

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2010
Bright Acres Water District
1 Town Hall Drive – Lake Katrine, New York 12449
Public Water Supply ID# 0003408

Introduction:

To comply with State and Federal Regulations, the Bright Acres Water District 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 supply. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water standards. We are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level. 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 Paul Vogt, Water Superintendent, at 845-382-1833. If you would prefer contacting us via e-mail, our address is water_sewer@townofulster.org. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled town board meetings. The meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Town Hall.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap 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 contamination; 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 also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is drawn from one well, which is located on Elisa Landi Drive in the Town of Ulster. The water is treated with two carbon filters to remove hydrogen sulfide. Disinfection is achieved by chlorination.

Facts and Figures:

Our water system serves 108 customers through 40 service connections. The total water produced for the calendar year 2010 was 3,994,000 gallons. Daily average pumped to the system was 11,000 gallons. The amount of water delivered to customers was 2,504,800 gallons.

On July 6th, 2010 A Stage One Drought Emergency Notice was issued. On August 25th, 2010 Bright Acres Well #1 was taken out of service. An emergency water supply from The Ulster Water District thru Cherry Hill/ Sawkill Road Water District was put into service. A copy of the Town of Ulster's Annual Water Quality Report is available by contacting the Ulster Water Department at 845-382-1833.

In 2010 water rates were as follows: 1st 9000 gallons or any portion thereof \$50.61; 9001-20,000 gallons \$4.44 per thousand or portion thereof; 20,001-50,000 gallons \$4.87 per thousand or portion thereof; 50,001 gallons and above cost \$5.89 per thousand or portion thereof. The average annual water bill was \$309.00 per customer.

Are There Contaminants In Our Drinking Water?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. The contaminants include: total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The table 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 a year old.

		Table of Detected Contaminants					
Contaminant	Violation Yes / No	Date of Sample	Level Detected Average Range	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit MCL, or AL	Likely Source of Contaminant
Lead (1)	No	7/27/2010	2	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (1)	No	7/27/2010	.20	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Sulfate	No	10/6/2010	9	mg/l		MCL=250	Naturally occurring
TTHM's Trihalomethanes	No	9/30/2010	52.5	ug/L		MCL=80	By product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5's Haloacetic Acid	No	9/30/2010	8.3	ug/L		MCL=60	By product of drinking water chlorination
Barium	No	10/6/2010	0.0133	mg/l	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	No	10/6/2010	11	mg/l	N/A	MCL=250	Naturally occurring.
Iron (2)	No	10/6/2010	80	ug/l	N/A	MCL=300	Naturally occurring.
Manganese (2)	No	10/6/2010	20	ug/l	N/A	MCL=300	Naturally occurring.

Notes:

- 1-The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 4th and 5th ranked samples taken.
- 2- If iron and manganese are present, the total concentration of both should not exceed 500ug/l.

Definitions:

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Milligrams Per Liter(mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid to 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).

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a drinking water 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 health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled 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 effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Ulster County Health Department at 340-3150.

What Does This Information Mean?

As you can see by the table, our system has 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.

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 Ulster Water District 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 Water Hotline (800-426-4791)

Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations?

During 2010 our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water requirements.

Why Save Water and How Do We Avoid Wasting It?

The Bright Acres Water District currently has an adequate supply of water to meet our current demands but you may recall we had a shortage of water in July and had to issue a stage 1 drought emergency. Conservation efforts by both the town and the consumer are prudent in deterring increasing costs. As a consumer you can participate in this water conservation effort. The following are some ideas that can be directly applied to your individual homes: 1) Use water-saving, flow-restricting shower heads and low flow faucets (aerators); 2) Repair dripping faucets and toilets that seem to flush by themselves; 3) Replace your toilet with a low flush model or place a brick in your tank to reduce the volume used on each flush; 4) Water your garden and lawn only when necessary. Remember that a layer of mulch in the flower beds and garden is not only aesthetically pleasing but will help retain moisture; 5) Water your lawn after 6:00pm as this prevents water loss due to evaporation; 6) When washing your car don't let the hose run continuously; 7) When brushing your teeth, or when shaving or shampooing your hair try to avoid running the water unnecessarily; and lastly try whenever possible to wash clothes and run the dishwasher only when you have a full load.

Source Water Assessment:

The New York State Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for Well #1 and Well #2 of this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to these drinking water sources were evaluated. The state 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. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of source water, it does not mean the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters in the future.

The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government); a hazardous waste facility; a toxic chemical release facility; and low intensity residential activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer and the overlying soils do not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered to your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

A copy of this assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us at the number listed above.

System Improvements:

10/18 – Evaluations have begun with I.S.O; Ulster Hose and The Town of Ulster Water District to update our Insurance classification for the Bright Acres Water District.

Security

This water system has increased preventive security measures to protect the water supply from vandalism. The public can also assist us by reporting any suspicious activities around water department facilities or property.

Closing:

Thank you for allowing us to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have questions.

