

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020

Village of Phoenix/Town of Schroepfel

**C/O 455 Main Street, Phoenix, NY 13135/69 County Route 69A, Phoenix, NY 13135
(Public Water Supply ID#s: 3704363 & 3730110)**

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Phoenix and the Town of Schroepfel, 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 James Lynch, Village Administrator or Mayor Caleb Sweet at (315) 695-2484. Residents of the Town of Schroepfel can contact the Town Supervisor, Lynett Greco, at (315) 695-4473. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Village and Town Board meetings, at which time you can discuss any drinking water issues with them in person.

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, 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 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 approximately 2,470 people through 706 service connections and has approximately 270 outside users through 92 service connections in the Town of Schroepfel. During 2019 the village constructed a new 12-inch ductile iron water main on Lock Street to improve fire flow in the business section. Our system is currently purchasing potable water from the Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA).

Liquid sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) and orthophosphate is added to the potable water supplied by OCWA and is pumped to one 750,000-gallon water tower in the village and one 300,000 gallon tank in the Town of Schroepfel.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

The New York State Department of Health has evaluated the Great Lakes' watershed to susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the following paragraphs. 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 OCWA.

The Great Lakes' watershed is exceptionally large & too big for a detailed evaluation in the SWAP. General drinking water concerns for public water supplies which use these sources include: storm generated turbidity, wastewater, toxic sediments, shipping related spills, and problems associated with exotic species (e.g. zebra mussels- intake clogging and taste and odor problems). This summary is based on the analysis of the contaminant inventory compiled for the drainage area deemed most likely to impact water quality at the OCWA intake.

This assessment found a moderate susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for pesticide contamination. Non-sanitary wastes & other discrete sources may also increase contamination potential. OCWA provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards.

Please note that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State's drinking water standards.

County and State Health Departments will use this risk assessment information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, wellhead protection, resource management, planning, and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted below.

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, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The Table of Detected Compounds at the end of this report depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. We have also attached the Annual Water Supply Statement and Consumer Confidence Report from OCWA, which represents compounds detected in the source 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 Oswego County Health Department at (315) 349-3557.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

Our system did receive one violation during 2020 for not taking the required Lead & Copper samples during the first six months of 2020. The violation has now been corrected and the next round of sampling was completed.

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 did not have any violations related to the operation of the water system.

DO I NEED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS? IS OUR WATER SAFE FOR EVERYONE?

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). Please note that testing of the water at this system has shown that this water is suitable for drinking water purposes, and contains very low amounts of contaminants and should not pose any health risks.

INFORMATION FOR NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS

Spanish:

Este reporte contiene información importante sobre el suministro de agua potable en su hogar.

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 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 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 providing 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 customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary to address improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community.

Table Of Detected Compounds

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Detected (Avg/Max Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminates							
Lead 90th percentile* Village of Phoenix	No	Dec 2020	1 (1.0 - 7.8)	ug/L	15 ug/l	AL = 15 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Copper 90th percentile* Village of Phoenix	No	Dec 2020	192 (42-479)	ug/L	1,300 ug/l	Al = 1,300 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead 90th percentile* Town of Schroepfel	No	8/26/2019	2.4 (1-3.3)	ug/L	15 ug/l	AL = 15 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Copper 90th percentile* Town of Schroepfel	No	8/26/2019	264.5 (75.3-311)	ug/L	1,300 ug/l	Al = 1,300 ug/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Barium **	No	March, September 2020	.021 mg/l (0.019-0.023)	mg/L	2mg/L	2mg/L	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Calcium **	No	March, September 2020	35.4 mg/l (34.0-36.7)	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally Occuring
Chloride**	No	March, September 2020	26.7 mg/l (25.0-28.3)	mg/L	N/A	250mg/L	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt.
Chromium-6 **	No	Oct-20	0.08	ug/l	100 ug/l	100 ug/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper**	No	March, September 2020	.004 mg/l (.0023-.0057)	mg/l	N/A	AL = 1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride ** (Sampled Daily in finished water by OCWA)	No	2020	.69 mg/l (.63-0.75)	mg/l	N/A	2.2 mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharges from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Magnesium**	No	March, September 2020	8.8 mg/l (8.7 - 8.9)	mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally Occurring

Nitrate ** (As Nitrogen)	No	Sep-20	0.33	mg/L	10 mg/L	10mg/L	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium***	No	March September 2018	18.4 mg/l (17.8 - 18.9)	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softener treatment, animal waste.
Sulfate**	No	March September 2020	23.1 mg/l (22.9 - 23.3)	mg/l	N/A	2200 mg/l	Naturally occurring.
Radioactive Contaminants **							
Alpha Emitters	No	2018	.335 pCi/l	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Emitters	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2020	0.917 pCi/l	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Radium-226	No	2018	.404 pCi/l	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2020	0.38	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Uranium	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2020	0.283	ugl	N/A	30	Erosion of natural deposits
UCMRs****							
Chlorate	No	2017	183 ug/l	ppb	N/A	N/A	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproduct; used in production of chlorine
Manganese	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2019	1.08 (ND-2.7)	ug/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring element. Commercially available in combination with other elements and minerals. Used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries, and fireworks.
HAA₆Br	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2019	7.71 (3.23-12.22)	ug/l	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA₉	No	Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2019	27.06 (8.23-51.03)	ug/l	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFOA & PFOS found at Entry Point							
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) **	No	Feb, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2020	2.3 (<1.8-3.0)	ng/l	N/A	10	Non-stick coatings, stain repellants, and firefighting foam
Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) **	No	Feb, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2020	2.5 (<1.8-2.7)	ng/l	N/A	10	Non-stick coatings, stain repellants, and firefighting foam

Disinfection By-Products

Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHM) Village of Phoenix	No	2020	54.84 (38.05-101)	ug/L	N/A	80ug/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHM) Town of Schroepfel	No	2020	61.52 (47.60-75)	ug/L	N/A	80ug/L	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 (HAA5) Village of Phoenix	No	2020	18.47 (9.9-25.40)	ug/L	N/A	60ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Town of Schroepfel	No	2020	15.65 9.70-18.80	ug/L	N/A	60ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Notes:

* – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

**The levels for these compounds were provided by OCWA as the water supplier for the Village of Phoenix.

*** Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by persons on severely restricted sodium diets.

****Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) samples are collected periodically by OCWA as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for contaminants that are suspected to be in drinking water that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

DEFINITIONS:

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

Maximum Contaminant Level – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The “Goal” (MCLG) is 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.

Non-Detects (ND or <number value) – Laboratory analysis indicates that the tested compound is not present in the sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million – ppm). Or one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L) – Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion – ppb). Or one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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