

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2022
VARYSBURG WATER SYSTEM
VARYSBURG WATER DISTRICT #1
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID #NY6000617

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Brian Becker at 716-560-0456. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Water Board Meetings. To find out the schedule of the Water District meetings, please contact Brian Becker at 716-560-0456.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Varysburg Water Department source of water is groundwater from two water wells located at the corner of Route 98 and School Street. The water drawn from these wells is chlorinated prior to distribution. Our water system serves 350 people through 110 service connections.

These sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacterial, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Varysburg Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. We test your drinking water for inorganic compounds, nitrate, volatile organic compounds, and lead and copper. In addition, we test the water for coliform bacteria monthly and chlorine daily in your drinking water. The attached table depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

It should be noted that all 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 Wyoming County Health Department (585-786-8894).

Source Water Assessment

The New York State Health Department has completed a source water assessment for this system based on available information. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface of the wells and springs. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to the customers is, or will become contaminated. For more information contact our water department.

The assessment found a medium to high potential for contamination with regards to protozoa, enteric bacteria and enteric viruses. The potential source of these contaminants is animal pasture land and other agriculture related activities.

The county and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities.

Is our water safe for everyone?

It should be noted that some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Varysburg Water District #1 is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Brian Becker at 716-560-0456. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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.

Closing

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality 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. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Maximum Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Table of Detected Contaminants							
Barium	NO	12/7/2021	0.247	mg/l	2mg/l	2mg/l	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine Residual	NO	Daily	0.1 - 1.6 Ave=1.0	mg/l	n/a	4.0mg/l	Water additive used to control microbes.
Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHMs -chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	NO	9/1/2020	26.6	ug/l	n/a	80ug/l	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Copper	NO	9/26/2022	0.058 ¹	mg/l	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid)	NO	9/1/2020	10	ug/l	n/a	60ug/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

Footnotes:

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. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the average of the two highest values. The range found was from 0.0195 to 0.063 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

Lead is not in the table this year, as lead was not detected in any of the five samples collected in 2022.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their 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.

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 of 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.

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).