

# ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2020



## YORKTOWN CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT

1080 Spillway Road  
Shrub Oak NY 10588

Public Water Supply  
# NY5903469

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Call (914) 245-6111  
with questions  
concerning your  
drinking water

### INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Yorktown Consolidated Water District (YCWD) 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. Last year we conducted tests for over 120 contaminants. We detected 24 of those contaminants, and only found 1 of those contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at that time, our water temporarily exceeded a drinking water standard and we rectified the problem by installing a sampling station on the property service line to be more representative of water in the distribution water main (for details (see WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN section of this report). 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact our Water Quality Lab at 914-245-6111 ext. 231. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled town board meetings. The Yorktown Town Board discusses water-related issues on an as-needed basis. For more information please visit the Town's website at [www.yorktownny.org](http://www.yorktownny.org). Additionally, Board of Directors meetings, which consist of Town Supervisors from Yorktown, Montrose, Somers and Cortlandt, are held monthly. For more information regarding the Board of Director's meetings please contact Northern Westchester Joint Waterworks (N.W.J.W.W.) at 914-788-3400.

### 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, 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, inorganic, organic chemical, and radioactive contaminants, and pesticides and herbicides. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that 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.

During 2020, our major water sources were the Amawalk Reservoir, located in the Town of Somers, and the Catskill Aqueduct in the Town of Cortlandt. The Catskill Aqueduct, was shut down by NYCDEP for planned repairs from Jan. 1, 2020 to Jan. 23, 2020 and again from Nov. 30, 2020 through Dec.31, 2020. YCWD's other water source; the Amawalk Reservoir provided all water to our distribution system during these periods. Prior to distribution, water at the Catskill and Amawalk Water Treatment Plants is treated with pH adjustment, coagulation, filtration, chlorine disinfection (see INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION section of this report), and corrosion control.

The NYS Department of Health (DOH) has evaluated the susceptibility of water supplies statewide to potential contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraphs 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 potable water supply (PWS). Our water system provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

We obtain water from the New York City water supply system. Water either comes from the Catskill watersheds west of the Hudson River and/or from the Amawalk watershed in Putnam and Westchester counties. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) implements a series of programs to evaluate and protect source water quality within these watersheds. Their efforts focus on three important program areas: the enforcement of strengthened Watershed Rules and Regulations; the acquisition and protection of watershed lands; and implementation of partnership programs that target specific sources of pollution in the watersheds. Due to these intensive efforts, the SWAP methodologies applied to the rest of the state were not applied for this PWS. Additional information on the water quality and protection efforts in these New York City watersheds can be found at DEP's website: [www.nyc.gov/dep/watershed](http://www.nyc.gov/dep/watershed).

The main water quality concerns associated with land cover in these watersheds are agriculture and residential land uses which can contribute microbial contaminants, pesticides, and algae producing nutrients. There are also some concerns associated with wastewater, but advanced treatments which reduce contaminants are in place for most of these discharges. Additionally, the presence of other discrete facilities, such as landfills, chemical bulk storages, etc. could lead to some local impacts on water quality, but significant problems associated with these facilities are unlikely due to the size of the watershed and surveillance and management practices.



## FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 36,000 people through approximately 10,000 service connections. The total water produced in 2020 was 1,140 million gallons. The daily average amount of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was approximately 3.1 million gallons per day (our highest single day was 4.3 million gallons per day). The amount of water delivered to metered customers in Yorktown, Cortlandt, Somers, Putnam Valley and Mill Pond Water Districts was 810 million gallons. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 330 million gallons. This water was used for hydrant flushing, water main breaks, fire flow tests, fighting fires and leakage, and accounted for the remaining 330 million gallons (28.9% of the total amount produced).

In 2020, water customers were charged a base water rate of \$64.35 for the first 9,000 gallons of water and \$7.15 per 1,000 gallons thereafter (out of district customers paid double this amount, respectively). The average bulk rate paid by Putnam Valley was \$16.73 and Mill Pond was \$18.61. The rate of penalty charge for late payment of water charges was 10% per a four month billing period. The average annual water charge was \$577 per household.

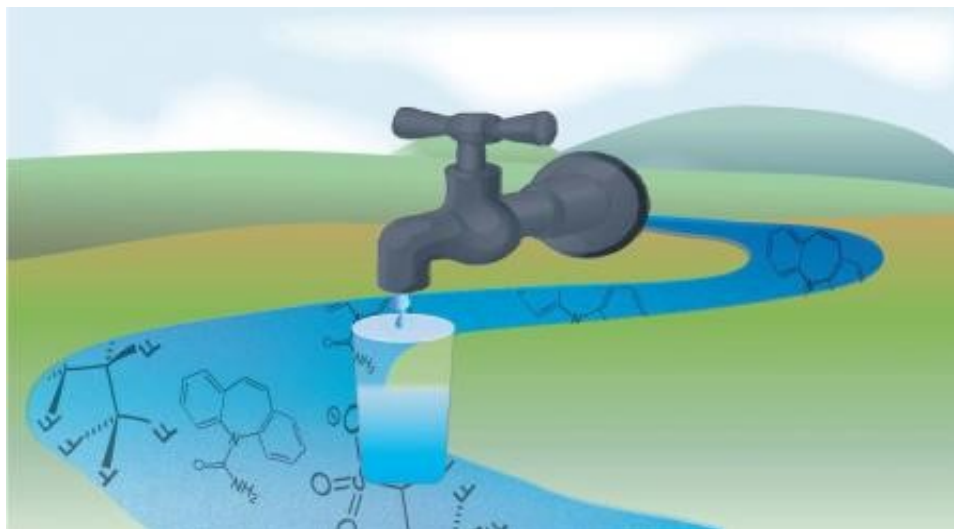
## ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulation require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds.

According to State regulations, the following lists of substances (along with test frequencies) were tested for in your drinking water and **not detected**. Bromoacetic acid and bromoform were tested quarterly from four sites. Arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, cyanide, mercury, nickel nitrite, selenium, silver, thallium and zinc were tested for annually. Bromochloromethane, bromomethane, carbon tetrachloride, chloroethane, chloromethane, dichlorodifluoromethane, 1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,1-dichloroethene, cis-1, 2-dichloroethene, trans-1, 2-dichloroethene, 1,2-dichloropropane, 1,3-dichloropropane, 2,2-dichloropropane, 1,1-dichloropropene, cis-1, 3-dichloropropene, trans-1, 3-dichloropropene, methylene chloride, 1,1,1,2-tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane, tetrachloroethene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, trichloroethene, trichlorofluoromethane, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, vinyl chloride, benzene, bromobenzene, n-butylbenzene, sec-butylbenzene, tert-butylbenzene, chlorobenzene, 2-chlorotoluene, 4-chlorotoluene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, 1,3-dichlorobenzene, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, ethyl benzene, hexachlorobutadiene, isopropylbenzene, p-isopropyltoluene, n-propylbenzene, styrene, toluene, 1,2,3-trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, 1,3,5-trichloromethylbenzen, p&m-xylene, o-xylene, methyl t-butyl ether, 1,2-dibromoethane, 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane, aldrin, dieldrin, chlordane, endrin, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, lindane, methoxychlor, toxaphene, propachlor, PCB's, 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, silvex, dalapon, dicamba, dinoseb, pentachlorophenol, pichloram, alachlor, atrazine, simazine, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, benzo(a)pyrene, di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate, aldicarb sulfoxide, aldicarb sulfone, oxamyl, methomyl, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, aldicarb, carbofuran, carbaryl, glyphosate, chloroform, dibromochloromethane, 1,2-dichloroethene, 1,2 dichlorobenzene-d4, 4-bromofluorobenzene, endothall, diquat, butachlor, bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, metochlor and metribuzin were tested annually.

The table presented on the following pages 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 of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791) and <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa> or the Westchester County DOH at (914) 813-5000 and <http://health.westchestergov.com/>.



## DETECTED SUBSTANCES

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample (Amawalk/Catskill)	Average Level Detected Amawalk (Range)	Average Level Detected Catskill (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic</b>								
Alkalinity	no	Daily	74.43 (42.80-94.80)	22.49 (9.00-62.30)	mg/L as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Hardness	no	Daily	77.20 (44.80-121.20)	23.95 (9.50-76.00)	mg/L as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
Aluminum	no	5-8-20	<0.2	<0.2	mg/L	N/A	N/A	In common water treatment chemical
Barium	no	5-8-20	0.041	0.014	mg/L	2	MCL 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	no	5-8-20	141	10.80	mg/L	N/A	MCL 250	Naturally occurring or road salt
Chlorine, Free	no	Daily	1.44 (0.59-2.69)	1.22 (0.53-2.50)	mg/L	N/A	MRDL 4	Water additive to control microbes
Fluoride *	no	5-8-20	<0.10	<0.10	mg/L	N/A	MCL 2.2	Additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate as N	no	5-8-20	0.19	0.12	mg/L	10	MCL 10	Erosion of natural deposits, fertilizer runoff
pH	no	Daily	7.67 (7.20-8.09)	7.64 (7.27-8.03)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Phosphorus, Ortho	no	Daily	0.81 (0.50-2.50)	0.79 (0.52-1.31)	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Additive to prevent corrosion
Sodium	no	5-8-20	68.20	7.24	mg/L	N/A	(20) <sup>1</sup>	Naturally occurring or road salt
Sulfate	no	5-8-20	11.8	<5.0	mg/L	N/A	MCL 250	Naturally occurring

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Average Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	# Samples	# Samples above AL	Range of results above AL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic</b>										
Copper	no	6/1/20-9/21/20	68.2 <sup>2</sup> (<2.0-106)	ug/L	1300	AL 1300	30	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	no	6/1/20-9/21/20	<1.0 <sup>3</sup> (<1.0-1.0)	ug/L	0	AL 15	30	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	Violation Yes or No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	MCLG	Regulatory Limit	Likely Source of Contaminants
Total Coliform Bacteria	no	7-9-20	1 positive sample	n/a	More than 5% of the samples are positive	Naturally present in environment

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample (Amawalk/Catkill)	Level Detected Amawalk Average (Range)	Level Detected Catskill Average (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Filtration Turbidity <sup>4</sup>	no	1/31/20-12/31/20	0.12 (0.06-0.30)	0.06 (0.04-0.13)	NTU	N/A	TT=99.88% of samples<0.3 NTU	Soil runoff.
Distribution Turbidity <sup>4</sup>	no	5 days per week	0.14 (0.05-0.58)		NTU	N/A	MCL 5.0 NTU	Soil runoff.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample (Amawalk/Catkill)	Level Detected Amawalk Average (Range)	Level Detected Catskill Average (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Synthetic Organic</b>								
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	no	10-2-20 / 10-1-20	5.2	<1.9	ng/l	N/A	MCL = 10	Released into the environment from widespread use of commercial and industrial applications,
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)	no	10-2-20 / 10-1-20	3.7	<1.9	ng/l	N/A	MCL = 10	Released into the environment from widespread use of commercial and industrial applications,
1,4-Dioxane	no	10-2-20 / 10-1-20	<0.020	<0.020	ug/l	N/A	MCL = 1	Released into the environment from widespread use of commercial and industrial applications,

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Maximum & Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Organic <sup>5</sup></b>							
Haloacetic Acids	yes	2/3/20-11/05/20	67.97 (12.0-183)	ug/L	N/A	MCL 60 (Annual Average)	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes	no	2/3/20-11/05/20	54 (21.0-72.6)	ug/L	N/A	MCL 80 (Annual Average)	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample (Amawalk/Catkill)	Level Detected Amawalk (Average & Range)	Level Detected Catskill (Average & Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive <sup>6</sup></b>								
Combined Radium 226 & Radium 228	no	9-9-15 / 7-19-12	Not detected	Not detected	pCi/L	0	MCL 5 pCi/L	Decay of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Activity	no	9-9-15 / 7-19-12	Not detected	Not detected	pCi/L	0	MCL 15	Decay of natural deposits.
Gross Beta Activity <sup>7</sup>	no	9-9-15 / 7-19-12	Not detected	Not detected	pCi/L	0	MCL 50 pCi/L	Decay of natural deposits and human-made emissions.
Total Uranium	no	9-9-15 / 7-19-12	Not detected	Not detected	ug/L	0	30 ug/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

\* NWJWW did not introduce fluoride into YCWD's potable water as per an understanding with the Westchester County DOH. Once a new fluoride injection site is constructed fluoride will once again be introduced into our distribution system. Contact Jeffrey Dahlke at 914-245-6111 ext. 231 should you have any questions.

<sup>1</sup> People on severely restricted sodium diets should not consume water containing more than 20 mg/L of sodium. Water containing more than 270 mg/L of sodium should not be used by people on moderately restrictive sodium diets.

<sup>2</sup> This level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 30 sites tested for copper in 2020. 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 30 samples collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 68.2 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. See IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS? section regarding violation.

<sup>3</sup> The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 30 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. See IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS? section regarding violation.

<sup>4</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement (0.58 NTU) for the year occurred on 1/30/20. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU.

<sup>5</sup> This level represents the highest locational running annual average calculated from data collected.

<sup>6</sup> Sample frequency every 9 years.

<sup>7</sup> The State considers 50 pCi/L to be a level of concern for Beta particles.

#### Definitions:

N/A: Not Applicable.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (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): 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).

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 microbiological 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 microbiological contamination.

Nanograms per liter (ng/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion – ppt).

## **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year.

On May 5, 2020, a water sample was collected at 2279 Crompond Rd. (the Yorktown Central Garage). It, along with sample from the other three locations, was tested for DBPs. The results showed that the sample from 2279 Crompond Rd. tested high for one particular DBP: Monochloroacetic Acid, a Haloacetic Acid (HAA5).

The Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) at this site including the May 5, 2020 sample (second quarter) was at a concentration of 0.069 mg/l, which exceeds the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 0.060 mg/l and is in violation of Part 5 Subpart 5-1, Sections 5-1.51(a) and 5-1.52 (Table 3) of the NYS Sanitary Code. The YCWD was notified of the lab results on May 27, 2020 and a resample was arranged for and collected on May 29, 2020. The resampled results showed the water from the site had returned to its normal low level for HAA5s.

### **What should I do?**

There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, or are elderly. These people may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

### **What does this mean?**

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

HAAs can form in drinking water during treatment by chlorine (the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State), which reacts with certain acids that are in naturally-occurring organic material (e.g., decomposing vegetation such as tree leaves, algae, or other aquatic plants) in surface water sources such as rivers and lakes. The amount of HAAs in drinking water can change from day to day, depending on the temperature, the amount of organic material in the water, the amount of chlorine added, and a variety of other factors. Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to public health.

Some studies suggest that people who drank chlorinated drinking water containing disinfection by-products (possibly including HAAs) for long periods of time (e.g., 20 to 30 years) have an increased risk for certain health effects. These include an increased risk for cancer. However, how long and how frequently people actually drank the water as well as how much HAAs the water contained is not known for certain. Therefore, the evidence from these studies is not strong enough to conclude that the observed increased risk for cancer is due to HAAs, other disinfection by-products, or some other factor. Studies of laboratory animals show that the individual HAAs, dichloroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid, can cause cancer following exposure to high levels over their lifetimes. Dichloroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid are also known to cause other effects in laboratory animals after high levels of exposure, primarily on the liver, kidney, and nervous system and on their ability to bear healthy offspring. The effects reported in studies of laboratory animals occur at exposures much higher than exposures that could result through normal use of the water. The risks for adverse health effects from HAAs in drinking water are small compared to the risk for illness from drinking inadequately disinfected water.

### **What is being done?**

The YCWD believes that high DBP reading was due to a number of factors. The site has 6" diameter ductile iron pipe, approximately 800' long supplying its water (a home typically has a ¾" copper line). Water usage is low at this location as it is office space. In mid-March, due to Covid-19 mandated staff reductions, water usage was further reduced by 50%. This situation continued through mid-May. Stagnation in the water line, combined with higher temperatures & reduced usage may have caused the chlorine residual in the pipe to interact with organics. This resulted in the formation of the HAA5 DBP.

With proper approvals, YCWD installed a sample station on the water line closer to the Crompond Rd. water main. Subsequent samples were more representative of the distribution system's water versus that of a long, oversized, low flow water line.

The high second quarter reading carried over into the third and fourth quarters calculations resulting in separate violations for each of those quarters. These subsequent violations were not for additional high DBP reads.

## IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We constantly test for various contaminants in the water supply to comply with regulatory requirements. This past year we monitored for Lead & Copper but failed to provide the results to the Westchester County Dept. of Health within the required time. On Nov. 04, 2020 Westchester County Department of Health determined that the Yorktown Water District was in violation of Part 5, Subpart 5-1, Sections 5-1.78 and 5-1.52 Table 13 of the New York State Sanitary Code. This failure was due to Lead & Copper Sample Results for the monitoring period ending on 09/30/20 not being submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> calendar day (October 10, 2020) following the monitoring period as required. Final Lead & Copper Results were not received by the YWD from the outside lab until 10/14/20, four days past the 10 day reporting limit. This does not pose a threat to the quality of our water system.

## DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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 from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risks of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION

Currently there is an interruption to fluoride addition. Since October 3, 2017, supplemental fluoride has not been added to your drinking water and the YCWD expects fluoride addition to be restored in 2021. You may want to discuss this with your family dentist to see if some other form of fluoride supplement should be considered for your dental protection.

On October 3, 2017 N.W.J.W.W.'s Amawalk Water Treatment Facility stopped adding fluoride to its treated water. The fluoride feed system to the Catskill facility has been offline since January 2013. Due to hydraulics associated with Yorktown's distribution system, N.W.J.W.W. cannot provide an optimal level of fluoride to all residents unless fluoride is added at both facilities. Therefore, in consultation with Westchester and NYS Health Departments, as well as Yorktown and Somers officials, the decision was made to temporarily discontinue fluoridation at the Amawalk facility. A new treatment facility has been approved by the Westchester County Department of Health and is currently under construction to replace the Catskill treatment plant's fluoridation process. . If you have any questions please contact the Yorktown Consolidated Water District's Water Quality Lab, Jeffrey Dahlke, at 914-245-6111 ext. 231.



## 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 needed to treat and deliver the water;
- \*Saving water reduces the need to construct costly new sources, pumping systems and water storage reservoirs; and,
- \*Saving water 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.

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 about 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 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, and then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.



## **INVENTORY:**

YCWD system is currently comprised of 1,700 hydrants; 1,700 hydrant valves; 1,900 street valves; 9,300 curb boxes and 180 miles of water main.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS/ON-GOING SYSTEM MAINTENANCE**

In 2020, the following distribution projects were completed:

- A total of 28 water main breaks occurred during the year;
- Over 530 fire hydrants were checked for operation and/or flushed;
- 13 hydrants were repaired/ 4 hydrants were replaced;
- 1 new fire hydrant was installed;
- Several hundred fire hydrants were painted and reflective snow markers were attached;
- 21 system valves were either installed, replaced or rebuilt as part of our valve replacement program;
- 73 curb boxes were repaired or replaced;
- 110 new water meters were installed and connected to the antennae based (automatic meter reading) system;
- 2 valve boxes were repaired;
- 2 meter pits were repaired or replaced;
- 1,781 water line “mark outs” were performed for compliance with NYS Dig Safe code regulation;
- A leak detection survey was performed by Water District staff on the entire distribution system;
- 161 backflow inspections were performed;
- 119 responses to “possible main break” calls (checked for leaks);
- 15 service lines were repaired;
- 92 water shut-off requests were addressed.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMETS EXPECTED FOR 2021**

In order to ensure that our residents receive the highest quality water, the YCWD will continue it’s ongoing water infrastructure maintenance and improvements during 2021. To this end:

- As per tank inspections performed in 2020, recommended repairs will be made accordingly;
- Water main cleaning and relining will commence in 2021;
- Our isolation valve replacement program will continue;
- Our fire hydrant replacement program will be ongoing;
- The fluoride addition facility to be completed and operational in 2021;
- Continue to replace outdated water meters for better usage accounting.

This just a snapshot of what we anticipate for the 2021. With the onset of the Covid-19 Virus in early 2020, the Yorktown Consolidated Water District (as an essential infrastructure entity) has had to adjust some of it’s improvement timelines.

## **CLOSING STATEMENT**

It is the YCWD’s mission to provide the highest quality of drinking water to all our customers. We ask everyone to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Hard copies of this report are available at the Yorktown Water District Office, the Yorktown Town Hall, the Albert A. Capellini Community and Cultural Center and the John C. Hart Library.

If you have questions concerning your drinking water, please don’t hesitate to call us at (914) 245-6111