

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016
New Vernon Water Company
PO Box 5611
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
(Public Water Supply ID# NY3503607)

Introduction

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the New Vernon Water Company water system will be 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. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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 JCO, Inc, at 845-888-5755. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please contact the park manager to discuss drinking water issues in person.

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 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 system serves a total of 75 homes. These homes are located in the Town Mount Hope, Orange County, and the Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County. Our water source is groundwater drawn from two drilled wells. The wells are drilled in gravel aquifers. The well that is used almost exclusively produces 90 gallons per minute (gpm). The second (auxiliary) well can supply 10 gpm. The wells supply water to the distribution system composed of 6-inch and 8-inch diameter water mains. After proceeding through the chlorinator the water is pumped to a 20,000- gallon atmospheric storage tank, through one of the 6-inch diameter water mains. Two transfer pumps supply a 780-gallon hydro-pneumatic pressure tank from the 20,000-gallon atmospheric tank. The 780-gallon pressure tank supplies water to a 6-inch water main serving the upper section of Witte Drive. The 20,000-gallon atmospheric tank, 780-gallon pressure tank, and transfer pumps are what comprise the booster station located west of Witte Drive, approximately 450 feet from the western most intersection of New Vernon Road at Witte Drive. The Booster pump station makes certain that the home along the upper section of Witte Drive have adequate water pressure.

The quantity of water available from these sources during 2012 adequately met water supply demands. An average volume of approximately 19,300 gallons per day was withdrawn from the aquifers and approximately 19,300 gallons per day were delivered to the customers of New Vernon Water Company

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. 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 to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See “Table of Detected Contaminants” for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from two drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials. This rating is due primarily to the close proximity of the low-level residential activity and the septic system that are located in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and an unconfined aquifer of unknown hydraulic conductivity and the overlying soils are not known to provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State’s drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, and synthetic organic compounds. The attached table 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 Orange County Health Department at 291-2331.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (average) (Range)	Unit Measure- ment	MCLG	Limit (MCL, TT or AL)
Nitrate	No	8/11/16	.13	mg/l	10	MCL=10
Barium	No	8/24/15	.120	mg/l	2	MCL = 2
Nickel	No	8/24/15	1.2	ug/l	100	MCL = 100
Lead	No	9/14	.8 (90 th %) (ND – 1.6)	ug/l	0	AL = 15
Copper	No	9/14	.046 (90 th %) (.026 – .053)	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3

Contaminant	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Barium	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Definitions:

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.

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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

What does this information mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations, but we have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern operations?

During 2016, our system received two violations (1) Failure to have a backup water source AND (2) Operation and Maintenance of a water system, including but not limited to the following: failure to maintain the access road to the Treatment plant, failure to repair the damaged roof, failure to replace/repair gauges and valves, failure to install an appropriate backflow prevention device and failure to upkeep the area around the well.

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).

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.

Closing

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking 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. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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.