

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021
Village of Belmont Water Department
5390 County Route 48
(Public Water Supply ID# NY0200314)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, The Village of Belmont 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Rick Hoshal, Village Clerk at 585-268-5522. 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 on the first and third Monday of each month AT Seven P.M at the Village Hall

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 number 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.

The Village of Belmont operates and maintains four public water supply wells. Our two primary water wells source is bank water from the Genesee River underlying the fields just west of County Road #48 across from the GVCS complex. Also, an aquifer watershed that flows from the top of Alfred Hill State Rt. #244, to the Genesee River following the valleys contour through the underlying strata of the Genesee Valley School and fields. Our two secondary water well sources come from deep wells. The Village of Belmont has a direct water filtration system capable of filtering and treating 432,000 gallons per day.

The Belmont Water Department has been testing and operating our Micro-Floc direct water filtration equipment and the SCADA operator interface controls to supply our customers with an enhanced polished water resource. The village water supply aquifer flows through an immense coarse/fine gravel field. This gravel acts as a natural filter in that it traps suspended solids from the water prior to our pumps supplying it to the plant. The highest limit of turbidity (cloudiness) permitted to leave the Belmont Water Treatment Plant is 1 NTU. Our filtration equipment automatically diverts or shuts down if their production water's sample rises to a 0.30 NTU. Please note that our raw water source is so clear that it would not normally need to be filtered to meet the turbidity standard, yet daily we monitor, filter and treat every drop. The Bureau of Water Protection has approved and monitors the use of several water treatment chemicals that are constantly added to the water in order to meet state requirements to operate our permitted treatment plant. Currently these include a polymer, EC-461 to assist in turbidity and Giardia removal. A phosphate (Carus 1000) is added to inhibit mineral leaching from pipe and tubing materials and also to aid in sequestering suspended solids from potentially discoloring the water supply. A Sodium Hypo Chlorite (Chlorine) residual is maintained throughout the public water supply to insure against bacterial coliform contamination. Every day we sample the water and check the treatment plant for levels of these chemicals to determine their effectiveness.

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, 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. 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. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. 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.

For 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 Allegany County Health Department at 585-268-9250.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	No	4/26/21	0.0326	Mg/L	Na	2Mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	No	1/14/21	1.70 highest 2021 sample	NTU	<1.0		Soil run-off
Turbidity	No	Year Avg.	0.08	NTU	Na	TT=95% of samples <= 0.3 NTU	Soil run-off
Total Organic Carbon	No	Monthly 11/2/21	1.9 highest 2021 sample	Mg/L	Na	<2.0 Mg/L	Naturally present in Environment
Nitrate	No	10/6/21	0.68	Mg/L		10 Mg/L	Land Application
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No	10/6/21	28 46	Ug/L		80 Ug/L	Byproduct of Chlorine Disinfection
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	No	10/6/21	9.3 6.4	Ug/L		60 Ug/L	Byproduct of Chlorine Disinfection
Lead	No	11/9/20 & 8/13/20	90 th %= 0.0013 (<0.0010-0.0023)	Mg/L		0.015 Mg/L (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	11/9/20& 8/13/20	90 th %=1.3 (0.09-1.8)	Mg/L		1.3 Mg/L (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits.

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, the contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the New York State Health Department.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2021 we did not sample for Bis-2 (ethylhexyl)adipate, Bis-2(ethylhexyl)phthate and Benzo(a)pyrene. Therefore, we cannot be sure of the water quality in that aspect during that time. These samples have been taken early 2022 and pose no health risk. During 2021, we were required to sample for the newly regulated contaminants PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4 Dioxane in each quarter; However, the results from quarter 1 were invalidated due to a contracted laboratory sampling error. These samples were missed in the remaining quarters of 2021. Therefore, we cannot be sure of the water quality in that aspect during that time. However, these samples were collected in quarter 1 of 2022, and pose no health risk. They will also be sampled each quarter for the remaining quarters of 2022.

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 systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about 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).

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 of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

Footnotes:

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 single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on January 14 2021 (1.70 NTU). The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measured below 0.3 NTU.

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, 21 samples we collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was 1.2 Mg/L, then the highest value (1.8 Mg/l). The action level for copper was not exceeded for Your Belmont Water system. (part 5 subpart 5-1.41(b)).

3—The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 21 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded for your Belmont Water system. (part 5 subpart 5-1.41)

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 is longer than 10 micrometers.