

CATSKILL WATER SYSTEM  
ANNUAL  
WATER QUALITY REPORT  
PWS ID#1900026

Please take the time to read the following report. Although similar in content, each year's report contains new information about your drinking water and the system that provides it to you.

The New York State Department of Health has implemented a source water assessment program for all public water sources in the state. A summary of the assessment for our system is included at the end of this report.

Public Health Law requires that all water supply systems with greater than 1000 service connections provide their customers with annual water quality reports. The purpose of this law is to ensure that private and public water companies throughout New York State provide their customers with information regarding the quality of their water supply as well as the responsibilities, activities, and infrastructure of their water supplier. **This report covers the period from January 1 to December 31, 2012.**

Sources of drinking 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 radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human and animal activity.

The Village of Catskill had no water quality violations from the samplings done in 2012.

The Catskill water system's water source is the Potic Reservoir located in the Town of Coxsackie on Schoharie Turnpike Road. Total capacity, including three-foot spillway boards, is approximately 249 million gallons with an estimated fourteen square mile water shed area.

Contaminants that may be present in raw or source water before it is treated are microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants. **Microbial** contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. **Inorganic** contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. **Pesticides and herbicides** may come from a variety of sources, such as agricultural and residential uses. **Radioactive** contaminants are usually naturally occurring. **Organic chemical** contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban water runoff, and septic systems. **Disinfection by-products** such as trihalomethane and haloacetic acid, are a result of the water chlorination process.

The Village's water plant contains three Microfloc Trident 420 package filters, each capable of filtering 700 gallons per minute (gpm). Raw water is pumped into the plant by the raw water pumps, through a chemical feed room where caustic soda, (for Ph adjustment), PC-2300 (a coagulant), a polymer (a coagulation aid) are injected. Water then flows through the upflow clarifiers of the trident units before passing through the dual-media filters and into the clearwell below the plant. As water exits each filter, chlorine is injected for disinfection. Zinc Orthophosphate is added to the effluent line for corrosion control. Each filter is equipped with an effluent turbidmeter, which allows for monitoring of the performance of each individual filter. The filters' backwash is based on pressure loss through the filter. The clarifiers flush automatically based on time in use. Backwash water is returned to the beginning of the system for refiltering and use.

The water system lacks sufficient storage capacity near the actual service areas. A break along the main 16" transmission line or a problem at the filter plant would cause a service interruption to the entire system. We continue to look for funding through the current NYS Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Air/Clean Water Bond Act.

Connections to the system number 2200, serving and estimated 8500 people. Total water generated in 2012 at the water plant, amounts to 293 million gallons. **The last water rate increase was November 2011.** The average residential water customer used approximately 24 units per billing quarter. This represents a daily use of 195 gallons per household. Water bills inside the Village average \$356.88 per year and \$716.72 outside the Village. With sewer bills also based on the water use, we urge customers to promptly repair even the smallest intermittent leak and consider other water conservation methods such as:

- Use low flow shower heads and faucets
- Repair all leaks in your plumbing system
- Water your lawn sparingly early morning or late evening
- Do only full loads of wash and dishes
- Wash your car with a bucket and hose with a nozzle
- Do not cut the law too short; longer grass saves water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain very small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily mean the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Each year the NYS Department of Health mandates a testing program for the Village's source water and finished water. This testing program is performed by NYS certified commercial laboratories with the results reported directly to the State, as well as to the Village. Full documentation of all tests performed, the results, and maximum allowable limits are contained in a supplement available on request and on file at the Village Clerk's Office, 422 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414 or at 943-3830.

**Samples in 2012 show that the system again meets state drinking water standards for lead and copper. New copper-lead sampling is scheduled for 2015. However, some homes on the Catskill water system still have high levels of lead.** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that the 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. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush you tap for 30 seconds up to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). **LEAD IS NOT FOUND IN THE SOURCE WATER. Those few residences still having lead service pipes are urged to seriously consider their replacement.**

Some people may be more vulnerable to drinking water contaminants than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as people with cancer who are 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 about drinking water their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). **For additional information please contact:**

Shane A. Finch, Senior Sanitary Engineer  
NYS Department of Health  
28 Hill St., Suite 201  
Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3911

Village of Catskill Clerk's Office  
422 Main St.  
Catskill, NY 12414 943-3830

Lewis O'Connor  
Public Works Superintendent  
101W. Bridge St., Catskill, NY 943-5505

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS FOR  
CATSKILL WATER SYSTEM FOR THE YEAR 2012\*

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurmt.	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
Barium	No	4/19/2012	0.008	mg/l	NA	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	4/19/2012	9.86	mg/l	NA	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	No	4/19/2012	6	mg/l	NA	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	4/19/2012	16	mg/l		
THM's	No	Monthly	0.0665 0.0183-0.143	mg/l	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Lead	No	8/30/2012	90%=0.010	mg/l	NA	Corrosion of household plumbing & erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	8/30/2012	90%=0.145	mg/l	NA	Corrosion of household plumbing and naturally
HAA	No	Monthly	0.0495 0.0171-0.098	mg/l	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination


DEFINITIONS

- a) **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**-Highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- b) **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**-Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- c) **Action Level (AL)**-Concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- d) **Treatment Technique (TT)**-Required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- e) **Non-Detects (ND)** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present
- f) **NTU**-Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

MATHEMATICAL CONVERSIONS

- 1 mg/l = 1 ppm
- 1mcg/l = 1 ppb
- 1 ppm x 1000 = 1 ppb

The amounts of a contaminant allowed in drinking water are so small they are measured in ppm – equivalent to one penny in \$10,000; or ppb – equivalent to one penny in \$10,000,000.

\*The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of water quality, may be more than one year old. \*\*Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by persons on severely restricted sodium diets.

Village of Catskill  
NY1900026  
Source Water Assessment Summary

The NYS Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on the available information. Possible and actual threats to the drinking water sources 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 drinking water sources.

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. While nitrates (and other inorganic contaminants) were detected in our water, it should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonable expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants from natural sources. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The nitrate levels in our sources are not considered high in comparison with other sources in this area.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from a reservoir. The source water assessment has found substantial potential risks to drinking water quality. The amount of pasture in the assessment area results in high susceptibility for microbials. There is also a medium density of sanitary wastewater discharges, which results in medium risks for contamination, for this finding is not fully associated with other discrete contaminant sources. Finally, it should be noted that reservoirs in general are highly sensitive to phosphorus and microbial contaminants. While the source water assessment rates our reservoir as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the Village of Catskill at 422 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414, 518-943-3830.