# *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025*

***3236 Main Street, Mexico, NY 13114 (Village)***
***PO Box 98, Mexico, NY 13114 (Town)***
***System ID # 3704359 & #3730182***

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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, New York State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 3,735 people through 884 service connections. The system's drinking water sources consists of two (2) drilled wells. The wells are screened and draw water from the Mexico-Hastings aquifer. The well field is located approximately two miles to the south of the village's incorporated limits. The 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 one 360,000-gallon water tower storage tank in the village and one 300,00-gallon tank in the town. The Village and Town systems are disinfected with sodium hypochlorite. The Village completed Phase 1 of our Water System Improvements project last year that included replacement of fire hydrants throughout the village, replacement of many of our cast iron water mains, and replacement of the village's water tower to comply with NYSDOH requirements.

## SOURCEWATER ASSESSMENT

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) has completed a source water assessment for this system. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated by reviewing limited existing mapped data and available information from past sanitary surveys. The state source water assessment provides a susceptibility rating based on the potential risk posed by each possible source of contamination and how easily contaminants could move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water; it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessment was completed to provide owners and operators with additional information to help them protect your source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our system as having an elevated susceptibility to viruses, protozoa, bacteria, herbicides/pesticides, halogenated solvents, metals, cations/anions, nitrates, petroleum products & other industrial organics. This is primarily because we draw water from a shallow unconfined aquifer that occurs just below the ground surface. There is no overlying layer to protect it from potential sources of contamination. Please note that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. Petroleum and organic products have never been detected in the source water.

County and state health departments will use this risk assessment information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, wellhead protection, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted below.

## 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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes (TTHMs), halo acetic acids (HAAs), radiological contaminants 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 some small amounts of 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 (Yes/No) | Date of Sample | Level Detected Avg (Range) | Unit Measure-ment | MCLG | Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL) | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| ***Lead*** *90th percentile* (Village)* | No | September 2025 | 1.2 ug/L (0 – 4.1) | ppb | 0 ug/L | AL = 15 ug/l | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives. |
| ***Copper*** *90th percentile* (Village)* | No | September 2025 | 168 ug/L (15.6 – 751) | ppb | N/A | AL = 1,300 ug/l | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits. |
| **Copper** 90th percentile* (Town) | No | July-August 2023 | 159.5 ug/l (19 -230) | 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 | July-August 2023 | 3.7 ug/l Range (0-7.0) | ppb | N/A | AL = 15.0 ug/l | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |
| **Barium** | No | 8/7/2023 | 0.0262 mg/L | mg/L | 2mg/l | 2 mg/L | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| **Chloride** | No | 12/9/2025 | 23.7 mg/L | mg/L | N/A | 250 mg/L | Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt. |
| **Nitrate** | No | 12/17/2025 | 0.5 ug/L | ug/L | N/A | N/A | Naturally occurring. |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Manganese** | No | 12/9/2025 | 0.03 ug/L | ug/L | N/A | N/A | Naturally occurring. |
| **Chloride** | No | 12/9/2025 | 23.7 mg/L | mg/L | N/A | 250 mg/L | Naturally occurring. |
| **Sulfate** | No | 12/9/2025 | 8.4 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 | 8/29/2025 | 19.9 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 | 8/29/2025 | 5.5 ug/L | ug/L | N/A | 60 ug/L | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| **Total Trihalo-methanes** (TTHM) (Town) | No | 8/13/2024 | 25.8 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 | 8/13/2024 | 1.5 ug/L | ug/L | N/A | 60 ug/L | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| **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 represent the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percentage 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.

**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.

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no MCL violations in 2025. We are required to present the following information regarding lead in drinking water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Our Systems are responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formulas, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Village Mayor Terry Grimshaw, at 315-963-7564 or Town Supervisor Eric Behling at (315) 963-7633. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at ***https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead***.

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

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 2025, we did not monitor or test for disinfection byproducts in the town's distribution system and cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. The village also did not distribute the required public notification for the lead and copper sampling results within 30 days after they were received and were cited with New York State sanitary code violations by the Oswego County Health Department.

## INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) require every federally defined community and non-transient, non-community water system to develop a service line inventory (also called a lead service line inventory (LSLI)). A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both

potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory. The results of our survey found that the town's distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines. The village distribution system did, however, contain some galvanized service lines requiring replacement and still has service lines that were lead status unknown.

## 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 people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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). Please note that testing of the water at this system has shown that this water is suitable for drinking water purposes and contains very low amounts of contaminants and should not pose any health risks.

## INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Spanish: Este informe contien información may importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entinda bien.
French: Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez le ou prlez 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 several reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- Saving water saves energy and some of the costs are associated with both 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 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.
- 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.

## CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with quality drinking water this year. To maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary to address improvements. We ask all our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please review the attached water source protection, and water conservation tips sheet. Please call our office if you have questions.