

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015
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 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). Enclosed you will find the 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the Erie County Water Authority. Our water system serves approximately 188 people through 94 connections. The daily average of water used was 17,408.22 gallons per day. The total water purchased was 6,354,000 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.

If you have difficulty in reading the information on the ECWA Annual Water Quality Report Supplement, you can access the information at www.ecwa.org, go to Publications & Reports and 2015 Annual Water Quality Report and then enlarge/zoom in on the page.

Notice for the annual 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.

During 2015, we did not test for lead and copper in the second half of 2015, therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. As you can see by the results in the table, we did sample for Lead and Copper during June 2015, all with acceptable results. Erie County Water Authority performs lead and copper testing as well. We will sample two rounds of Lead and Copper sampling in 2016.

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.

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	9/1/15	73	ug/l	n/a	80	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 (mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid)	No	9/1/15	2.8	ug/l	n/a	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Chlorine Residual	No	Various	Ave=0.8 Range = .2 to 1.0	mg/l	n/a	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead ¹	No	6/30/15	2.3	ug/l	0	A.L.= 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper ²	No	6/30/15	0.2	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 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 is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value (2.3 ug/l). The range was from not detected to 4.8 ug/l.

2 The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value (0.2 ug/l). The range was from not detected to 022 mg/l.

????????Lead. *If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Cowlesville Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>*