

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020  
Pomfret Water District #8 – Lily Dale  
5 Melrose Park  
Lily Dale, NY 14752  
Public Water Supply ID# NY0619239*

**INTRODUCTION**

The information contained in this report is a supplement to the report prepared by the Village of Cassadaga. If you did not receive that report feel free to contact The Village Office at 716-595-3007. To comply with State regulations, Pomfret Water District #8 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.

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. On July 8, routine bacteriological samples indicated the presence of coliform bacteria in our water. Three repeat samples collected on July 13 confirmed the presence of coliform in our water system, prompting the Chautauqua County Health Department to issue a Boil Water Order. In response to this boil water order, we began working with an engineer to address the issues in our system that were contributing to the bacteria. The water mains within our water district are very old. As pipes become older, sediment and organic materials can build up in the pipes and may offer hiding spots for bacteria to grow. In September, we installed a booster chlorine disinfection system to further treat the incoming water from Cassadaga. With this booster disinfection system, we are able to increase the levels of chlorine in Lily Dale distribution pipes. Once our chlorination equipment was installed and operational, twelve bacteria samples were collected over the course of several days to ensure that the extra chlorine was removing the bacteria effectively. All 12 samples returned with results that demonstrated that the water was satisfactory for human consumption. The boil water order was lifted on September 24. We are currently working with an engineer to begin a large project to replace a majority of the water mains in Lily Dale. We expect this work to begin in 2021.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Mike Riforgiatto, Licensed Water Operator, at 716-397-0332. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend our yearly meeting in August.

**WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

Water for Pomfret Water District #8 – Lily Dale is provided by the Village of Cassadaga. The ultimate source of water provided by the Village is from three groundwater wells. More information about their water sources and treatment can be found in their Annual Water Quality Report.

**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, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and lead and copper. 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 Chautauqua County Health Department at 716-753-4481.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminant	Violation	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL/AL)	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Lead(1)	No	6/9/20	0.8 Range= ND-0.92	ug/l	15 (AL)	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural Deposits
Copper(2)	No	6/9/20	0.487 Range= 0.0076-0.491	mg/l	1.3 (AL)	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
<b>STAGE 2 DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS (Museum)</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes	No	8/12/20	38.5	ug/l	80 (MCL)	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMS are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids	No	8/12/20	3.2	ug/l	60 (MCL)	N/A	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Total Coliform	Yes	7/8/20 7/13/20 8/25/20	5 positive samples	N/A	TT = 2 or more positive samples	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
<b>DISINFECTANT</b>							
Chlorine Residual	Yes	Daily (2020)	Avg.= 0.97 Range= ND-8.8	mg/l	4.0 (MCL/MRDL)	N/A	Water additive used to control microbes

**Notes:**

- 1- The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 10 sites tested. 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 Lead values detected at your water system. In this case 10 samples were collected at your water system. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile was calculated to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest result of the 10 samples. That value was 0.8 ug/l. The action level for Lead was not exceeded at any of the sites sampled.
- 2- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites sampled. The 90th percentile was calculated to be the 2nd highest result of the 10 samples. That value was 0.487 mg/l. The action level for Copper was not exceeded at any of the sites sampled.

**Definitions:**

**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 that is 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.

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

**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).

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

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had five positive coliform bacteria samples in 2020. This includes the original failing sample on July 8 and three repeat samples collected on July 13. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. Sixteen additional samples collected from July 15 to September 1 were positive for coliform bacteria but are not shown on the table because they are not considered compliance samples. Compliance samples are samples that we are required to collect ourselves and count towards our monthly monitoring requirements. Once our chlorination equipment was installed and operational, twelve bacteria samples were collected over the course of several days to ensure that the chlorine was removing the bacteria effectively. All 12 samples returned with results that showed the water was satisfactory for human consumption and the boil water order was lifted on September 24.

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort. When we first installed our chlorine disinfection equipment, we intentionally spiked the chlorine residual to “shock” the pipes in our distribution system. This initial higher dose of chlorine seems to have worked because we received several satisfactory bacteria samples after we treated the water. We have since lowered the chlorine residual to levels well below the MRDL. If you notice any strong odor or taste of chlorine, please let us know immediately and we will investigate the situation.

We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, other than total coliform bacteria and chlorine, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. Lead and copper were detected within the system but of 10 samples collected none were found exceeding the action levels. We are however required to present the following information on Lead in drinking water:

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. Pomfret Water District #8 – Lily Dale 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>**.

The NYSDOH has a free lead testing program – for more information go to:

[https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/free\\_lead\\_testing\\_pilot\\_program](https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/free_lead_testing_pilot_program)

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

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2020, our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water operating requirements, but not monitoring and reporting requirements. The Chautauqua County Health Department issued a monitoring violation for failing to collect a 2<sup>nd</sup> set of yearly disinfection byproducts. It should be noted that this is only considered to be a minor violation. We are scheduled to perform disinfection byproduct sampling again in 2021.

We were issued one reporting violation for failing to distribute lead and copper sample results to the homes

that were tested. This was supposed to have been done within 30 days of us receiving the results from the lab. We are scheduled to collect lead and copper samples again in 2020 and will notify you immediately if there are any issues.

## **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 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**

### **Spanish**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### **French**

Ce rapport contient des informations importantes sur votre eau potable. Traduisez-le ou parlez en avec quelqu'un qui le comprend 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 new wells, pumping systems and water towers; 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 firefighting 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 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 you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

## **CLOSING**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide you and your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our residents and their families. We ask that all our residents and their families help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.