

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024
System Name –Cowlesville Water District
System Address 905 Old Alleghany Road, Attica NY 14011
(Public Water Supply ID# NY6030016)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Cowlesville Water System annually issues 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 **Ellen Grant, Town Supervisor, or Mark Pruitt, Water System Operator, at 585-591-2157**. 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 the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, Bennington Center.

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 is provided by the Erie County Water Authority (Public Water Supply #NY1400443). You are able to read through the ECWA 2024 Annual Report by accessing their website www.ecwa.org, or you may request a paper copy from our office. Our water system serves approximately 420 people through 100 connections, including a bulk connection for Highland Glens. The daily average of water used was 54,041 gallons per day. The total water purchased was 19,725,000 gallons.

As the State regulations require, the Erie County Water Authority routinely tests your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. A listing of detected contaminants can be found within the enclosed Erie County Report. In addition, the state and Wyoming County Public Health Department requires us to perform additional total coliform testing, and other sampling. As you can see by the table on the reverse, 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.

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. Cowlesville Water District is 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 formula, 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 Mark Pruitt, Water System Operator at 585-591-2157. 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>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

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. Our system does not have any lead in the water mains, or in service lines going into your home.

Notice for hydrant flushing will be printed in the Attica Pennysaver, posted at the store in Cowlesville, at the Town Hall, on the Town website and included with the water bill prior to the date of the flushing. Hydrants are maintained by the Water Department and tested by both the workers and the Cowlesville Fire Company during their authorized uses of the hydrants.

Copies of the Rules and Regulations of the Water District are available for all owners. Please be aware that per Article IX Section B of the regulations, all bills are due when rendered and payment is required on or before the due date shown on said bill. Penalty for Delinquency (Section C) authorizes the Town, if the bill is not paid within sixty (60) days after the bill becomes delinquent, the Town has the option to shut off water service until all prior balances, penalties and interest, and restoration of service charges are paid.

Any questions regarding the water system, use of hydrants, fees for new hook-ups, seasonal turn-offs, etc., can be directed to the Town Hall or to the Water System Operator. If there are any changes in billing names, addresses or contact information, please send the information to the Town Hall, 905 Old Alleghany Road, Attica NY 14011.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane and bromoform)	No	quarterly	Highest Average 64.6	ug/l	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs and Haloacetic acids are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	quarterly	Highest Ave 28.1	ug/l	n/a	60	
Chlorine Residual	No	Various	Ave=1.0 Range = .5 to 1.0	mg/l	n/a	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead ¹	No	9/2022	2.9	ug/l	0	A.L.= 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper ²	No	9/2022	0.078	mg/l	1.3	A.L.= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

1 The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest values (2.9 ug/l). The range was from not detected to 5.4 ug/l. This means in our system lead levels in 4 sites are below the 90th percentile value and 1 site is above the 90th percentile. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in the physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

2 The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 sites tested. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest values (0.078 mg/l). The range for copper was from 0.0026 to 0.120 mg/l.

Due to an elevated Trihalomethane result in 2022, we now sample quarterly for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids. In 2024, the range of Trihalomethane results were 31.9 to 59.6 ug/l, and the range of Haloacetic Acids were from 25.1 to 32.4 ug/l. Compliance is based on the yearly average, so even though the highest value for trihalomethanes is above the MCL, our system was in compliance with State and EPA Rules.

This report is also available on line on the Town website at www.benningtonny.com. If you need to update contact information, customer billing name or address for your water account, please either use the Contact section on the Town website or email to: benn-clerk@rochester.rr.com.