

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019*  
*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). Our water system serves approximately 200 people through 98 connections. The daily average of water used was 21,515 gallons per day. The total water purchased was 7,853,000 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.

The ECWA Annual Water Quality Report Supplement can be accessed at [www.ecwa.org](http://www.ecwa.org), go to Publications & Reports and 2019 Annual Water Quality Report and then enlarge/zoom in on the page.

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 complete and return the enclosed account information form 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	8/28/19	69	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	8/28/19	5.8	ug/l	n/a	60	
Chlorine Residual	No	Various	Ave=0.8 Range = .1 to 1.0	mg/l	n/a	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead <sup>1</sup>	No	8/2019	6.7	ug/l	0	A.L.= 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper <sup>2</sup>	No	8/2019	0.056	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 90<sup>th</sup> 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 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the average of the two highest values (6.7 ug/l). The range was from not detected to 12.8 ug/l.

2 The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 5 sites tested. In this case, five samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the average of the two highest values (0.056 mg/l). The range for copper was from 0.003 to 0.0825 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>*