

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a chrome water tap with water flowing into a clear glass. The scene is set against a bright blue background. The water is clear and bubbly, with many small droplets visible. The tap handle is at the top left, and the glass is at the bottom right. The overall aesthetic is clean and fresh.

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VILLAGE OF MOUNT
KISCO WATER
DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL WATER
QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2004

PWS ID#: NY59034347

Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. To comply with state and federal regulations, the Village of Mount Kisco water supply system annually issues this report. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of your drinking water and the need to protect our drinking water sources. This report also includes the details of all testing completed from January through December 2004 and how it compares to the state standards. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water customers.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Kyla N. Jobin at (914) 864-0021. You can also call the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 864-7332. If you would like to be informed of water emergencies, please sign up on the Village of Mount Kisco Emergency Email Alert System at www.mountkisco.org, or you may call the Water Quality Information Line at (914) 864-0020 for a recorded message.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your questions or concerns about your drinking water at the regularly scheduled Village Board of Trustees meeting. Meetings are generally held on the first and third Monday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 104 Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York.

Capital Projects— System Improvements

As of July 1, 2004, the Byram Lake Filtration Plant was officially put online. Water distribution system improvements continue with the replacement of hydrants, new water mains on Croton Avenue, Prospect Street, Sand Street and Hillside Avenue and new interconnections with the Town of New Castle.

Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but also can save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Conservation measures you can use inside your home:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The Village of Mount Kisco's primary water source is Byram Lake Reservoir, which is a surface water supply located on Byram Lake Road in the towns of Bedford and North Castle. Water from Byram Lake Reservoir is pumped to the Byram Lake Filtration Plant, where the water is then disinfected with chlorine, treated for corrosion control and filtered before entering the distribution system. The Leonard Park Wells supplement the Byram Lake water supply. The well water is disinfected with chlorine, aerated to remove radon, and treated for corrosion control before entering the distribution system.



Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in some groundwater. It may pose a health risk when the gas is released from water into air, as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes and clothes. Radon gas released from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon in air. Radon is released into homes and groundwater from soil. Water samples taken at the Leonard Park Wells in 2004 indicated a radon concentration of 171 pCi/L. The U.S. EPA has not established a MCL for radon yet; however, our finding is well below the proposed MCL of 300 pCi/L. Inhalation of radon gas has been linked to lung cancer; however, the effects of radon ingested in drinking water are not yet clear. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on how to have your home tested, call (800) SOS-RADON.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Facts and Figures

Our water system serves approximately 10,000 customers through 2,300 service connections. The total amount of water produced in 2004 was 655 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system is 1.794 million gallons per day. Approximately 70% of the total was billed directly to consumers. The



balance or unaccounted water was used for firefighting, hydrants, distribution system leaks and unauthorized use. In 2004, the annual water charge per customer was \$708, based on an average annual household water use of 75,000 gallons.

Cryptosporidium in Drinking Water

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. Monitoring of source water and finished water indicates the presence of these organisms. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.



Substances That Might Be in Drinking Water

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 microbiological 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 of New York and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) establish limits for the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The New York State Health Department and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water for the protection of public health.

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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 864-7332. You may also contact the New York State Department of Health at (800) 458-1158. The U.S. EPA drinking water Web site (www.epa.gov/safewater) can also provide you with additional information regarding your drinking water.

Non-detectable Contaminants

The following contaminants were tested for but not detected in our water:

Inorganics:

Silver, Aluminum, Arsenic, Asbestos, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Cyanide, Chromium, Fluoride, Iron, Mercury, Ammonia as N, Nickel, Nitrite nitrogen as N, Nitrate nitrogen as N, Potable Metal Digestion, Antimony, Selenium, Thallium, Zinc. Volatile Organic Compounds: Bromoform, Dibromochloromethane, Tetrachloroethane, Trichloroethane, Dichloroethane, Dichloropropene, Trichlorobenzene, Trichloropropane, Trimethylbenzene, Dichlorobenzene, Dichloropropane, Butanone (MEK), Chlorotoluene, Benzene, Bromobenzene, Bromochloromethane, Bromomethane, Carbon tetrachloride, Chlorobenzene, Chloroethane, Chloromethane, Dichloroethene, Dibromoethane, Dichlorodifluoromethane, Ethylbenzene, Hexachlorobutadiene, Isopropylbenzene, Methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE), Methylene Chloride, Nbutylbenzene, N-propylbenzene, Naphthalene, O-xylene, P & M-xylene, P-isopropyltoluene, SEC-butylbenzene, Styrene, TERT-butylbenzene, Toluene, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, trans-1,3-dichloropropene, Trichloroethene, Trichlorofluoromethane, Vinyl chloride.

Synthetic Organics:

Dioxin, 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane, 1,2-Dibromoethane, 4,4-DDE, Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Lindane, Methoxychlor, PCB's, Propachlor, Toxaphene, 2,4,5-T, 2,4-D, Dalapon, DCPA di-acid, Dicamba, Dinoseb, Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Silvex, 2,4-Dinitrotoluene, 2,6-Dinitroloouene, Acetochlor, Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, bis(2-Ethylhexyl)adipate, Butachlor, EPTC, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Metoachlor, Metribuzin, Molinate, Simazine, Terbacil, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Aldicarb, Aldicarb sulfone, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Carbaryl, Carbofuran, Methomyl, Oxamyl, Glyphosate, Endothall, Diquat.



Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watr home) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. Also, water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.awwa.org/Advisory/learn/

Contamination from Cross-Connections

Cross-connections that could contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems) or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continually jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed all industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that all potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test each backflow preventer to make sure that it is providing maximum protection.



For more information, visit the Web site of the American Backflow Prevention Association (www.abpa.org) for a discussion on current issues.

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES				Leonard Park Wells		Byram Lake			
SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppb)	1/27/04	250	NA	24.8	NA	60.2	NA	No	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Color (ppb)	1/27/04	15	NA	ND	NA	5	NA	No	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant byproducts such as trihalomethanes, the presence of metals such as copper, iron and manganese
Manganese (ppb)	1/27/04	300	NA	40.7	NA	41.1	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination
Sodium (ppb)	1/27/04	—	NA	15,000	NA	21,000	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate (ppb)	1/27/04	250	NA	25.2	NA	11.7	NA	No	Naturally occurring
Turbidity (ppb)	1/27/04	TT	NA	0.46	0.46-0.46	1.9	1.9-1.9	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from 20 homes throughout the service area

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	HOMES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppb)	7/23/04	1,300	1,300	0.898	0.044-1.680	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	7/23/04	15	0	5.7	ND-8.2	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

OTHER SUBSTANCES		Leonard Park Wells		Byram Lake		
SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Calcium (ppb)	1/27/04	2,900	NA	2,000	NA	Naturally occurring
Hardness (ppb)	1/27/04	100	NA	72	NA	Naturally occurring
Ortho Phosphorus (ppb)	1/27/04	0.13	NA	0.77	NA	Naturally occurring
pH (ppb)	1/27/04	7.52	NA	7.45	NA	Naturally occurring
Total Phosphorus (ppb)	1/27/04	0.10	NA	0.56	NA	Naturally occurring

Table Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best

available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity

Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.