

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2020**  
**Village of Sherburne**  
**15 West State Street**  
**Sherburne, NY 13460**  
**(Public Water Supply ID# NY0801747)**

## **Introduction**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Sherburne Water Department 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 V. Crandall, Water and Sewer Superintendent, 607-674-2200**. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held the third Monday of each month and begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room located upstairs of the utility office at 15 West State Street.

## **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 2,000 individuals through 530 service connections. Our water source is groundwater drawn from two well fields. The wells are drilled into a confined / semi-confined aquifer in the Chenango River Basin. The Route 12B well field contains three 130 to 150-foot deep drilled wells and is located off NYS Route 12B just north of the NYS Route 12 and 12B intersection (Wells 1, 2 & 4). Well 1 has not been used for water supply for over 25 years and was uncoupled from the water system on 5/18/20. The Rogers Environmental Center (REC) well field contains two 120-foot deep drilled wells and is located near the northeast property corner of the NYSDEC Rogers Environmental Center, west of the Chenango River along NYS Route 80 (Wells 5 & 6). The water from both well fields is disinfected at the source by injecting, NSF approved, chlorine gas into the pump discharge line prior to distribution. Also, a liquid polyphosphate corrosion inhibitor is injected to reduce corrosion, prevent scale deposits, sequester iron and manganese, and control lead in our drinking water system. In addition to disinfection the REC well field is filtered with a Department of Health approved Greensand filtration system.

## **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 presented below depicts which compounds were tested in your drinking water in 2020. Although the water samples were analyzed for many other chemicals, no other chemicals were detected in the water samples. New York 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 Chenango County Health Department at (607-337-1673).

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants</b>							
<i>Contaminant</i>	<i>Violation Yes/No</i>	<i>Date of Sample</i>	<i>Level Detected (Range)</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
<b>Microbacteriological</b>							
Total Coliform/e-coli	No	Monthly	Absent	mg/L	0	Any positive sample	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (THMS)	No	8/5/20	Rexford falls Water Storage Tank <b>22.7</b>	µg/L	N/A	80 µg/L	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. THMS are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
			School Street Water Storage Tank <b>16.6</b>				
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	8/5/20	Rexford falls Water Storage Tank <b>3.5</b>	µg/L	N/A	60 µg/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
			School Street Water Storage Tank <b>3.2</b>				
<b>Inorganic Compounds</b>							
Arsenic <sup>1</sup>	No	8/5/20	Wells #5 & #6 <b>Post Filter &lt;0.0010</b> <b>Pre Filter 0.0120</b>	mg/L	N/A	0.010 mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits; Run-off from orchards; Glass and electronics waste.
Barium	No	3/11/19	Well #1 <b>0.145</b>	mg/L	2 mg/l	2 mg/l	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
		8/5/20	Wells #2 & #4 <b>0.0748</b>				
		8/5/20	Wells #5 & #6 <b>0.191</b>				
Nitrate	No	3/11/19	Well #1 <b>&lt;0.0500</b>	mg/L	10mg/l	10mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits and/or agricultural run-off.
		8/5/20	Wells #2 & #4 <b>0.507</b>				
		8/5/20	Wells #5 & #6 <b>&lt;0.0500</b>				
Chromium	No	8/5/20	Wells #5 & #6 0.0010	mg/L	0.1mg/l	0.1mg/l	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.

<b>Table of Detected Contaminants</b>							
<i>Contaminant</i>	<i>Violation Yes/No</i>	<i>Date of Sample</i>	<i>Level Detected (Range)</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
Copper <sup>2</sup>	No	8/7/19	0.494 (0.0612-1.02)	mg/L	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead <sup>3</sup>	No	8/7/19	0.0023 (<0.001-0.0302)	mg/L	0	.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Gross Alpha	No	8/5/15	Wells #5 & #6 1.86	pCi/L	0	15pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
		8/10/16	Wells #2 & #4 0.147				
			Well #1 0.204				
Combined radium - 226 and 228	No	8/5/15	Wells #5 & #6 0.99	pCi/L	0	5pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
		8/10/16	Wells #2 & #4 0.667				
			Well #1 1.12				
Uranium	No	8/5/15	Wells #5 & #6 0.0625	µg/L	0	30 µg/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

1 - After installation of a Department of Health approved Greensand Plus water filtration system to remove Arsenic, the Village's REC Well field was placed back in service July 2014. The Village is doing regularly scheduled testing to insure continued removal of Arsenic from the water supply.

2 - The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of 10 tested sites. 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected by your water system, ranging in concentrations from 0.0612 mg/L to 1.02 mg/L. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of collected samples is 0.494 mg/L for copper. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the test sites.

3 - The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of 10 tested sites. 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 by your water system, ranging in concentrations from <0.0010 mg/L to 0.0302 mg/L. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of collected samples is 0.0023 mg/L for lead. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the test sites.

## Definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Action Level (AL)**: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that 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.

**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 radioactivity in water.

## What does this information mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

## Is our water system meeting other rules that govern operations?

During 2020, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## Important Information Regarding Lead:

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. The Village of Sherburne 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>.

## 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).

## 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 of 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.
- ◆ Remember, leaks and unnecessary use is water that also passes through your meter and you will be billed for it. Periodically check your plumbing for leaks and promptly repair any problems, make every drop count.

## 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 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 in order to address these improvements. 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.