

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2014
Emerald Green Lake Louise Marie Water Company
Rock Hill, N.Y.
Public Water Supply ID# 5203346

INTRODUCTION

We are once again proud to present to you our Annual Water Quality Report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2014. We have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

To comply with State regulations, Emerald Green Lake Louise Marie Water Company is issuing our annual 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 the Water Company at 845-796-3122, the billing office at 845-796-4211 or the Health Department at 845-794-2045. 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, 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 Departments 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 2400 people through roughly 800 service connections in the vicinity of Lake Louise Marie at Rock Hill, NY. In 2014, we produced 196,082,000 gallons of water at our treatment plant. Our average daily use is 537,211 gallons per day and our highest use was 20,988,000 gallons for August 2014. Our water source is Lake Louise Marie and we have back up wells off Old Sackett Road near the office which were not used for water production this year. The water from the lake comes from many sources, underground springs, water tables, direct rain water, snow melt, and water runoff from the lake watershed area. The Lake water level is regulated by the dam system located on the northwest corner of the lake. The water from the lake is filtered through three automatic sand filters to remove turbidity and particles. The water is then disinfected with liquid sodium hypochlorite and corrosion inhibitors are added to reduce the corrosive effects of water on pipes and plumbing prior to distribution.

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological 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. We tested for Coliform bacteria twice per month in 2014 and no bacteria were found.

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 Sullivan District Office of the Health Department at 845-794-2045.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measure- ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (1)	No	9-20-12	0.42	NTU	N/A	MCL= 1.0	Soil Runoff
Iron	No	1-14-10	0.036	Mg/L	N/A	MCL=300	Natural occurring
Manganese	No	1-14-10	0.051	Mg/L	N/A	MCL=300	Natural occurring
Barium	No	12-18-14	0.030	Mg/L	2	MCL=2	Erosion of Natural deposits
Sodium (5)	No	12-18-14	46.0 Plant 45.0 Well	Mg/L	N/A	See notes	Soil Runoff from snow removal
Sulfate	No	1-14-10	6	Mg/L	N/A	MCL=250	Natural occurring
Gross Alpha Activity	No	2-6-09	1.2	pCi/L	0	MCL=15	Erosion of Natural deposits
Uranium	No	2-6-09	0.02	pCi/L	0	MCL=30	Erosion of Natural deposits
Combined Radium 226&228	No	2-6-09	1.3	pCi/L	0	MCL=5	Erosion of Natural deposits
Gross Beta particles	No	2-6-09	1.8	pCi/L	0	MCL=4	Erosion of Natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (4)	No	Quarterly average	0.028 (.0146- .0522)	Mg/l	N/A	MCL=.08	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHM's are formed where source water has large amounts of organic matter
Haloacetic Acids (4)	No	Quarterly average	.0208 (.014- .0343)	Mg/l	N/A	MCL=.06	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.

							Haloacetic acids are formed where source water has large amounts of organic matter
Copper (2)	No	11-8-14	0.26 (0.014-0.28)	Mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (3)	No	11-8-14	0.00059 (<0.0005-0.0020)	Mg/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Arsenic	No	12-18-14	0	Mg/l	0	0.01	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	12-18-14 12-18-14	<0.05 plant <0.05 well	Mg/l Mg/l	0	10	Naturally occurring

Notes:

1 – 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 for the year occurred on (9-20-12 (0.42 NTU). 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. The levels recorded were within the acceptable range allowed and did not constitute a treatment technique violation.

2 – The level presented represents the average 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 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 0.26 mg/l. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – The level presented represents the average percentile of the 10 samples collected. The 90th 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 and the 90th percentile value was 0.0059 mg/l. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

4 – This level represents the annual running quarterly average calculated from data collected.

5 - Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

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.

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

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

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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).

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

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that is longer than 10 micrometers.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

The table shows that we had no violations this year. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. A chemical orthophosphate system was added to the filter plant in 2010 which reduced water corrosiveness on water pipes and fixtures in resident's homes. Copper and lead testing that was performed since this date has confirmed its continued effectiveness. Due to this continued successful testing results, our lead and copper testing requirements have been reduced from 20 sampling sites twice per year to only 10 sites once per year.

Although in our tests for lead and copper the AL was not exceeded, we feel it is important 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. Lake Louise Marie Water Company 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>.

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. During 2014, we are proud to say our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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).

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 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 your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we need to continue to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. During 2013 we have continued to make improvements at both the water plant and throughout the distribution system. We continue to improve water quality in the distribution system by flushing the water system on a bi-yearly basis and making sure all shut-off valve and hydrants are operating properly. We have completely rebuilt two (2) of our three filters at the water plant. All three filters now operate at maximum design capacity and well within all regulatory requirements. One of the projects that we are working on for 2013 is the installation of a chlorine analyzer that monitors chlorine levels leaving the plant that will automatically sends an alarm notification to the operators in the event of an emergency situation. Within this new alarm system, we have also added new security and smoke and fire alarm equipment to protect our assets and investments. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.