

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2022

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 During the year 2022, over 8,000,00 gallons per month were withdrawn from our wells. 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, radioactive contaminants and nitrate in 2022. 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.

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 2022, 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 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 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.

Table Of Detected Compounds

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Lv. Detected (Avg/Max Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper 90th percentile* (Village)	No	Jul-22	60.7 ug/l Range (18.6 - 187.2)	ppb	1300 ug/l	AL = 1300 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead 90th percentile* (Village)	No	Jul-22	1.1 ug/l Range (0-1.1)	ppb	N/A	AL = 15.0 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper 90th percentile* (Town)	No	Jul-22	124.2 ug/l Range (1.0-192.2)	ppb	1300 ug/l	AL = 1300 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead 90th percentile* (Town)	No	Jul-22	2.6 ug/l Range (0-4.2)	ppb	N/A	AL = 15.0 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	11/12/2020	0.024 mg/L	mg/L	2mg/l	2 mg/L	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	No	7/6/2022	31.8 mg/L	mg/L	N/A	250 mg/L	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt.
Iron	No	7/6/2022	59.8 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Manganese	No	7/6/2022	6.7 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Nitrate (As Nitrogen)	No	6/10/22	0.45 mg/L	mg/L	10 mg/L	10mg/L	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	7/6/2022	20.29 mg/L	mg/L	N/A	mg/L	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softener treatment, animal waste.
Sulfate	No	7/6/2022	6.29 mg/L	mg/L	N/A	250 mg/l	Naturally occurring.

Table Of Detected Compounds (Cont.)

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Lv. Detected (Avg/Max Range)	Unit Measure- ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection By-Products							
Total Trihalo- methanes (TTHM) (Village)	No	8/11/2022	23.5 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	80 ug/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (Village)	No	8/11/2022	6.9 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	60 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalo- methanes (TTHM) (Town)	No	8/11/2022	21 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	80 ug/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (Town)	No	8/11/2022	2.5 ug/L	ug/L	N/A	60 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Synthetic Organic Compounds							
1,4-Dioxane	No	2021	.04 ug/L	ppb	N/A	1 ppb	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Radioactive Contaminants							
Radium 226	No	7/6/2022	0.173 pCi/L	pCi/L	0pCi/L	5 pCi/L ³	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	No	7/6/2022	0.356 pCi/L	pCi/L	0pCi/L	5 pCi/L ³	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (including Radon & Uranium)	No	7/6/2022	0.384 pCi/L	pCi/L	0pCi/L	15 pCi/L ⁵	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions

Notes:

* Levels presented for copper and lead represents 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 levels for copper and lead were not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested. Therefore our system meets corrosion control treatment, source water treatment and lead service line requirements.

**** - Disinfection byproducts were not sampled in 2021 as required annually**

DEFINITIONS:

Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The “Goal” (MCLG) is 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.

Non-Detects (ND or <number value) – Laboratory analysis indicates that the tested compound is not present in the sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million – ppm). Or one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion – ppb). Or one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – A measure of radioactivity in water.