

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2013(Public Water Supply ID#1200248)
Andes Water District #1, P.O. Box 85, Andes, NY 13731*

INTRODUCTION

February 16, 2016

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Andes Water District #1 annually issues 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 **Mr. Shane Boice**, Delaware Operations, 845-676-3990. We want you to know about your drinking water. The Town Board and I are very proud of the improvements we have made in the system and are always open to your comments/suggestions.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Andes Water District receives its water from a spring system southeast of the hamlet and has a back-up well behind the library. In general, 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 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 NYSDOH and the FDA also regulate limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The testing of your water requires great care in treatment and monitoring. Important new regulations are the Groundwater Rule, Federal Radionuclides Rule, the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products Rule and the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. For more information about these requirements, call the Water Operators 676-3990. As stated above, our water source is a reservoir spring above Route 28 at the east end of the hamlet and a drilled well behind the Library.

OPERATIONAL CONCERNS

Our water system was safe and reliable in 2015, with the only concern being the very cold winter which caused issues with frozen laterals and mains. Since the Water District also experienced a water shortage in 2014, the loss of water due to broken laterals and mains is of significant concern. The Town continues to seek a second well and some changes to the library well. We are still applying for grant assistance in order to meet this need. The NYSDEC has notified us that we need to introduce water meters into our system. NYC has indicated that they will assist us in installing meters in the commercial properties. For all other customers, the Town Board is working on a plan to receive grant funding for the meter purchase and installation. Our current annual base rate for water is \$430.

If you have experienced frozen lines in the past, please allow your water to run at a trickle during very cold snaps. If you have questions about a frozen service, call Shane Boice at 676-3990. Every frozen service has the potential to increase your water bills but overuse or misuse of water can also increase your costs now that we have filters on our water system! Please don't waste water!

NYS SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

NYS Department of Health has completed a source water assessment on our system, including a susceptibility rating based on the risk imposed by several potential sources of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the drinking water source. This susceptibility rating is an estimate and does not mean that the water delivered to you our customers is or will become contaminated. While nitrates (and other inorganic chemicals) were detected in our water, all drinking water, even bottled water, may contain at least small amounts naturally and does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The nitrate levels, as well as those of inorganic chemicals, radiological substances and lead/copper in our system are considered low in comparison with other sources in our area.

The source water assessment has rated the well as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials and nitrates, because of the close proximity of permitted discharge facilities (agricultural facilities which discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by state/federal government), septic systems, and low intensity residential activities within the assessment area. The well draws from a confined aquifer, likely providing adequate protection from potential contamination. The spring source is rated as having a medium susceptibility to microbials and other industrial contaminants, due to pasture and row crop land covers in the assessment area, but no permitted discharge or regulated facilities. While the source water assessment rates our well and spring as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to insure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area can be obtained by contacting the Town Clerk who serves as the Clerk of the Water District.

Thank you for allowing us to provide you with quality drinking water.

Wayland "Bud" Gladstone, Andes Supervisor

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 350 people (155 customers and businesses) in the district.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. 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.

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CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE DATE	SAMPLE LOCATION	RESULTS
TRICHLOROACETIC ACID	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	1.2 UG/L
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	0.62 UG/L
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	4.4 UG/L
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAS)	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	3.1 UG/L
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	1.3 UG/L
DICHLOROACETIC ACID	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	1.9 UG/L
CHLOROFORM	7/8/2015	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	2.5 UG/L
CHLORIDE	7/8/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	267 MG/L
COLOR	7/8/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	10 UNITS
ARSENIC	7/8/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	0.0023 MG/L
BARIUM	7/8/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	1.18 MG/L
CHLORIDE	7/8/2015	SPRING WTP	27.2 MG/L
FLUORIDE	7/8/2015	SPRING WTP	0.22 MG/L
COLOR	7/8/2015	SPRING WTP	5 UNITS
BARIUM	6/05/2014	SPRING WTP	0,01 MG/L
SULFATE	6/05/2014	SPRING WTP	4.6 MG/L
CHLORIDE	11/12/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	250 MG/L
NITRATE	11/12/2015	LIBRARY WELL WTP	0.08 MG/L
NITRATE	11/12/2015	SPRING WTP	0.55 MG/L

A summary of the chemicals to be tested for in upcoming years is available at the WWTP plant 676-3990, as well as information on this report. (in the table above, UG/L represents micrograms per liter of water; MG/L represents milligrams per liter.)

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Our drinking water met state and federal regulations, but as you can see from the above chart, there are naturally occurring substances present because we utilize a surface source. We have noted very low incidence of microorganisms or pathogens. With filtration and UV treatment our water is very safe. The following caution is required by NYSDOH and the EPA: *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).*

Andes Water District
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