

# ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020***

***Collingwood LLC UMH NY  
358 Chambers Road  
Horseheads, NY 14845  
Public Water Supply ID# NY0700772***

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State and Federal regulations, Collingwood 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 did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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 Tim Hazlett, New York State licensed water operator, at (607) 857-2510. You can also call Linda Freedman in our office at (607) 739-4623, or the Chemung County Health Department at (607) 737-2019. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

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

Our water system serves 212 people through 102 service connections. During 2020, our wells supplied sufficient water to meet our needs.

Our 50-foot-deep South park well is classified as under the direct influence of the nearby creek, meaning the well supplies a mixture of ground water and surface water. To meet State regulations, we use a combination of filtration, ultraviolet disinfection and chlorination prior to distribution to your home.

Our 48-foot deep North well provides all water for the North park. The water is disinfected with chlorine then filtered to remove iron and manganese that would cause staining problems if not treated. There is an emergency interconnect line between the North and South systems so that each well can serve as a backup for the other.

## **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, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below 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 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 Chemung County Health Department at (607) 737-2019.

South Park - Contaminants Detected in 2020 (or most recent test)								
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	Regulatory Limit	Likely Source of Contamination	
Residual chlorine at customer taps	N	Monthly In 2020	Average 1.4 Range 0.5 – 2.4	mg/L	4 (MRDLG)	MCL=4	Added to destroy harmful germs	
Barium	N	8/2019	0.1	mg/L	2	MCL=2	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Nitrate	N	12/2020	4.4	mg/L	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks	
Sodium	N	12/2016	45	mg/L	N/A	N/A <b>Note 1</b>	Erosion of natural deposits, use of road salt, septic systems	
Total HAA (Haloacetic acids)	N	8/2020	9	ug/L	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to destroy harmful germs	
Total THMs (Trihalomethanes)	N	8/2020	14	ug/L	N/A	MCL = 80		
Turbidity Daily readings	N	Highest day(s): 1/3 2/13 3/20 4/7	0.78	NTU	N/A	TT = 5.0	Soil Runoff  Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water. We check it daily to show our filters are working properly	
Turbidity Monthly average	N	Highest monthly average	January 2020 0.6 100% < 1.0	NTU	N/A	TT= 95% less than 1.0		

North Park - Contaminants Detected in 2020 (or most recent test)								
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	Regulatory Limit	Likely Source of Contamination	
Residual chlorine at customer taps	N	Monthly in 2020	Average 1.4 Range 0.4- 2.1	mg/L	4 (MRDLG)	MRDL=4	Added to destroy harmful germs	
Barium	N	8/2019	0.2	mg/L	2	MCL=2	Erosion of natural deposits.	
Manganese	N	12/2019	27	ug/L	N/A	300	Erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate	N	12/2020	0.6	mg/L	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks	
Sodium	N	12/2019	54	mg/L	N/A	N/A <b>Note 1</b>	Erosion of natural deposits, use of road salt, septic systems	
Total HAA (Haloacetic acids)	N	8/2018	4.6	ug/L	N/A	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to destroy harmful germs	
Total THMs (Trihalomethanes)	N	8/2018	39	ug/L	N/A	MCL = 80		

**Note 1:** Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

North and South Park - Contaminants Detected in 2020 (or most recent test)								
	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	Regulatory Limit	Likely Source of Contamination
Both Parks	Copper 5 samples at customer taps <b>Note 2</b>	N	9/2019	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 0.5 Range 0.1 – 0.6	mg/L	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
	Lead 5 samples at customer taps <b>Note 2</b>	N	9/2019	90 <sup>th</sup> % = 0.8 Range ND – 1.5	ug/L	0	AI = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing

**Note 2:** Lead and copper testing is required at customer taps to show that our water does not leach dangerous levels of lead from household plumbing. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is the average of the two highest sample results. None of the samples exceeded the action level (AL) for Copper or Lead.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Collingwood 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

#### Definitions used in the table:

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

**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.

**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.

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

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

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measurement of the cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Not Applicable (N/A)**

**Not Detected (ND):** The substance was not found in the laboratory testing.

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

#### WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants were detected, but these contaminants were typically below the level allowed by New York State.

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

Last year we were cited because we forgot to collect our routine August bacteria sample in the North Park. The violation was closed when we collected our September sample on time.

Last June we were cited for losing pressure for more than 4 hours in the South Park due to a construction accident. We issued a boil advisory and explained the situation to affected residents at that time. We returned to compliance after lab testing showed the water main was free from contamination.

## **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 risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **Source Water Assessment**

The NYS DOH completed a source water assessment in 2004 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. Water suppliers and county and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning, and education programs.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from two drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium - high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state, and high-level residential activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer of unknown hydraulic conductivity.

Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State Drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of this assessment can be obtained by contacting us.

## **Closing**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please contact our office if you have questions.