



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2011 Saltaire Water District: Public Water Supply ID#5103281

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations the Village of Saltaire 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 primary State drinking water health standards.** We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminate level, although the naturally occurring iron and resultant color levels at the well source, and therefore in the distribution system, did exceed the MCL. Please read the health effects for high iron and color levels in the table shown below. 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 Village Administrator Mario Posillico or Water Works Superintendent Larry Slack at (631) 583-5566 or P.O. Box 5551, Bayshore, NY 11706, or stop by the Village Office located at 103 Broadway. 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 next scheduled meeting is May 30, 2011. Please check the Village website for all other meeting dates.

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 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 an estimated 2,500 people over 412 service connections. Saltaire's water is provided from two wells; one is located on Beacon Walk (Well #1) and the other is located on Broadway (Well#2). Our wells draw from the Magothy Aquifer, which is the largest on Long Island and holds the most water, much of which is hundreds of years old. We treat the water with low concentrations of chlorine for the purposes of disinfection in the well water and within the distribution system; light soda ash to raise the PH balance of the water to make it less acidic in order to protect plumbing piping and fixtures, and sodium hexametaphosphate to sequester the naturally occurring iron in the water.

The Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for our system based on available information. Known and possible contamination sources to our drinking water source were evaluated. The 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. Our well susceptibility was rated "low" for listed contaminants including microbials, nitrates, pesticides and VOCs. A copy of that report is available upon request.

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.

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 Suffolk County Health Department at (631) 852-5810.

Table of Detected or Required Reportable Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Potential Sources in Drinking Water
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Total Coliform	No	10/26/10	1 positive sample	N/A	N/A	MCL=2 or more positive samples in one month	Naturally present in the environment
Dichloroacetic Acid	No	8/30/11	1.6	Ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.

Color	No	6/24/11	15	unit	N/A	15	The presence of metals such as copper, iron and manganese; Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
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Radium 228	No No No No	8/8/07 10/19/07 2/1/08 4/22/08	1 3.4 .8 <.06	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
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Gross Alpha	No No	6/5/07 8/20/08	<1 <1	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
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Gross Beta	No No	6/5/07 8/20/08	<1 <1	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
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Chloride	No	6/24/11	6	mg/l	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
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Iron	No	6/24/11	590	ug/l	N/A	300	Naturally Occurring
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Manganese	No	6/24/11	10	ug/l	N/A	300	Naturally occurring or indicative of landfill contamination
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Sodium	No	6/24/11	11	mg/l	N/A	270	Naturally Occurring; Road Salt; Water softeners; Animal Waste.
Sulfate	No	6/24/11	6	mg/l	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	6/24/11	30	ug/l	N/A	500	Zinc has no health effects unless detected in very high concentrations. The presence of zinc may result in an undesirable taste in drinking water.

Health Effects

Naturally occurring. Iron has no health effects. At 1,000 ug/l some people will note the bitter astringent taste of iron. Also, at this concentration, it imparts a brownish color to laundered clothing and stains plumbing fixtures with a characteristic rust color. Staining can result at levels of 50 ug/l, lower than those detectable to taste buds. Therefore, the MCL of 300 ug/l represents a reasonable compromise as adverse aesthetic effects are minimized at this level. Many multivitamins may contain 3000 or 4000 ug/l of iron per capsule.

Color has no health effects. In some instances, color may be objectionable to some people at as low as 5 units. Its presence is aesthetically objectionable and suggests that the water may need additional treatment.

As stated earlier, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants at both the source (at the wells) and after it has been through our distribution systems (the water mains). These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, disinfecting byproducts and synthetic organic compounds. Disinfecting byproducts were undetected in all test conducted.

We are also required to test specifically for lead and copper levels inside private homes to determine if the internal plumbing of these private homes are a source for these contaminants in domestic water that exceed the state maximum allowed. State regulations require that if more than 10% of the homes tested exceed the stated maximum levels, additional follow-up testing is required. None of the 10 sample sites that were tested for lead and copper from June through August 2009 exceeded the action level. The test results for the most recent samplings are as follows:

	High	Low	90 th Percentile	Action Level	# of Samples Above Action Level
LEAD	6	1	5	15 ug/l	0
COPPER	46	6	23	130 ug/l	0

The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 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 values detected at your water system. 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. Saltaire 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>.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The highest 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 disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

Millirems per year (mrem/yr): Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

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).
90th Percentile

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water:

Total Coliform

The Total Coliform rule requires water systems to meet stricter limits for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. The Village had one positive test for bacteria in 2011 from one of the testing sites, which triggered more frequent testing. All of the prior tests and subsequent increased testing came back negative for Coliform in our distribution system, indicating the likelihood of testing error, and therefore no further action was necessary.

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 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 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.

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.