

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2022
Town of Dickinson Water District #3
Town of Dickinson
523-531 Old Front Street
Binghamton, New York 13905
(Public Water Supply ID#NY0301695)*

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Town of Dickinson, 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. 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 Town of Dickinson, phone 607/771-0771. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings. The meetings are held at the Town Hall on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 PM.

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 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 Town of Dickinson Water District #3 purchases its water from the City of Binghamton, which draws its water from the Susquehanna River and the Town of Chenango, which uses groundwater from a well located at the Northgate Plaza. See attached Annual Water Supply Reports from the City of Binghamton and the Town of Chenango.

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, lead & copper, and disinfection byproducts. 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 Broome County Health Department at 778-2887.

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 New York State requirements. We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

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 Town of Dickinson 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 2022, 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).

INFORMATION ON THE ADDITION OF FLOURIDE

Our system is one of many in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of Fluoride for consumer dental health protection. Fluoride is added to your water by the Binghamton Water Filtration Plant before it is delivered to us and is monitored no less than every four hours by water plant operators and laboratory personnel. According to the Center for Disease Control, Fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal level of 0.7 mg/l. During 2022, monitoring showed Fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range of 0.6 to 0.8 mg/l 100 % of the time. At no time in 2022 did the Fluoride level exceed the MCL of 2.2 mg/l.

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 house holds 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. 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. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS - Dickinson WD #3

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Sample Location	Date of Sample	Level Detected (range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper ²	No	Distribution	Jun-22	0.336 (0.0294-0.392)	mg/l	0	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
Lead ²	No	Distribution	Jun-22	3.5 (ND-10.4)	ug/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; .
Disinfection Byproducts								
Total Trihalomethanes ³	No	Distribution	7/11/2022	28.2	ug/l	N/A	80	By product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids ⁴	No	Distribution	7/11/2022	10.6	ug/l	N/A	60	By product of drinking water chlorination

Notes:

2	The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 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 lead/copper values detected at your water system.
3	This level represents the total levels of the following containments: Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Dibromochloromethane, Bromoform & Chlorodibromomethane.
4	This level represents the total levels of the following containments: Monochloroacetic Acid, Monobromoacetic Acid, Dichloroacetic Acid, Trichloroacetic Acid, & Dibromoacetic Acid.

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 which a water system must follow.
Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
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).