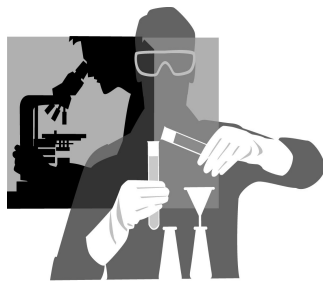


2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report City of Oswego



To comply with State regulations, City of Oswego, Town of Scriba, Town of Volney and Town of New Haven 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 has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. Last year we conducted tests for over 180 contaminants. No contaminants were found at a level higher than the State allows. 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.

We want you to be informed about your drinking water...If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water. Please contact Brian Folgherait, Plant manager at 315-343-8481.

Oswego Water Department
30 Sheldon Ave.
Oswego
New York 13126
System ID#
37-04361

Test Results Water Quality Report For City Of Oswego

Contaminant (Units)	Violation (Yes/No)	Date Tested	Detected (Maximum)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminants
Inorganics						
Copper - 90th Percentile (ppb)	No	6/12/2013	54 ug/L Range 1.5 - 130	1300 ug/L	1300 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead - 90th Percentile (ppb)	No	6/12/2013	1.9 ug/L Range 1 - 4.3	0	15 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	No	12/07/2015	0.70 mg/L	n/a	2.2 mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chloride (ppm)	No	09/10/2014	24 mg/L	n/a	250 mg/L	No health effects. The MCL for chloride is the level above which the taste of water may become objectionable
Chromium (ppb)	No	09/16/2015	1.8 ug/L	100 ug/L	100 ug/L	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppb)	No	09/16/2015	22 ug/L	2000 ug/L	2000 ug/L	Discharge of drilling waste. Discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (ppb)	No	09/16/2015	1.0 ug/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; mining operations
Sodium (ppb)	No	09/10/2014	16 mg/L	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; mining operations; road salt; water softeners; animal waste
Sulfate (ppm)	No	09/10/2014	27 mg/L	n/a	250 mg/L	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	09/16/2015	0.22 mg/L	10 mg/L	10 mg/L	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants (Metropolitan Water Board Samples)

NOTE: Radioactive Contaminants were tested in 2014 and were non-detectable.

Contaminant (Units)	Violation (Yes/No)	Date Tested	Detected (Maximum)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts						
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ug/L)	No	2015	Avg. 36.1 ug/L Range 21.2 - 60.0	n/a	80 mg/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
HAAs (Haloacetic Acids) (ug/L)	No	2015	Avg:15.2 ug/L Range 3.6-21.0	n/a	60 mg/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination. MCL effective for this compound 1/1/2002

Contaminant (Units)	Violation (Yes/No)	Date Tested	Detected (Maximum)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminants
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity (NTU)	No	2015	0.26 NTU Range 0.02 - 0.26	0.5 NTU	0.5 NTU	Solid Run-off. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of treatment of plant effectiveness

Test Results Water Quality Report for Town of Scriba

Contaminant (Units)	Violation (Yes/No)	Date Tested	Detected (Maximum)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contaminants
Inorganics						
Copper - 90th Percentile (ppb)	No	2015	120 ug/L Range 3.1-360.0	1300 ug/L	1300 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead - 90th Percentile (ppb)	No	2015	2.3ug/L Range <1.0-14.0	0	15 ug/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts						
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ug/L)	No	2015	59.8 ug/L Range 28.0-100.0	n/a	80 ug/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
HAAs (Haloacetic Acids) (ug/L)	No	2015	17.9ug/L Range 2.1-34.0	n/a	60 ug/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination. MCL effective for this compound 1/1/2002

This reporting year, we tested for 19 Inorganic compounds (metals) all were not detected unless listed above; 52 Principal Organic Contaminants (all were not detected including MTBE). More than 450 samples were tested for Total Coliform bacteria samples were negative, except for one sample that was not confirmed with repeat testing.

Water-Quality Table Footnotes

1 The levels presented for copper and lead represents the 90th percentile of the 30 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scaled 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile value is equal to or greater than 90% of the values detected in your water system. In this case 30 samples were collected and the 90th percentile value was the second highest value. The action levels for copper and lead were not exceeded at any of the 30 sites tested. Therefore our system meet corrosion control treatment, source water treatment and lead service line requirements.

* This level represents an average of the quarterly data calculated from the 16 samples collected.

** 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.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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. When water travels, it 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 the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Promote water pollution prevention in your neighborhood by organizing the cleanup of a river, lake, stream or canal in your community.

Facts and Figures

Our water system serves 29,400 people through 8000 service connections. Our water source is Lake Ontario, which is a surface water supply. During 2015, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. The water enters the Oswego Pumping station through an intake tunnel. After disinfections, filtration, and fluoridation the treated water enters the distribution system, which includes 10,300,000 gallons of tank storage. During 2015, the average daily production is 12.186 million gallons per day. Our highest single day was 15,197,000 gallons on 9/8/15. In 2015, owner occupied homes were charged \$260.00, while metered customers were charged a base rate of \$180.00 plus usage.

Source Water Assessments:

The source water assessment evaluation for the City of Oswego has been completed. The monitoring programs that have been in place for more than 20 years have demonstrated that water from Lake Ontario does not pose health risks to consumers. In fact, the results of the surface water assessment shows Lake Ontario to be characteristic of a high quality drinking water source.

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radioactive contaminants, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented on this page 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 data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, might 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 Oswego County Health Department at (315-349-3557).

Information on Fluoride Addition

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, the optimal range has been lowered by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to 0.7 mg/l (in response to cases of Fluorosis). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that we monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. Monitoring for the reporting year showed fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 100% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

Definitions:

This report is based upon tests conducted in the reporting year by Oswego Water Department. Terms used in the Water-Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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.

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

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

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Milligrams per liter (mg/l) or Parts per million (ppm): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid.

Micrograms per liter (ug/l) or Parts per billion (ppb): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid.

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

What Does This Information Mean?

As you can see by this 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.

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. Immune-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).

Information for Non-English Speaking Residents

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber.

Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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 pumping systems and water towers; and 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. So 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. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it up 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 save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances; then check the meter after 15 minutes; if it moved you have a leak.

System Improvements

This reporting year a number of plant improvements and system upgrades were undertaken. Two major projects were completed with the startup of the Riley Pump Station, plus incorporation of new filter under drains, air scrubbing system, and tube settlers.

THANK YOU for allowing us to continue to provide your family with safe quality drinking water this year.

As in past years, this quality report also covers the water supplied to the Town of Scriba. In the fourth quarter of 2004, Scriba incorporated several additional water districts and began supplementing chlorine for added disinfection at their booster stations. The chlorine addition done by the Town of Scriba was within state guidelines.