



# 2018 WATER QUALITY REPORT



**New Vernon Water Company**  
Public Water Supply ID# NY3503607  
January 1 to December 31, 2018

This report complies with Part 5-1.72, New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR) and federal Consumer Confidence Report regulations (40 CFR Part 141, Subpart O).

### Introduction:

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the New Vernon 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 system owner to discuss drinking water issues in person.

### A Message from the New York American Water President



To Our Valued Customer:

New York American Water is proud to be your local water service provider, and I am pleased to share some very good news about the quality of your drinking water. As you read through our Annual Water Quality Report, you will see that we continue to supply water that meets or surpasses all state and federal water quality standards. **Better yet, the price you pay for this high-quality water service is about a penny per gallon.**

This is an exceptional value when you consider the facilities and technology needed to draw water from the source and treat it, along with miles and miles of pipeline hidden below the ground to bring water to your tap. What's more, our plant operators, water quality experts, engineers and maintenance crews work around the clock to make sure that quality water is always there when you need it.

Delivering safe, reliable water service requires significant investment to maintain and upgrade aging facilities. **In 2018 alone, we invested approximately \$46 million in system improvements across the state; and plan on investing another \$40 million in 2019.**

Because water is essential for public health, fire protection, economic development and overall quality of life, New York American Water's employees are committed to ensuring that quality water keeps flowing not only today, but well into the future.

Please take the time to review this report. It provides details about the source and quality of your drinking water using the data from water quality testing conducted for your local system between January and December 2018. Thanks for allowing us to serve you.

**WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING.**

Sincerely,

Lynda DiMenna  
President, New York American Water



**QUALITY. ONE MORE WAY WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING.**

## About New York American Water

New York American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water company in New York, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 350,000 people.

## About American Water

With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 7,100 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to more than 14 million people in 46 states and Ontario.

## 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 Departments 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 50 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 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, disinfection byproducts, radiologicals, 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 845- 291-2331.

## Definitions:

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

**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.



**QUALITY. ONE MORE WAY WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING.**

**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 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 (µg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

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

**N/A:** Not applicable.

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

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

## Water Quality Results

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	No	12/06/18	0.129	mg/l	2	MCL = 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel	No	12/06/18	0.878	ug/l	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (See Note 1)	No	8/2017	90 <sup>th</sup> = 0.883 Range = 0.036 to 1.7	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (See Note 2)	No	8/2017	90 <sup>th</sup> = 7 Range = ND to 11	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

- Notes:
- 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 copper 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. The action level for copper was exceeded at one of the sites tested.
  - 2- The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the five samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

### What does this information mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations in 2018. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below New York State requirements.

We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. It is possible that lead levels in your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. NYAW 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>.

### Is our water system meeting other rules that govern operations?

During 2018, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

### Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

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. 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. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it 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 can save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- New York American Water is offering a free 'leak detection kit' for home use. If desired, please call our 24-hour customer call center at 877-426-6999 and request one.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources. For questions concerning this report or your water quality, please contact Michael Nofi, Water Quality Manager, at 516-632-2215; or New York American Water's customer call center at 1-877-426-6999; or on the web at [newyorkamwater.com](http://newyorkamwater.com).

## 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.

<p><b>Spanish</b> Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.</p>	<p><b>French</b> Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend bien.</p>
<p><b>Korean</b> 이러의 보고는 귀라해서 드시는 식수에 대한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 번역은 해서든지 아니면 이 보고를 읽은 이래 하시는 분나 말씀하시게를 바랍니다.</p>	<p><b>Chinese</b> 这份报告含有非常重要有关您喝的水的资料。请找懂得这份报告的人翻译或解释给您听。</p>



**QUALITY. ONE MORE WAY WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING.**