

**ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2010**  
**TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS**  
**MORRISONVILLE WATER DISTRICT**  
**MORRISONVILLE/CLINTON COUNTY/NEW YORK**  
**(PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID#0900226)**

**INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Morrisonville Water District 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 our water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report, or concerns about your drinking water, please contact Donald R. Rabideau, Water Maintenance Mechanic at (518) 563-0966. He will be happy to discuss any drinking water issues that you may have.

**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 FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Morrisonville Water District serves approximately 1,300 individuals through 286 service connections. About 7 of the service connections are for several businesses including; a bar, a construction company, auto repair shops, an elementary school and the fire department. Total water produced in 2010 was 22,959,378 gallons. The Daily average of water production is approximately 62,903. The source of drinking water from the Morrisonville Water District is ground water drawn from three drilled wells. Well #2 was shut down in October 2009 until it can be repaired, as it was pumping too much sand. The well water is disinfected with chlorine prior to distribution. The Morrisonville Water District is still adding polyphosphate, an iron-sequestering agent to the water. The purpose of this treatment is to alleviate the discoloration on clothing and fixtures which is caused by iron and manganese.

**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, nitrite, volatile organic compounds, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented 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 the contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. As you can see by the table on page 2, some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline (800-426-4791), or the Clinton County Health Department at (518) 565-4870.

**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 populations. At risk are immuno-compromised individuals with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders. These individuals should seek advice from their doctor 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 as well as other information on this subject. Some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Town of Schuyler Falls 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 thirty seconds to two 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 is available as well as other information on this subject from the Safe Drinking Water hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO CONSERVE WATER

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

Conserving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers and also 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.

Here are some helpful hints on how you can play a role in conserving water in your household:

\*Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons per cycle regardless of how many dishes are loaded. Make sure your dishwasher is loaded to capacity.

\*Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

\*Check every faucet for leaks. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. You can save almost 6,000 gallons per year by fixing leaky faucets.

\* 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.

### TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violati on Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected Avg/Max Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCLTT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<i><b>Inorganic Contaminants</b></i>							
<u>Copper (1)</u>	No	08/28/08	90 <sup>th</sup> %=0.19 Range=0.03to 0.20	mg/l	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of Natural Deposits
<u>Lead (2)</u>	No	08/28/08	90 <sup>th</sup> =BRL Range=BRL to 3	ug/l	15	15	Corrosion of Natural Deposits. Household plumbing
<i><b>Inorganic Contaminants</b></i>							
<b>Barium</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>12/23/09</b>	<b>0.090</b>	mg/l	2	2	Erosion of natural Deposits
<i><b>Volatile Organic Chemicals</b></i>							
<u>Bromodichloromethane</u>	No	12/23/09	0.6	ug/l	5	5	By Product of drinking water /chlorination
<i><b>Disinfection By Products</b></i>							
<u>THM (Total Trihalomethanes)</u>	No	8/18/2010	4.5	ug/l	80	80	By Product of drinking water /chlorination

#### Notes

1-The level and copper levels presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 10 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 and copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was 0.019 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2-The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the ten samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

**MCL's** are set as close to the **MCLG's** 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. **MCLG's** 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.

**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)

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

**BRL: Below Reportable Limit**

**What does this information mean?**

As you can see by the table, 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.

**IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS**

**NOTES: Water quality of all wells met current Health Department Requirements. The Town collects samples for coli form and E. coli analysis each month. No samples taken tested positive for 2010. Full test results are available at Town of Schuyler Falls Town Hall-997, Mason Street-Morrisonville.**

**SUMMARY**

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 section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" 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 3 drilled wells, two that are up and running. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a high susceptibility to microbial and nitrates. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are also rated as having a medium-high susceptibility to halogenated solvents, herbicides/pesticides, metal, other industrial inorganic, petroleum products and protozoa. These ratings were given because the wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils do not provide adequate protection from potential contamination.

Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbial, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the NYS drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of this assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us.