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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
Westfield Water Department
42 English Street
Public Water Supply ID# 0615782

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Westfield Water Department is 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. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

During 2023, we had four instances where a Boil Water Order were issued. On April 14, the water system lost pressure due to water main break, resulting in the Chautauqua County Health Department issuing a boil water advisory for all water customers in the areas of 220 to 228 N. Portage Street. After repairs were made, required bacteriological testing was completed and all water quality standards were met which led to the cancelling of the boil water advisory on April 16. On June 7, the water system lost pressure due to water main break, resulting in the Chautauqua County Health Department issuing a boil water advisory for all water customers in the area of Clinton Street from N. Portage to Franklin Street. After repairs were made, required bacteriological testing was completed and all water quality standards were met which led to the cancelling of the boil water advisory on June 9. On June 20, the water system lost pressure due to water main break, resulting in the Chautauqua County Health Department issuing a boil water advisory for all water customers in the areas of Bourne Street from N. Portage to Bird St. After repairs were made, required bacteriological testing was completed and all water quality standards were met which led to the cancelling of the boil water advisory on June 23. On October 4, the water system lost pressure due to water main break, resulting in the Chautauqua County Health Department issuing a boil water advisory for all water customers in the area of 23 Elm St. to Second St. After repairs were made, required bacteriological testing was completed and all water quality standards were met which led to the cancelling of the boil water advisory on October 6.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact, Erin Schuster, Senior Operator, Brian Kinney, Justin Parker, or Lynne Vilardo at 716-326-2832. We are here to serve the public and it is our goal that you are well informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held on the third Mondays of every month at 7PM in the North room at Eason Hall, 23 Elm Street or check us out on the web at www.villageofwestfield.org.

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 treatment system is owned by the Village of Westfield and maintained by the Village of Westfield Water Department, the office is located at 42 English Street, Westfield, NY. 326-2832. We have three New York State class IIA licensed water treatment operators; Erin Schuster, Senior Operator, Brian Kinney, Operator, and Lynne Vilardo Accounting assistant & Alternate Operator, with 40 years of combined water treatment experience. There is an operator on duty 7 days a week, 365 days a year and are responsible for all aspects of providing safe quality drinking water.

The treatment system includes three, U.S. Filter, upflow adsorption clarifiers and multi-media filter assemblies. Following filtration, the water is disinfected with enough chlorine to maintain a safe residual in the distribution system, and fluoridated. The Village of Westfield was one of the first in the state to fluoridate their drinking water, starting in 1950. Our water comes from two surface sources, the Minton Reservoir and Chautauqua Creek. The Village of Westfield's watershed is approximately 27 square miles. The reservoir, which is a 55-million-gallon impoundment, is supplemented from May until December with water from the creek. This helps to ensure a satisfactory supply of water.

Our water supply serves nearly 4000 residents of the village and portions of the Town of Westfield. Facilities served include three grape processing plants, a hospital, school, commercial bakery, and health care center. Average daily production was 516,370 gallons per day with a peak output of up to 1,194,000 gallons per day. The maximum total peak production design of the water treatment plant is 1,600,000 gallons per day. During 2023 our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. The reservoir clarity this year is very good and we anticipate another year of quality product for the consumer.

The NYS DOH has evaluated this PWS's (Public Water Supply's) susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraph below. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this PWS. This PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

For Minton Reservoir and Chautauqua Creek this assessment found an elevated susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of pasture in the assessment area results in a high potential for protozoa contamination. No permitted discharges are found in the assessment area. There are no noteworthy contamination threats associated with other discrete contaminant sources. Finally, it should be noted that hydrologic characteristics (e.g. basin shape and flushing rates) generally make reservoirs highly sensitive to existing and new sources of phosphorus and microbial contamination.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The amount of water delivered to customers (metered sales) was 137,284,000 gallons. Our production last year was 188,475,000 gallons. This leaves 14 million gallons used for filter washing and for system maintenance, unaccounted for total of 37 million gallons. This water was used to flush mains, clean filters, fight fires and leakage. Of that amount, leakage alone accounts for less than 19% of the total amount produced. The basic service charge for water in the Village is \$23.40. The first 2,000 gallons (minimum bill) of water used, costs customers \$4.70 per thousand gallons, up to 60,000 gallons. Anything over 60,000 gal. costs \$3.70 per thousand. The water rates for outside the village are one and one-half times the village rates. Water is sold by bulk at the rate of \$4.00 per thousand gallons plus \$45.21 per hour labor.

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, copper, volatile organic compounds, total haloacetic acids, radiological, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented 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 Chautauqua County Health Department 753-4481.

On August 26, 2020, Public Water Supplies in New York State were required to begin monitoring for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These substances include Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), and 1,4-Dioxane. We did not have a detection for these contaminants in 2023.

VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD TEST RESULTS (DETECTS)

Contaminant	Violation	Date Of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL/AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Turbidity ₁	No	01/25/23	0.26	NTU	n/a	TT=<1.0 NTU	Soil run-off
Turbidity ₁	No	January (2023)	100 % <.30	NTU	n/a	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	Soil run-off
Distribution Turbidity ₁	No	November (2023)	0.27	NTU	n/a	MCL>5 NTU	Naturally present in the environment

RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Radium226	No	8/10/16	.326	pCi/l	0	1.6 (MCL)	Erosion of natural deposits
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Copper2	No	8/24/21	0.505 Range = 0.0097- 0.533	ppm	1.3	1.3 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead3	No	8/24/21	Not detected	ppb	n/a	15 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Barium	No	5/17/23	0.0288	ppm	1.0	1.0 (MCL)	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel	No	5/17/23	1.2	ppb	N/A	N/A	Enters groundwater and surface water by dissolution of rocks and soils, from atmospheric fallout, biological decays and from waste disposal.
Fluoride	No	Daily (2023)	Avg.=0.72 Range= 0.36-1.3	ppm	n/a	(see health effects)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
DISINFECTANT							
Chlorine Residual	No	Daily (2023)	Avg.=1.22 Range = 0.52-1.57	ppm	n/a	4.0 (MCL)	Water additive used to control microbes
STAGE 2 DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS (EDGEWATER CONDOS)							
Trihalomethanes	No	Quarterly (2023)	Avg.=51.2 Range= 29.0 – 79.6	ppb	n/a	80 (MCL)	By-products of drinking water chlorination. TTHM's are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	Quarterly (2023)	Avg.=28.6 Range= 7.7 – 38.8	ppb	n/a	60 (MCL)	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
STAGE 2 DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS (KWIK FILL/RED APPLE)							
Trihalomethanes	No	Quarterly (2023)	Avg.=38.3 Range= 18.4– 63.5	ppb	n/a	80 (MCL)	By-products of drinking water chlorination. TTHM's are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	Quarterly (2023)	Avg.=41.0 Range= 32.4 – 48.8	ppb	n/a	60 (MCL)	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Notes:1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 01/05/23 (0.26 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be less than or equal to 1.0 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. Although January 2023 was the month when we had the highest turbidity measurements, the levels recorded were within the acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.

Distribution Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water found in the distribution system. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. Our highest average monthly distribution turbidity measurement detected during the year (0.27 NTU) occurred in November 2023. This value is below the State's maximum contaminant level (5 NTU).

2– The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 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, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was calculated to be equal to the 3rd highest result which was 0.505 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 samples collected. There were no detections for lead in our system, therefore the 90th percentile value is a non-detection.

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 that is 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.**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.**Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm). **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in

water. **Parts per million (ppm):** Or milligrams per liter (mg/l): One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in ten thousand dollars.

Parts per billion (ppb): Or micrograms per liter (ug/l): One part per billion corresponds to one minute in two thousand years or a single penny in ten million dollars.

Nanograms per liter (ng/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

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. Lead and copper were detected within the system but of 20 samples collected none were found exceeding the action levels. We are however required to present the following information on Lead in drinking water:

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. The Village of Westfield 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 The Village of Westfield at 716-326-2832. 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>.

We will continue to improve our water treatment facilities to provide the highest of quality drinking water possible.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2023, our system was in compliance with all 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 ON FLUORIDE ADDITION

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.7 to 1.2 mg/l (parts per million). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that we monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2023 monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 95% of the time.

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.

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. 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.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- A reminder to all our consumers, the water department flushes hydrants a minimum of twice per year, once in the spring and once in the fall. There are notifications posted at the Village offices and on the Village website.
- Water meters are sealed with a Village of Westfield seal. **Meter seals should not be removed.** If the seal needs to be removed for repairs, pre-authorization is required; please contact the Village Offices Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 326-4961.
- All billing questions, turn on and turn off information call 716-326-4961 the Village Office at 23 Elm Street
- **If you have a water or sewer problem that is not related to billing please call 716-326-2832 between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. We will answer questions and help resolve problems.**
- The Treatment system is well maintained and in good working order.

Our water bills pay to keep our community tap water safe, reliable, and there for us – 24/7 without fail. For more information about what your tap water delivers you, visit www.nysawwa.org.

If you have not had your water line inspected yet, please call The Village of Westfield Water Department at 716-326-2832 to make an appointment. The inspection will take 5-10 minutes to complete. We are scheduling appointments 7 days a week. The Village is required to have this inventory completed by October 16, 2024. If we are unable to inspect your water line before this date your line will be considered “material unknown” and may require replacement at the property owner’s expense.

CLOSING

The Village of Westfield has partnered with Slick Text of Jamestown to offer text notifications to residents. This service will be used to notify residents of important updates such as water leaks, street closings and power outages. To register, text **DPW to 866-594-0550** or visit the Village website at www.villageofwestfield.org and use the link provided.