Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021
Village of Mexico/Town of Mexico PWS

3236 Main Street, Mexico, NY 13114 (Village)
P.O. Box 98, Mexico NY 13114 (Town)
(Public Water Supply ID#s 3704359 & 3730182)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village and Town of Mexico, 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. 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 Village Mayor Terry Grimshaw at (315) 963-7564 or Town Supervisor Eric Behling at (315) 963-7633. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled monthly meetings. They are generally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall located on Main Street.

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 2,100 people through 1,380 service connections. The system's water source consists of three (3) drilled wells with depths ranging from approximately 30 to 65 feet. The wells are screened and draw water from the Mexico-Hastings aquifer. During the year 2021, 115,915,700 gallons were withdrawn. The well field is located approximately two miles to the south of the Village's incorporated limits. Three wells are used as the primary water source and the water systems have an adequate supply of water to meet current demand. Well water is pumped into two 300,000-gallon water tower storage tanks. The Village and Town systems are disinfected with sodium hypochlorite.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

A source water assessment has been completed for our system. The Mexico wells withdraw water from a confined aquifer with a rated sensitivity of medium to synthetic organic compounds, petroleum products, metals and biological contaminants. However, sampling conducted since the last source water assessment has indicated that the finished from the wells water meets all state drinking water requirements.

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, radioactive contaminants, volatile organic compounds, disinfection byproducts, and synthetic organic compounds. Our system sampled for total coliform, lead and copper, disinfection byproducts,PFOA,PFOS,1,4-Dioxane and nitrate in 2021. 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 Oswego County Health Department at (315) 349-3557.

TABLE OF DETECTED COMPOUNDS							
Contaminant	**Violation (Y/N)**	**Date of Sample**	**Level Detected (Maximum, Range)**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL, AL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	No	11/12/ 2020	24 ug/l	ppb	2000 ug/L	2000 ug/L	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper 90th percentile* (Town of Mexico)	No	Sept. 2021	456.9 ug/l Range (26.6 – 739.6)	ppb	1300 ug/l	AL = 1,300 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Copper 90th percentile* (Village of Mexico)	No	August 2019	56.2 ug/l Range (15.4 – 243)	ppb	1300 ug/l	AL= 1,300 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead 90th percentile* (Town of Mexico)	No	Sept. 2021	3.6 ug/l Range (0.0 – 4.0)	ppb	0	AL=15.0 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Lead 90th percentile* (Village of Mexico)	No	August 2019	1.3 ug/l Range (0.0 – 1.9)	Ppb	0	AL=15.0 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	11/7/19	21.4 mg/l	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Manganese	No	11/7/19	12.1 ug/l	ppb	N/A	300 ug/l	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	No	11/7/19	8.08 mg/l	ppm	N/A	250 mg/l	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	1/7/19	33.3 mg/l	ppm	N/A	250 mg/l	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination

Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	8/13/21	0.40 mg/l	ppm	10.0 ppm	10.0 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants							
Gross Beta	No	9/23/13	0.5 pCi/L	pCi/L	0 pCi/L	50** pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 and 226	No	9/23/13	0.60 pCi/L	pCi/L	0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes (Village of Mexico)	No	8/12/21	10.4 ug/l	ppb	n/a	MCL= 80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (Town of Mexico)	No	8/12/21	22.8 ug/l	ppb	n/a	MCL= 80 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (Village of Mexico)	No	8/12/21	9.4 ug/l	ppb	n/a	MCL= 60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (Town of Mexico)	No	8/12/21	15.1 ug/l	ppb	n/a	MCL= 60 ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Synthetic Organic Contaminants							
1,4-Dioxane	No	2021	.04 ug/l	ppb	n/a	MCL= 1 ppb	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial Applications.

Notes:

* The levels presented for copper and lead represent 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 value is equal to or greater than 90% of the values detected in your water system. In this case 10 samples were collected and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value. The action level for copper and lead were not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.
** The State considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

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.
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 the level allowed by the State.

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.

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).

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.

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 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:

- 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 up 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. The average Village customer pays $3.50 per 1000 gallons and the average Town customer pay $3.80 per 1000 gallons. 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.