnel to the raw water buildings.
- Pumps draw the water through traveling screens to keep large objects such as driftwood and fish from entering the system.
- A chemical, polyaluminum chloride, is added to the water which causes suspended particles in the water to clump together forming floc.
- Floc particles then settle to the bottom of large sedimentation basins.
- The water is then filtered through layers of anthracite, sand and gravel to remove any remaining particles.
- Chlorine is added for disinfection to kill bacteria.
- Small amounts of fluoride are added to help prevent tooth decay.
- Caustic soda is added to stabilize the alkalinity of the water and prevent corrosion in home plumbing.
- Powdered activated carbon is added in the summer months to help remove unpleasant tastes & odors.
- Water is temporarily stored in clear wells or storage tanks before it is pumped to the public.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

Monitoring of many of the contaminants is performed by the Erie County Water Authority. The Village of Orchard Park monitors for microbiological quality on a monthly basis and obtains tap samples for lead and copper analysis. We conducted asbestos testing in April 2006 and will not be required to do this again until 2015. During the last monitoring in 2008, analysis found that the Village of Orchard Park met the lead and copper standards (see table below). This testing is required again in 2011. Three samples are collected monthly to test for Coliform. Independent, certified laboratories assure the accuracy of analytical results. Water produced by the ECWA and distributed by the Village of Orchard Park meets all Federal and New York State drinking water standards. A detailed listing of all contaminants, the number of samples analyzed, the frequency of sampling and the analytical results are also available in the Village Office. Information regarding the lead and copper monitoring within our service area can be obtained by contacting the Village of Orchard Park Department of Public Works (662-3866). Information on the 2008 analysis can be obtained on request from the Erie County Water Lab (716)826-6230 or on the internet www.ecwa.org. The attached report from Erie County Water Authority depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. Additional information on lead in drinking water is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800)426-4791 or on the web at the EPA website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead/index.html.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be 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 (1-800-426-4791) or the Erie County Health Department (716-858-7671).

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).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that 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.

Location No.	Violation	Lead Sample Date	Lead Units	Lead Result	Lead Source of Contaminants	Copper Sample Date	Copper Units	Copper Result	Copper Source of Contaminants
1	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
2	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
3	No	8/08	mg/l	.002	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
4	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
5	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
6	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
7	No	8/08	mg/l	.002	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
8	No	8/08	mg/l	.003	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
9	No	8/08	mg/l	.005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits
10	No	8/08	mg/l	<.001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	8/08	mg/l	<.020	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, Erosion of natural deposits

The Action Level (concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow) for Lead is 0.015 mg/l. The Action Level for Copper is 1.3 mg/l.

Definitions:

Miligrams per liter (mg/l): corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million – ppm)

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2008, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, and monitoring requirements.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In 2008, new waterline was installed on Freeman Road during the Freeman Road bridge project. Five fire hydrants and two control valves were replaced

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 protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Andrew Slotman, Director of Public Works at (716) 662-3866. The Village of Orchard Park remains dedicated to the goal of providing a high-quality product and reliable cost-effective service to its customers at a reasonable rate.