

## ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025***

***Village of Windsor***

***30 Main Street***

***(Public Water Supply ID#NY0301684)***

### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Village of Windsor 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 Dave Decker, Public Works Superintendent at 222-8457. 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 first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Community House.

### **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. A source water assessment has been completed by a private consultant sponsored by the New York State Department of Health. The complete report is available for your review. A summary prepared by the Broome County Health Department has been attached. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; 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 1,500 people at about 350 service connections. Our water source is two groundwater wells each well is around 120' in depth, both wells are located at the pumphouse on Main Street and utilize the same aquifer. The water is treated with chlorine for disinfection, fluoride to help prevent cavities and with Carus 8150, for corrosion control and to help alleviate red water, prior to distribution.

## **ARE THEIR 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, radioactivity, disinfection byproducts, and emerging organic compounds. The attached table 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. The Village of Windsor sends all of our samples out to Microbac Labs for analysis.

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 Broome County Health Department at 778-2887.

## **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. It should be noted that the Action Level of 1.3 mg/l for copper was slightly exceeded in two of the twenty samples collected. Although our lead levels are below the Action Level, we are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed) and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Village of Windsor is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sample results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Dave at (607) 222-8457 with the Village of Windsor. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **EMERGING ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

### **Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctansulfonic acid (PFOS), and 1,4 Dioxane (1,4-D)**

PFOA, PFOS, and 1,4-D are relatively ubiquitous in the environment due to their historical widespread use and persistence. The New York State Health Department has instituted regulations requiring water systems to test for these contaminants.

PFOA and PFOS have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products as surface coatings and/or protectants because of their nonstick properties. Research indicates that these compounds bioaccumulate in various organisms, including fish and humans.

1,4-D has been largely used as a solvent stabilizer for chemical processing but can also be found as a purifying agent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals as well as a contaminant in ethoxylated surfactants commonly used in

consumer cosmetics, detergents, and shampoos. Research indicates that this chemical does not bioaccumulate in the food chain.

We are informing you that although our testing detected PFPeA, PFHxA, and PFBA in one of our samples in each well, it did not exceed the MCL set forth by the New York State Health Department.

## **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

During 2025, our system was in substantial compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements. Due to 2 copper samples exceeding the action level in 2024 we were required to take 20 samples every six months in 2025 for Lead and Copper. The 90th percentile level for copper was 0.3 in June 2025, and 0.5 in December 2025. The 90th percentile for Lead was 0.005 in June 2025, and 0.004 in December 2025.

## **INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY**

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. In accordance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) our system has prepared a lead service line inventory. The inventory is available upon request by contacting Dave at the Village of Windsor (607)222-8457, or via email at deck43vow@gmail.com.

## **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. Immune-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).

## **Information on Fluoride Addition**

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal target of 0.7 mg/l (parts per million). To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State<sup>3</sup> Department of Health requires that we monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2025, monitoring showed fluoride levels in your water was at or near the target level most the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

## 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 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 you and 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 to address these improvements. As you have noticed our water rates have remained unchanged from last year, in the future rates may be adjusted to cover certain mandates forced upon us by regulatory agencies, and for us to start to put away some money away to offset any matching funds for grants that the village may receive for future needed improvements. By increasing the rates we are now able to cover all of the expenses the water department has without taking any money out of the general fund, you also have noticed that we now bill four times a year instead of twice per year, this was done to help you the water user, manage the water bills easier, we still only require that meters be read twice per year, we take that reading and split the bill in half. 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 at 655-2833.