United Water New York
360 West Nyack Road, West Nyack, NY 10994

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Important Information!

- This report contains important information about your drinking water.
- Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Dear Customer

At United Water our goal is to provide you with water that meets or surpasses all the standards for safe drinking water. These health and safety standards are set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New York State Department of Health (NYDOH) and the Rockland County Department of Health (RCDOH). Our United Water team works hard to provide you and your family with top quality water and premier service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

As part of this commitment, we regularly test water samples to be sure that your water meets the safety standards. And we're proud to let you know that it did during 2005. All the test results are on file with the NYDOH, the agency that monitors and regulates drinking water quality in our state. Both the EPA and the NYDOH require water suppliers to mail an Annual Water Quality Report to customers on an annual basis. This report provides important information about your drinking water. It shows how your drinking water measured up to government standards during 2005. Please read it carefully and feel free to call us at 845.623.1500 if you have any questions about your water or your service. You can call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791, the NYDOH at 518.402.7713 or the RCDOH at 845.364.2608. If you have specific questions about water as it relates to your personal health we suggest that you contact your health care provider.

We also have a Customer Advisory Panel which meets regularly to share their suggestions and thoughts about our service. If you would like them to address a topic that interests you or if you are interested in joining, please write them at the above address. Or you can visit us at www.unitedwater.com/uwny for additional information.

Annual Water Quality Report 2005 *(Issued May 2006)*

PWSID #NY4303673

Source Water Assessment Program

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system 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 and to the surface water source. 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 the Water Quality Table 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.

Our water is derived from 53 drilled wells, from Lake DeForest and the Letchworth reservoirs. The source water assessment has rated the drilled wells as having a high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates and industrial solvents and a high susceptibility to 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/or federal government) to the wells and the associated industrial activity in the assessment area. In addition, some of the wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils do not provide adequate protection from potential contamination.

This assessment also found Lake DeForest to have an elevated susceptibility to contamination. Due to the amount of residential lands in the assessment area, there is an elevated potential for contamination from pesticides, sediments, DBP precursors, phosphorus and microbials. There is also noteworthy susceptibility to contamination from other sources including Chemical Bulk Storage (CBS) facilities and Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) facilities. Hydrologic characteristics (e.g. basin shape and flushing rates) generally make reservoirs highly sensitive to existing and new sources of phosphorus and microbial contamination.

While the source water assessment rates our wells and Lake Deforest as being susceptible to microbials, nitrates and other contaminants, please note that our water is disinfected and treated to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us.

Susceptibility Ratings

Well Name	Well Number	Microbials	Nitrates	VOCs	Others
Spring Valley	1A	MH	H	H	H
Spring Valley	4	MH	H	H	H
Spring Valley	6	H	VH	H	H
Nanuet	13	MH	H	H	H
Tappan	16	MH	H	H	H
Spring Valley	17	MH	H	H	H
New Hempstead	18	MH	MH	MH	MH
Bardonia	19	H	H	H	H
Tappan	20	MH	MH	MH	MH
Germonds	21	MH	MH	MH	MH
Pearl River	22	MH	MH	NR	NR
New City	23	MH	H	H	MH
New Hempstead	24	H	H	H	H
Tallman	26	MH	H	H	H
River Road	27	MH	H	H	H
Viola	28	H	H	H	H
Lake Road	29A	MH	MH	H	H
Monsey	30	MH	MH	MH	MH
Monsey	31	MH	H	H	H
Wesel Road	32	MH	MH	MH	MH
Pomona	37	MH	MH	MH	MH
Pomona	38	MH	MH	MH	MH
Catamount	42A	NR	NR	NR	NR
Thiells	50	H	H	H	H
Thiells	51	H	H	H	H
Saddle River	53	NR	MH	MH	MH
Catamount	54A	NR	NR	NR	NR
Nottingham	55	MH	MH	MH	MH
Willow Tree	56	H	H	MH	MH
Norge	64	H	MH	MH	MH
Pascack Rd	65	H	VH	H	H
Elmwood	66	MH	H	H	H
Grandview	67	MH	MH	H	H
Cherry Lane	68	MH	MH	NR	NR
Pinebrook	69	MH	H	H	H
Birchwood	70	MH	MH	H	MH
Eckerson	71	H	H	MH	MH
Rustic Drive	72	MH	H	MH	MH
Lake Shore	73	MH	MH	MH	MH
Grandview	78	NR	NR	MH	MH
Westgate	79	H	H	H	H
Exkerson	82	MH	H	H	H
Grotke	83	H	H	MH	MH
Ramapo	85	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	93	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	94	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	95	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	96	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	97	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	98	VH	VH	VH	H
Ramapo	99	VH	VH	H	H
Ramapo	100	H	H	H	H
Viola	106	H	MH	MH	MH

Key: **M**edium, **H**igh, **V**ery **H**igh Susceptibility

Drinking Water Quality Table

The water quality table shows how the quality of your drinking water in 2005 compared to the standards set by the NYDOH.

Water Quality Characteristics

Inorganic Chemicals	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Arsenic ppb	0	10	1.4	ND - 9	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium ppm	2	2	0.19	0.01 - 0.56	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride ppm	NA	250	88	20 - 221	No	Natural mineral, road salt
Chromium ppb	100	100	2	ND - 7.50	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Color CU	NA	15	3	3 - 10	No	Natural mineral
Fluoride ppm	2.2	2.2	0.02	ND - 0.13	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron ppb	NA	300	21	ND - 219	No	Natural mineral
Manganese ppb*	NA	300	11	ND - 552	No	Natural mineral
Nitrate as nitrogen ppm	10	10	1.6	ND - 4.05	No	Erosion of natural deposits and fertilizer usage
Nitrite as nitrogen ppm	1	1	ND	ND - 0.01	No	Erosion of natural deposits and fertilizer usage
Odor TON	NA	3	1C	1C - 2C	No	Natural characteristic
pH	NA	6.5 - 8.5	7.5	7.0 - 7.9	No	Treatment process
Sulfate ppm	NA	250	19	14 - 29	No	Natural mineral
Zinc ppm	5	NA	ND	ND - 0.17	No	Natural mineral

*Sequestering agent used for treatment of manganese.

Organic Chemicals (volatile)	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
cis-1,2-dichloroethylene ppb	70	5	ND	ND - 1.7	No	Industrial by-product
tetrachloroethylene ppb	0	5	ND	ND - 2.3	No	Industrial by-product
1,1,1-trichloroethane ppb	200	5	ND	ND - 0.5	No	Industrial by-product
trichloroethylene ppb	0	5	ND	ND - 2.3	No	Industrial by-product
MTBE ppb	NA	50	ND	ND - 0.5	No	Petroleum additive

Other Organics	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Chlordane ppb	0	2	ND	ND - 0.2	No	Insecticide
di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate ppb	400	400	ND	ND - 1	No	Plasticizer
di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate ppb	0	6	ND	ND - 1.7	No	Plasticizer

Disinfectant Residual	MRDLG	MRDL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Distribution disinfectant residual ppm	NA	4	0.64	ND - 1.89	No	Treatment process

Disinfectant By-Products*	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Chlorate ppb (2004 data)	NA	NA	227	54 - 560	No	Disinfection by-product
TTHMs ppb quarterly running av. (TTHMs: bromoform, bromodichloromethane, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform)	NA	80	51.1	0.5 - 84.3	No	Disinfection by-product
HAA5 ppb quarterly running av. (HAA5: dibromoacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, monochloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid)	NA	60	34.9	ND - 52.8	No	Disinfection by-product
*Note: DBP max levels are site-specific.						
TOC Removal Ratio (RAA)	NA	≥1	1.09	1.07 - 1.14	No	Naturally present in the environment

Microbiologicals	MCLG	MCL	Average Result	Range of Results	Violation	Likely Source
Total coliforms (% in monthly samples)	0	<5% monthly with TT	0.2%	0 - 1.3%	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity TU (value well) ^	NA	5	0.26	0.06 - 0.5	No	Sediment, iron oxide

	MCLG	MCL	Max Level Found	Detections	Range of Violation	Likely Source
Turbidity TU (monthly avg plant) ^		TT=1NTU	0.41	0.04 - 0.41	No	Soil runoff
	NA	TT=95% <0.3NTU	99.8%	99.8% - 100%		

^Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Copper and Lead	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	Samples Above AL	Violation	Likely Source
Copper ppm (2004)	1.3	1.3	0.4	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead ppb (2004)	0	15	2.7	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Other Substances	Average Result	Range of Results	Likely Source
Aluminum ppb	69	ND - 200	Treatment process
Hardness (as CaCO3) ppm	210	88 - 418	Natural mineral
Sodium ppm #	39	5 - 94	Natural mineral, road salt
Total dissolved solids ppm	336	132 - 754	Natural mineral

#Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used by people on severely restricted sodium diets.

About Your Water Supply

United Water's public water system identification number is NY4303673. We provide service to more than 267,000 people in most of Rockland County. About 70 percent of our water supply is from various wells located throughout Rockland County and the remaining 30 percent is surface water supply from the Lake DeForest and Letchworth Reservoirs. In 2005, United Water produced 11,291 million gallons of water and sold 9,310 million gallons. We determined that 18 percent of the water we produced is non-revenue producing water. This is water lost due to leaks, main breaks, under-registering meters, fire fighting, hydrant flushing and theft of service.

On average about 43 inches of rain fall each year in the Hackensack River Watershed, which is the source of our surface water supply. Our supply includes both groundwater from Rockland County wells and surface water from the Lake DeForest and Letchworth Water Treatment plants. Groundwater filters naturally through the layers of the earth. It is then stored in deep, porous rocks called "aquifers." Surface water is water from reservoirs, rivers, lakes and streams. This type of water, unlike groundwater, is stored on the earth's surface.

The New York Public Service Commission sets water rates to cover the costs of providing service. The average residential customer uses approximately 3,000 cubic feet of water (22,440 gallons) per quarter, or approximately $460 annually (including taxes). A typical dollar pays for system improvements, operations and maintenance, taxes, interest and debt, dividends and reinvestment and depreciation costs.

Definitions:

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

CU
Color unit

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 using the best available treatment technology.

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 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 disinfectant to control microbial contamination.

NA
Not applicable.

ND
Not detected.

NTU
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

ppb
Parts per billion. The equivalent of one second in 32 years.

ppm
Parts per million. The equivalent of one second in 12 days.

pCi/L
Picocuries per liter. The equivalent of one second in 32 million years.

Primary Standards
Federal drinking water regulations for substances that are health-related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

Secondary Standards
Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

TON
Threshold Odor Number.

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

Arsenic Information

EPA has promulgated a drinking water arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion. While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

About Your Water Quality

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 and synthetic organic compounds. The Water Quality Table shows which compounds were detected in your drinking water.

Detailed analytical testing information concerning each of United Water's sources is included in a supplement to this statement. This information is available for review at the Finkelstein Memorial Library, 24 Chestnut Street, Spring Valley, New York. The phone number is 845.352.5700. Additionally, a copy of the supplement may be reviewed by contacting United Water's Customer Service Department at 845.623.1500, option 1.

About the Treatment Process

We treat both groundwater and surface water to remove impurities. Our laboratory regularly tests the quality of the water before, during and after the treatment process. We monitor it for dozens of substances and detected those listed on the Water Quality Table. We also monitor for turbidity which is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our job is to provide you and your family with water that meets all government standards for health and safety. The treatment process differs depending upon whether the water is from our wells, Lake DeForest Water Treatment Plant or Letchworth Water Treatment Plant.

Lake DeForest Water Treatment Plant

Physical treatment includes traveling screens, aeration (Dissolved Air Flotation - DAF), flocculation, sedimentation and filtration (dual media). Chemical treatment includes potassium permanganate (prior to traveling screens), anionic polymer (prior to aeration), alum (prior to flocculation), sodium hypochlorite (prior to flocculation, prior to filtration and post-filtration) and polyphosphates (post-filtration). Sodium hypochlorite is added to protect against microbiological contamination and sodium hydroxide and polyphosphates are added to reduce corrosion of metal piping and plumbing.

Letchworth Water Treatment Plant

Water comes from any one of three reservoirs that are within the Palisades Interstate Park property. The treatment process employs conventional methods including chemical addition, mixing, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, disinfection and corrosion control. The process is simular to Lake Deforest with the exception of the DAF process.

Supply from Wells

All wells are treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection and polyphosphates for corrosion control. Certain wells receive additional treatment through granular activated carbon filtration, aeration and/or ultraviolet disinfection.

To Serve You Better

During 2005 we improved our ability to move water from one area to another as demands warranted by adding booster stations. We added another source of supply with the Letchworth Water Treatment Plant which increased the water supply by 1.5 million gallons per day. These efforts help to improve the quality of your water.

Health Note

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infections by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

Conservation Tips

United Water encourages its customers to use water wisely and exercise individual responsibility. The average customer uses about 250 gallons of water every day. Be aware of how much water you use! Now more than ever, it's important to reduce your water consumption.

- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day, or almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilet for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank and watching for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. Fixing a toilet leak can save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances and then check the meter reading over a 15 minute period. If the meter moves, you have a leak.

Bottled Water or Tap Water?

Rivers, lakes, reservoirs, springs and wells are sources for both tap water and bottled water. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals. In some cases this includes radioactive material. The water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. 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 the water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that 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. So what's the bottom line? If bottled and tap water meet the standards, they are both safe to drink. However, your tap water is substantially less expensive than bottled water.