

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015
Town of Kingsbury
210 Main Street, Hudson Falls, NY 12839
Public Water Supply Identification Number NY5722361

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Town of Kingsbury 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 drinking water met all State drinking water health standards. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to New York State standards. Our constant goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. If you have any questions concerning this report or concerning your drinking water please contact: *Mr. James M. Chase Sr., Water Superintendent, Town of Kingsbury, 210 Main Street, Hudson Falls, NY 12839; Telephone (518) 747-6231.* We want our valued customers to be informed about their water service. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board meetings. They are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month, 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, 210 Main Street, Hudson Falls, NY 12839; Telephone (518) 747-2188. Effective May 1, 2016 the Town Offices will be moving to 6 Michigan Street.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Town of Kingsbury purchases its water from the Town of Queensbury, which is treated surface water from the Hudson River. Water is pumped from the river into a complete treatment facility. The treatment process at the Queensbury Water Treatment Plants consists of chlorination to protect against contamination from harmful bacteria and other organisms; coagulation using alum to cause small particles to stick together when the water is mixed, making larger heavier particles; sedimentation allows the newly formed larger particles to settle out naturally; filtration removes smaller particles by trapping them in sand filters; pH adjustment for corrosion control; post chlorination to prevent bacterial contamination.

At our Pumping Station where we have our inter-connect with the Queensbury water supply we have an automatic chlorination system in the pump station to boost the chlorine residual in the water as it goes into our distribution system.

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 in some cases, radioactive material, 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 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.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYS Department of Health has evaluated the Hudson River's susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraph below. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this water supply. The Queensbury Water District provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

Based on documented polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) contamination of sediments upstream of the intake, the raw water is tested quarterly for PCBs. During 2015, PCB's were not detected in source or finished drinking water. It should also be noted that rivers in general are highly sensitive to microbial contaminants.

A copy of the full Source Water Assessment, including a map of the assessment area, is available for review by contacting us at the number provided in this report.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Town of Kingsbury provides water through 371 service connections to a population of approximately 4,500 people. We purchased 47,495,000 gallons of water from Queensbury in 2015. We billed 37,455,637 gallons. Unaccounted water amounted to 10,039,363 gallons. The difference (20%) between the volume billed and the total volume purchased is water used firefighting, flushing of the water distribution system and water lost to leaks. The water rates are as follows: Residential \$50.00 per quarter includes 10,000 gallons; over 10,000 gallons billed at \$2.75 per 1000; Commercial \$62.50 per month includes 12,500; over 12,500 gallons billed at \$2.75 per 1000; any Commercial Accounts over 4 units pay \$7.25 per unit and are given 1,500 more gallons per unit. Those outside the district pay 25% more.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

In accordance with State regulations, the Town of Kingsbury and the Queensbury Water District routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous contaminants. We test your drinking water for inorganic contaminants, radiological contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, and synthetic organic contaminants. In addition, we test 5 samples for coliform bacteria each month. The table presented below depicts which contaminants were detected in your drinking water. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old and is noted.

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 pose 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 New York State Department of Health Glens Falls District Office at (518) 793-3893.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the tables pages 3 & 4 our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected; however, these compounds were detected below New York State requirements. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2015, Kingsbury was in compliance with applicable State drinking water monitoring and reporting requirements. We were operating under an administrative order to install a chlorination system. We inject chlorine at the pump station entry point to boost chlorine levels in the distribution system.

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 about drinking water 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 microbiological pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

INFORMATION ON LEAD

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. The Town of Kingsbury 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

The Town of Kingsbury encourages water conservation. There are a lot of things you can do to conserve water in your own home. Conservation tips include:

- ◆ Only run the dishwasher and clothes washer when there is a full load
- ◆ Install faucet aerators in the kitchen and the bathroom to reduce the flow from 4 to 2.5 gallons per minute
- ◆ Water gardens and lawn for only a couple of hours after sunset
- ◆ Check faucets, pipes and toilets for leaks and repair all leaks promptly
- ◆ Take shorter showers

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In 2015 we replace a broken hydrant with a new hydrant. It was estimated that the broken hydrant leaked 900,000 gallons of water.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our system.

TOWN OF KINGSBURY TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS Public Water Supply Identification Number NY5722361						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (Quarterly samples from 2 sites on 2/4/15, 5/1/15, 8/5/15 & 11/4/15)						
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5](LRAA) ¹ Range of values for HAA5	N	23.6 17-28	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM[Total Trihalomethanes](LRAA) ¹ Range of values for TTHM	N	61.5 39-69	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (average value distribution system) (range of values for 2015)	N	0.41 0.20- 0.70	ppm	MRDLG N/A	MRDL 4	Used in the treatment and disinfection of drinking water
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (samples from 9/3/15) Range of copper concentrations	N	0.030 ² 01-0.041	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (samples from 9/3/15) Range of lead concentrations	N	5 ³ ND-7	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
NOTES:						
1. MCL for HAA5 and TTHM is based on a Locational Running Annual Average. The average shown represents the highest LRAA for 2015. The highest LRAA for the TTHMs was in the 2 nd quarter while the highest HAA5 was in the 1 st quarter of 2015.						
2. The level presented represents the 90 th percentile of 10 test sites. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested						
3. The level presented represents the 90 th percentile of 10 test sites. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested						

TOWN OF QUEENSBURY TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS
Public Water Supply Identification Number NY5600114

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants (sample data from 2/4/2015 unless otherwise noted)						
Barium	N	5	ppb	2000	2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride (sample from 2/3/ 2013)	N	5.8	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Iron (sample from 2/13/13)	N	9	ppb	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Manganese (sample from 2/13/13)	N	5	ppb	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	N	0.2	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
pH (range based on daily testing) average range	N	7.8 6.8-8.7	units		6.5-8.5	
Sodium ¹ [average of 3 samples collected 5/6/15, 8/5/15 & 11/4/15] (range of values)	N	9.3-35.1	ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate (sample from 2/13/2013)	N	11.5	ppm	N/A	250	Geology;
Zinc (sample from 2/3/ 2013)	N	6	ppb	N/A	5000	Naturally occurring
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity ² (Highest turbidity sample from 5/2/15)	N	0.12	NTU	N/A	TT=1 NTU	Soil runoff
Turbidity ² May 2015	N	100%			TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	
Total Organic Carbon³ (monthly samples from 2015)						
Treated Water (average) Range of values	N	1.92 1.5-2.5	ppm	N/A	TT	Organic material both natural and manmade; Organic pollutants, decaying vegetation
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCMR3)⁴ sample collected quarterly 2/13/15, 4/13/15, 7/16/15 & 10/15/15						
Strontium (range)	N	22-28	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorate (range)	N	44-160	ppb	N/A	N/A	Agricultural runoff
Vanadium (range)	N	0.2-0.5	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (hexavalent) (range)	N	0.03	ppb	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

NOTES-

1. Water containing more than 20 ppm should not be consumed by persons on severely restricted sodium diets.
2. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Level detected represents the highest-level detected. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred 5/2/15 (0.12 NTU). State regulations require that entry point turbidity must always be below 1.0NTU. The regulations also require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. We met the requirement 100% of the time in 2015.
3. It has been determined that with respect to raw water TOC levels and raw water alkalinity, the Queensbury WTP achieved removals that were well below the acceptable range allowed on their filter effluent.

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

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

90th Percentile Value- The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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

Running Annual Average (RAA): The RAA is calculated each quarter by taking the average of the four most recent samples collected.

Locational Running Average (LRA): The LRA is calculated by taking the average of the four most recent samples collected at each individual site.

N/A-Not applicable

