Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008

VILLAGE OF LYNDONVILLE
2 South Main Street, Lyndonville, N.Y. 14098
(Public Water Supply ID# NY3600599)

And Town of Yates Water District # 4 (PWS ID # NY3630017)

February 2009

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Lyndonville annually issues 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 has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality statement during 2008. 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 **Terry Woodworth, Water Superintendent at (585) 765-9312.** We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month at the Village Hall 2 South Main Street, Lyndonville N.Y. 14098. Customers of the Town of Yates Water District #4 may also contact **Roger Wolfe, Town of Yates Water Superintendent at (585) 765-9735** or attend Town Board meetings held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Town Hall, 8 South Main Street, Lyndonville.

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.

The Village of Lyndonville Water Treatment Plant gets its water from Lake Ontario. The water treatment plant, located in Shadigee at the northern end of Lyndonville Road, uses chlorination, coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation and a slow- [illegible] the quality of the water. Chlorination is used for disinfection. In addition, fluoride, for

sand filtration process to ensure the quality of the water. Chlorination is used for disinfection. In addition, fluoride, for the prevention of tooth decay, is added to the potable water prior to distribution to Lyndonville and Yates.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Village of Lyndonville serves approximately 1100 people through 350 service connections. In addition, the Village supplies finished water to The Town of Yates Water District # 4 which serves approximately 1768 people through 696 service connections. The total water produced in 2008 was 67,240,000 gallons. Approximately 93% of the total was billed directly to consumers. The balance, or unaccounted for water, was used for flushing mains, water plant operations, distribution system leaks, and fighting fires. The average amount of water treated and pumped into the distribution system is 183,000 gallons per day with a highest day total of 370,000 gallons in 2008.

** The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten sites tested. A percentile is a value on the 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 lead and copper values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at various sites in the distribution system and the 90th percentile value was the ninth highest value. All samples for lead and copper showed results below the action level.*

*** The state considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.*

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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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 the radioactivity in water.

The Village of Lyndonville has not exceeded MCL for total coliform during the 2008 reporting period.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. However, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

The Village of Lyndonville is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis as an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets prescribed health standards. During 2008, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

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 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.

* Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes, if it moved, you have a leak. The water department (765-9312) is available by appointments for inspection of leaks.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)

The NYS DOH has evaluated the Lyndonville water system's susceptibility to contamination under the SWAP, and their findings are summarized in the paragraphs below. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this water system. The Lyndonville water system provides treatment and monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meet all applicable standards. The Great Lakes' watershed is exceptionally large and too big for a detailed evaluation in the SWAP. General drinking water concerns for public water supplies which use these sources include: storm generated turbidity, wastewater, toxic sediments, shipping related spills, and problems associated with exotic species (e.g. Zebra Mussels-intake clogging and taste and odor problems). The summary is based on the analysis of the contaminant inventory compiled for the drainage area deemed most likely to impact drinking water quality at the Lyndonville water intake.

The assessment found a moderate susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for protozoa, DBP precursors, and pesticides contamination. While there are some facilities present, permitted discharges do not likely represent an important threat to source water quality based on their density in the assessment area. There are no noteworthy contamination threats associated with other discrete contaminant sources. A complete copy of the Lyndonville water systems SWAP is available at the Village Clerks office, 2 South Main Street.

System Improvements

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. The operation and maintenance program are critical in maintaining the quality of finished water. During 2008, for example, the Village of Lyndonville continued the water meter replacement, hydrant flushing and valve exercising programs. The Village also replaced a leased phone communication system between the water tower and water plant with a much more dependable 900 MHz wireless system. Lyndonville won the Orleans County Best Water Taste Contest again in 2008 but lost at the regional level.

The Town of Yates installed water mains on Alps Road from Woodworth Road to Yates Carlton Townline Road, the Yates Carlton Townline Road from Alps Road to Platten Road, also approximately 3000' of water main was installed connecting East Yates Center Road to Route 18. The Town also performed routine maintenance on their existing water system such as flushing dead ends, exercising main valves, etc.

Closing

The Village of Lyndonville and the Town of Yates are proud to continue providing you with clean, quality water. Please call our office at (585)765-9312 if you have any questions.