2005
Town of Geneva
Annual Water Quality Report

Public Water Supply ID's#: 3404507, 3411902, 3420915, 3422723 and 3430003

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The Town of Geneva 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. 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 are interested in opportunities to become more involved with your water supply, the Town of Geneva holds regularly scheduled meetings at the Town Hall 3750 County Road 6 on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm.

Where Does My Water Come From, and How is it Treated?

This report shows the water quality for the Town of Geneva Districts #5, #6, #7, #8, and #9. In sequence they are the Cresence Drive area, the County Road #6 area, the North Genesee Street area, the Carter & Gambee Road area and the Castle Road area. There are 854 residents in these areas supplied with top quality drinking water from the Town of Geneva Water Department.

Our water source is supplied by the City of Geneva and is surface water from Seneca Lake. The water is treated in a variety of ways prior to distribution. The water is filtered and then disinfected through the use of chlorine. Fluoride is added to the water for the promotion of healthy teeth and gums and orthophosphate is used for corrosion control purposes.

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.

The New York State Department of Health has completed a source water assessment. This assessment found an elevated susceptibility to contamination of this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for phosphorus, disinfection by-product precursors, and pesticide contamination. While there are some facilities present, permitted discharges do not likely represent an important threat to source water quality based on their density in the assessment area, however it appears that the total amount of wastewater discharged to surface water in this assessment area is high enough to further raise the potential for contamination (particularly for protozoa). There is also noteworthy contamination susceptibility associated with other discrete contaminant sources, and these facility types include landfills.

Water Conservation

Water conservation helps the environment by preserving this natural resource. You can conserve water by:

- Checking for and repairing leaks inside and out.
- Replacing older fixtures with water saving showerheads, faucet aerators, toilet dams or low flush toilets.
- Using swimming pool covers to minimize evaporation.
- Watering lawns less frequently and preferably early in the morning or late in the evening.
- Turning off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- If you use an automatic dishwasher, waiting to run it until it is loaded to capacity.

Save Water and Money

If your water usage is higher than you or the Department believes it should be, please check the following:

1. Read the water meter the last thing in the evening, after all water usage for that evening is done, first thing in the morning, re-read your meter. If there is any change in the meter reading, this indicates a leak.
2. Check all toilets for leaks by putting food coloring into the back of each toilet tank last thing before you go to sleep. If any coloring appears in the bowl the following morning this may indicate a leak. Call your plumber to make the needed repairs. Smaller repairs may be made by the homeowner.
3. If your toilet does not have a leak, please check all faucets for leaks.
4. If you have any out building or underground water lines that run to those buildings or any distant hose bibs shut them off and try to isolate those fixtures. Now, follow the instructions under #1.

By following the above steps you can isolate and pinpoint areas where leaks may occur and locate them with little difficulty.

Leak Detection Assistance

The department is more than willing to assist its customers in locating leaks. We will be glad to help you when we have personnel available. Please call the Department at 315- 789-6727 Monday through Friday 7am to 3:30pm.

Annual Water Usage and Cost

In 2005 our total water purchased from the city was 14,100,000 gallons. Of this total the Town successfully delivered 13,800,000 gallons to consumers. Our annual "unaccounted for" total was 300,000 gallons in 2005. This is approximately 2% of the total production for the year and is attributed to main flushing, fire fighting and main breaks.
For an average family water account (using 18,000 gallons per quarter), the cost of purchasing water was $348.80 annually for 2004, equating to an annual charge of $4.85 per 1,000 gallons used or about $.97 cents a day.

This report was prepared using information from your water supplier by:

Wayland Laboratory Services
303 North Lackawanna Street, Wayland, NY 14572.