



ANNUAL
WATER QUALITY
REPORT

Water testing performed in 2005

Proudly Presented By:
VILLAGE OF MOUNT KISCO
WATER DEPARTMENT

PWS ID#: NY59034347

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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.



Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This report covers all testing completed for the Village of Mount Kisco water supply from January through December 2005 and how it compares to the state standards. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of your drinking water and the need to protect our drinking water sources. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. As always, we remain attentive in meeting the everyday challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education as well as 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.



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.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your questions or concerns about your drinking water at a regularly scheduled Village Board of Trustees Meeting. Meetings are generally held every two weeks on Mondays beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 104 Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York.

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 New York EPA drinking water Web site (www.health.state.ny.us) can also provide you with additional information regarding your drinking water.



System Improvements

In 2005 the Croton Avenue Water Main Replacement Project began with new water mains being installed on Croton Avenue, Prospect Street, Sand Street and Hillside Avenue. Water distribution system improvements continue with ongoing distribution system upgrades and new interconnections with the Town of New Castle.

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 2005 indicated a radon concentration of 173 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.

Non-detected Substances

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, TERTbutylbenzene, 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-Dinitrotoluene, 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.

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.



Facts and Figures

Our water system serves approximately 10,000 customers through 2,300 service connections. The total amount of water produced in 2005 was 565 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system is 1.535 million gallons per day. Approximately 70% of the total was billed directly to consumers. The balance or unaccounted water was used for firefighting, hydrant use, distribution system leaks and unauthorized use. In 2005 the annual water charge per customer was \$804, based on an average household water use of 10,800 cubic feet.

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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

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).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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

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 can also save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

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.

Outdoors:

- 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.

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				Byram Lake		Leonard Park Wells		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Chloride (ppb)	1/3/05	250	NA	0.055	NA	25.1	NA	No	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Manganese (ppb)	1/3/05	300	NA	2.3	NA	29.7	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination
Sodium (ppb)	1/3/05	NA ¹	NA	26,000	NA	14,000	NA	No	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate (ppb)	1/3/05	250	NA	11	NA	22.7	NA	No	Naturally occurring
Turbidity (NTU) ²	1/3/05	TT	NA	0.5	0.2-0.5	0.5	0.2-0.5	No	Soil runoff

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

SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	RANGE (LOW-HIGH)	HOMES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppb)	7/23/05	1.3	1.3	0.898	0.044-1.68	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	7/23/05	15	0	5.7	ND-8.2	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES		Byram Lake		Leonard Park Wells	
SUBSTANCE (UNITS)	DATE SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Calcium (ppb)	1/3/05	1,900	NA	3,000	NA
Hardness (ppb)	1/3/05	67	NA	110	NA
Ortho Phosphorus (ppb)	1/3/05	0.14	NA	0.37	NA
pH (ppb)	1/3/05	7.30	NA	7.49	NA
Total Phosphorus (ppb)	1/3/05	0.20	NA	0.72	NA

¹ Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

² Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.