Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015
Village of Cape Vincent
31317 County Route 6 Cape Vincent, NY
(Public Water Supply ID# 2202333)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the **Cape Vincent 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.

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 source is the St. Lawrence River. During 2015, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. The water is pumped from the intake pump station to the filtration plant where a cationic polymer is added to enhance coagulation and filtering. The filtered water is then disinfected with chlorine prior to distribution.

SWAP Summary

The NYS DOH has evaluated this PWS's susceptibility to contamination under the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), and their findings are summarized in the paragraph(s) 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 PWS. This PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets 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 below is based on the analysis of the contaminant inventory compiled for the drainage area deemed most likely to impact drinking water quality at the PWS intake.

The assessment found an elevated susceptibility to contamination for this source of drinking water. The amount of agricultural lands in the assessment area results in elevated potential for microbials, DBP precursors, and pesticide 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 contamination sources.

A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting the supplier of water.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves 1,500 people through 514 service connections. The system also provides water to the Town of Cape Vincent and to the Western Regional Water Line operated by the Development Authority of the North Country (D.A.N.C.). The total amount of water produced in 2015 was 192,474,816 gallons. The daily

average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system is 527,328 gallons per day. Our highest single day (June 16) was 1,203,700 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 162,349,718 gallons. This leaves an unaccounted for total of 30,125,098 gallons (15 % of the total produced). Undetected leaks, water main breaks, hydrant flushing, fire department usage, sanitary sewer flushing, unauthorized usage, and under registering in older meters constitutes the bulk of the water loss. The Villages total production water meter was replaced due to inaccuracy in November of 2015.

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 Health Department's Watertown District Office at (315) 785 2277.

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. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Maximum) (Range)	Unit Measure	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity[1] Distribution	No	01-12 2015	AVG. 0.184	NTU	N/A	TT=<5 NTU	Particles from corrosion of water mains
Turbidity[1a] Filter Effluent	No	01-12 2015	AVG. 0.136	NTU	N/A	TT= 95% of samples <0.3 NTU	Particles too fine to filter completely.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper	No	07/15/14	0.279[2] 0.049 - 0.281	mg/l	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Lead	No	07/15/14	BRL[3] <BRL -.003	mg/l	0	AL-15	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	4/15/15	0.31	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	5/03/03	16.1	mg/l	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally Occurring
Sulfate	No	5/03/03	18.4	mg/l	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally Occurring
Barium	No	7/29/10	0.023	mg/l	2	MCL-2	Erosion of Natural Products
Manganese	No	5/03/03	0.001	mg/l	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally Occurring
Sodium[4]	No	5/03/03	12.1	mg/l	N/A	See Table Note 5	Naturally Occurring
Zinc	No	5/03/03	0.211	mg/l	N/A	MCL-5	Naturally Occurring
Disinfection Byproducts							

Total Organic Carbon Stage 1 Rule	No	01 – 12 2014	1.7 – 2.2	mg/l	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Total Trihalomethanes Stage 2 Rule	No	02,05,08,11 /2015	10.0 – 54.5	ug/l (ppb)	N/A	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids Stage 2 Rule	No	02,05,08,11 /2015	13.0 – 28.7	ug/l (ppb)	N/A	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Table Notes:

1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest average distribution turbidity measurement (0.239 NTU) for the year occurred in August. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1NTU.

1a - The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU. The average maximum filter effluent recorded at the plant in 2015 was 0.106 NTU. 100% of the filter effluent turbidities were below the MCL.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 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 copper values detected at your water system. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the ninth highest value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the ten samples collected. The action level for lead was exceeded at one of the 10 sites tested.

4 – Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

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 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.

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.

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).

Nanograms per liter (ng/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

Picograms per liter (pg/l): Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion – ppq).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

BRL: Below reporting limit – Analyte NOT DETECTED at or above the reporting limit.

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 2015, 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 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.
- 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

CLOSING

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Superintendent Marty Mason at 315-654-2474 or WTPO Gareth Hogan at 315-654-4510.

Or by email, capevincentdpw@centralny.twcbc.com
capevincentwater@centralny.twcbc.com

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2015
Development Authority of the North Country
Western Jefferson County Regional Waterline
25144 NYS Route 180 Dexter, NY 13634
(Public Water Supply ID# 2230023)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations the Development Authority of the North Country 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, we conducted tests for total coliform, total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids We detected total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids , and only found total trihalomethanes at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at that time, our water temporarily exceeded a drinking water standard and we are rectifying the problem by installing automatic hydrant flushers and reducing the amount of Chlorine used for disinfection. 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 **The Development Authority of the North Country**, 661-3210. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

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 the Villages of Chaumont, Dexter and Brownville, the Towns of Cape Vincent, Lyme and Brownville and the General Brown School. Our water source is the Saint Lawrence River. Attached is a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report as supplied by the Village of Cape Vincent. The Village of Cape Vincent supplies water to the Town of Cape Vincent's water storage tank. Located in the Town of Cape Vincent's Pump Station are two 100 horsepower pumps, which pump water through a 12-inch ductile iron pipeline to the Limerick Pump Station. At that point a 10-inch ductile iron pipeline continues to the Village of Brownville. The water is re-chlorinated as it leaves both the Town of Cape Vincent and Limerick Pump Stations prior to distribution.

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, total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. 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 New York State Health Department at 785-2277.

Disinfection Byproducts

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date of Sample**	**Level Detected Avg Range**	**Unit Measure-ment**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)**	**Health Effects**
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	Yes	2015	82.5[1] 23-140.6	ug/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	NO	2015	32.6[1] 17-48	ug/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

[1] This level represents the highest locational running average calculated from the data collected.

Microbiological

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Health Effects
Total Coliform	No	2015	0	N/A	N/A	MCL=2 or more positive samples in 1 month[2]	Naturally Present in the environment.

[2] A violation occurs at systems collecting 40 or more samples per month when more than 5% of the total coliform samples are positive. A violation occurs at systems collecting less than 40 samples per month when two or more samples are total coliform positive.

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WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. We have found elevated levels of Disinfection Byproducts (TTHM's and HAA5's) which is a result of organic compounds found in the water source reacting with Chlorine used for disinfection. The potential adverse health effects for some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The Department of Health is aware of this problem and we are working to rectify the situation.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2015, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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).

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- 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.

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- 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 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, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

The Development Authority of the North Country is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795—3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).