Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023
D.C.W.W.A. Greenfields Water System
Hyde Park, NY 12538
(Public Water Supply ID# 1302794)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, DCWWA-Greenfields Water System, 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. Manganese, and PFOS were detected in Greenfields' water at levels that exceed the State Maximum Contaminant Levels. Affected resident were notified immediately after the sample results were received. 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 Hyde Park Water Plant at 845-229-2524 and ask for Alain Petit, Jr.. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more about the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority, please visit our website at WWW.DCWWA.Org. You can also reach us at (845)486-3601.

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.

The Greenfields Water System is fed through groundwater drawn from four drilled wells, three of which are in active service. Disinfection with Sodium Hypochlorite is added at the distribution Entry Point to eliminate pathogens. Orthophosphate is added at the distribution Entry Point for corrosion control. In the process of turning raw water in to a finished product, the water quality is consistently monitored every step of the way. Finished water characteristics are checked daily for iron and manganese. Treatment is optimized based on these results, and other process control sampling results made along the treatment path. The finished water is then pumped out into the distribution system for customer use. The distribution system is monitored for coliform bacteria, chlorine and phosphate residuals, iron, manganese, and other regulated parameters. A storage tank located at the Entry Point stores water for peak flow periods, and pumps into a hydro-pneumatic tank located at the Entry Point to provide pressure for the distribution system. During 2023, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 1,050 persons through 281 service connections. The total water produced in 2023 was 12,337,900 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 33,802 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 70,600 gallons in May of 2023. For information regarding the amount of water delivered to customers please call our billing department at 845-486-3601. In 2023, there were 0 water main breaks, and 1 service line leak repaired by the Authority and/ or customers. In 2023, water customers were charged $13.23 per 1,000 gallons of water with a monthly service charge of $11.50 per month for a residential service connection.

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. If you wish to have a copy of all test results for all non-detected contaminates please contact the D.C.W.W.A., and we will be happy to provide them to you. Please note that water from the Hyde Park Plant is not fluoridated. 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 at 800-426-4791, or the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health at 845-486-3404.

A Summary of the Regulated Contaminants Detected in Our Treated Water

Physical Characteristics							
Contaminants	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date Of Sample**	**Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)**	**Unit Measure-ment**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Odor	No	8/23/23	(Max) 2.3	Units	N/A	3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal, and industrial waste discharges; natural sources
pH	No	8/23/23	7.1	SU	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	No	9/05/23	(Max) 0.12	mg/L	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries
Chloride	No	8/23/23	(Max) 68.5	mg/L	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Copper (1)	No	8/25/21 - 8/31/21	0.410 (Range) 0.530 - 0.850	mg/L	N/A	AL = 1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Leaching from wood preservatives
Iron – Entry Point (2)	No	Qrtrly	(Range) 210 – 256	mg/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Iron – Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	(Range) ND - 100	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Iron – Well # 12	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 256 - 1600	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring
Lead (3)	No	8/25/21 - 8/31/21	1.8 (Range) ND - 19	ug/L	0	AL = 15	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Manganese – Entry point (4)	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 510 – 559	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination

Inorganic Contaminants (Continued)

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Manganese – Well # 9	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 906 – 1200	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Manganese – Well # 10	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 230 – 340	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Manganese – Well # 11	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 418 – 580	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Manganese – Well # 12	Yes	Qrtrly	(Range) 493 – 510	ug/L	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination
Nickel	No	4/28/22	(Max) 0.002	ug/L	N/A	100	Naturally occurring; By-product of some manufacturing processes
Nitrate – Entry Point	No	9/05/23	(Max) 0.097	mg/L	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage
Nitrate – Well # 12	No	9/05/23	(Max) 0.112	mg/L	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage
Phosphate – Entry Point	No	Cont	(Avg.) 2.97 (Range) 0.54–5.40	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Treatment chemical added for corrosion control
Phosphate – System Wide	No	Cont	(Avg.) 3.16 (Range) 1.18 – 5.14	mg/L	N/A	N/A	Treatment chemical added for corrosion control

Inorganic Contaminants (Continued)

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Sodium (5)	No	8/23/23	(Max) 44.5	mg/L	N/A	*No MCL. See foot note 5 for health effects	Naturally occurring; road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste
Sulfate	No	8/23/23	(Max) 31.2	mg/L	N/A	250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	8/23/23	(Max) 0.0482	mg/L	N/A	5	Naturally occurring; Mining Waste

Synthetic Organic Contaminants

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOS) – Well # 9 (6)	No	Qrtrly	5.45 (Range) 4.86 – 6.46	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOS) – Well # 10	Yes	Qrtrly	15.87 (Range) 11.8 – 18.5	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOS) – Well # 11	Yes	Qrtrly	39.6 (Range) 32.1 – 48.3	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOS) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	0.564 (Range) ND – 1.02	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Cont.)

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) – Well # 9	No	Qrtrly	2.89 (Range) 2.46 – 3.26	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) – Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	4.19 (Range) 3.98 – 4.45	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	6.38 (Range) 5.39 – 7.37	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	1.82 (Range) 1.41 –2.33	ng/L	N/A	10	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoro-butanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)- Well # 9	No	Qrtrly	2.45 (Range) 2.13 – 3.56	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoro-butanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)- Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	3.13 (Range) 2.74 – 3.53	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoro-butanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	5.61 (Range) 3.73 – 7.48	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluoro-butanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	1.74 (Range) 1.47 – 2.21	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Cont.)

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) – Well # 9	No	Qrtrly	2.99 (Range) 2.43 – 3.57	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) – Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	4.11 (Range) 3.91 – 4.67	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	8.34 (Range) 6.61 – 10.1	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	0.97 (Range) 0.746 – 1.25	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxS) – Well # 9	No	Qrtrly	2.90 (Range) 2.34 - 3.45	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxS) – Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	9.41 (Range) 8.11 – 10.7	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxS) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	22.8 (Range) 17.1 – 28.5	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxS) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	(Range) ND	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (cont.)

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date Of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHpA) – Well # 9	No	Qrtrly	1.01 (Range) 0.906 - 1.11	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHpA) – Well # 10	No	Qrtrly	1.73 (Range) 1.53 – 1.92	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHpA) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	2.59 (Range) 2.07 – 3.10	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHpA) – Well # 12	No	Qrtrly	0.93 (Range) 0.658 – 1.21	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA) – Well # 11	No	Qrtrly	0.340 (Range) ND – 0.679	ng/L	N/A	50,000	Released in to the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg./Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha – Entry Point	No	9/05/23	(Max) 4.57	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta – Entry Point (7)	No	9/05/23	(Max) ND	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Combined 226 and 228 Radium – Entry Point	No	9/05/23	(Max) ND	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium – Entry Point	No	9/05/23	(Max) 2.18	ug/L	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants (Cont.)							
Contaminants	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date of Sample**	**Level Detected (Avg./Max) (Range)**	**Unit Measure-ment**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Gross Alpha- Well # 12	No	9/05/23	(Max) 3.34	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta – Well # 12 (7)	No	9/05/23	(Max) ND	pCi/L	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions
Combined 226 and 228 Radium – Well # 12	No	9/05/23	(Max) 2.72	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium – Well # 12	No	9/05/23	(Max) 1.20	ug/L	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts							
Contaminants	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date Of Sample**	**Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)**	**Unit Measure-ment**	**MCLG**	**Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (8)	No	9/06/23	7.6	ug/L	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (8)	No	9/06/23	15.0	ug/L	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
Disinfection							
Contaminant	**Violation Yes/No**	**Date of Sample**	**Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)**	**Unit Measure-ment**	**MCLG MRDLG**	**Regulatory Limit MCL,TT,AL MRDL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Entry Point Chlorine Residual (9) & (10)	No	Cont.	(Avg.) 1.99 (Range) 0.33 – 3.64	mg/L	N/A	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

1 – 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, 10 samples were collected at 10 different sites from your water system. The 90th percentile value was 0.410 mg/L, which is below the Action Level of 1.3 mg/L.

2 – Iron is essential for maintaining good health. However, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. Drinking water with very large amounts of iron can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, and stomach pain. These effects usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small number of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron. People with hemochromatosis may be at a greater risk for health effects resulting from too much iron in the body, (sometimes called " iron overload"), and should be aware of their overall iron intake. The New York State standard for iron in drinking water is 0.3 mg/L, and is based on iron's effects on the taste, odor, and color of the water. Note that although the iron concentration in Well # 12 exceeded the regulatory standards, the treated water pumped out into the distribution system contained a concentration that was below the standard.

3 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites that were tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent distribution that is equal to, or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to, or greater than, 90% of the lead values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected from 10 different sites at your water system. The 90th percentile was 1.8 ug/L, which is below the Action Level of 15 ug/L.

4 – Manganese is a common element in rocks, soil, water, plants, and animals. Manganese occurs naturally in water after dissolving from rocks, and soil. Contamination of drinking water may occur if manganese gets into surface water or groundwater after dissolving from rocks and soil. It may also occur if manganese gets in to surface or groundwater after improper disposal in landfills, or by facilities using manganese in the production of steel, or other products. Manganese is an essential nutrient that is necessary to maintain good health. However, exposure to too much manganese can cause adverse health effects. There is some evidence from human studies that long term exposure to manganese in drinking water is associated with nervous system effects in adults, (eg., weakness, stiff muscles, and trembling of the hands), and children, (learning, and behaviorial). The results of these studies only suggest an effect because the possible influences of other factors were not adequately assessed. There is supporting evidence that manganese causes nervous system effects in humans from occupational studies of workers exposed to high levels of manganese in air, but the relevance of these studies to long term drinking water exposure is less clear because exposures were elevated by inhalation, not by drinking water.

5—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.

6 – PFOS caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system, and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high-level exposures to PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOSas having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOS in animals.

7 – The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.

8 – This level represents the highest running annual average, and range, calculated from data collected.

9 – The value reported represents the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL), which is a level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumers tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects. MRDLs are currently not regulated, but in the future they will be enforceable in the same manner as MCLs.

10 – Chlorine residuals are monitored continuously on water treatment plant effluent.

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 in one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion – ppt).

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, iron and manganese levels were high in some months through-out the year. Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority continues to evaluate the water system, and is currently implementing steps to improve water quality at the plant through a process referred to as sequestration. This will help reduce the amount of dirty water issues that have been present through-out the previous few years. In addition to the process changes at the plant the operators have been, and will continue to flush hydrants regularly to remove sediment from the distribution system.

PFOS concentrations in two of our source wells exceeded regulatory limits. One of these wells, Well # 11, was removed from service in 2022 due to excessive PFOS contamination, and was not used to produce any drinking water supplied to Greenfields customers in 2023. To minimize the impacts, of PFOS on our community system operators mix well sources to create a finished water blend with an estimated PFOS concentration of 6 ng/L.

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 D.C.W.W.A. 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.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2023, 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 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 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

In closing, the Board members and staff of the Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority wish to thank you for allowing us to continue 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.