Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2011
Pine Hill Water District
16 Fire House Rd. Big Indian, NY 12410
Public Water Supply ID# NY5503381

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Pine Hill 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 sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. In December 2010, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. In May of 2006, Pine Hill Well #1 and Station Road Well were also tested for the same 80 contaminants. 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 **Donald T. Clark Superintendent**, (845) 254-5430. 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 the 1st Monday of each month at the Town 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 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.

Our water system serves 477 people through 160 service connections. 100% of our primary water source is the Bonnie View Springs. The water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite (bleach), soda ash for corrosive tendencies and zinc orthophosphate for corrosion inhibitor for piping and fixtures in the distribution system prior to distribution. Pine Hill well #1 (ground water) and Station Road well (ground water) are available as secondary sources.

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, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. 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 Ulster County Health Department at (845) 340-3035.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
EPA 353.2 Method						
Nitrate/Nitrate as N	No	12/8/10	0.30 mg/L	mg/L	10.0	Nitrate is the primary source of nitrogen for plants, and it occurs naturally in soil and water. Sources of excess nitrate in water include fertilizers, septic systems, wastewater treatment lagoons, animal wastes, industrial wastes and food processing wastes.
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 the level allowed by the State.						
Lead EPA Method 200.9 & Copper EPA Method 200.7						
Lead	No	06/29/11	0.0017	mg/L	0.015	Lead, a metal found in natural deposits, is commonly used in household plumbing materials and water service lines
Copper	No	06/29/11	0.0895	mg/L	1.3	Most copper contamination

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
						in drinking water happens in the water delivery system, as a result of corrosion of the copper pipes or fittings. Copper piping and fittings are widely used in household plumbing.

The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 5 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, 5 samples were collected and the 90th percentile value was 0.0895 mg/L. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 5 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

THM'S – EPA 524.2

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	No	10/19/11	0.94	ug/L	80 ug/L	Bi-product of Chlorine
Bromoform	No	10/19/11	<0.50	ug/L	80 ug/L	
Chloroform	No	10/19/11	0.90	ug/L	80 ug/L	
Dibromochloromethane	No	10/19/11	0.81	ug/L	80 ug/L	
Total Trihalomethanes		10/19/11	2.65	ug/L	80 ug/L	

HALOACETIC ACIDS IN DRINKING WATER – EPA 552.2						
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Dibromoacetic Acid	No	11/15/11	0.0010	ug/L	60 ug/L	Bi-product of Chlorine
Dichloroacetic Acid	No	11/15/11	<0.0010	ug/L	60 ug/L	
Monobromoacetic Acid	No	11/15/11	<0.0010	ug/L	60 ug/L	
Monochloroacetic Acid	No	11/15/11	0.0039	ug/L	60 ug/L	
Trichloroacetic Acid	No	11/15/11	<0.0010	ug/L	60 ug/L	
Total HAA's		11/15/11	0.0049	ug/L	60 ug/L	

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
TABLE 8B						
Barium	No	12/8/10	0.0163	mg/L	2.0 mg/L	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	No	12/8/10	0.0005	mg/L	0.1 mg/L	
TABLE 8D						
Chloride	No	10/15/07	45	mg/L	250 mg/L	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
Sodium	No	10/15/07	19.4	mg/L	---	Naturally

						occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Gross Alpha	No No	8/2/08 11/18/08	1.2 -0.05	pCi/L	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226	No No	8/2/08 11/18/08	0.15 0.09	pCi/L	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228	No No	8/2/08 11/18/08	0.56 -0.08	pCi/L	15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	No No No No	8/2/08 11/18/08 8/2/08 11/18/08	<0.51 <0.51 <0.34 <0.34	ug/l pCi/L	30 ug/L	Erosion of natural deposits

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.
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).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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 contaminates were detected below the level allowed by the State.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2011, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements on all testing with the exception of chlorine bi-products and nitrate. We are in violation of the chlorine bi-product because the testing was performed after September 30, 2011. We will retest in late summer 2012 to become compliant. Nitrate testing was not performed in 2011 and will be performed in 2012 to become compliant.

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 fire fighting 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 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

During 2011, we have interpreted the results on Bonnie View Spring House #3. With the assistance of Steve Winkley of NY Rural Water and the Ulster County Health Dept., Spring House #3 shows signs of being under the influence of surface water. We have decided in 2012 that we will disconnect Bonnie View Spring House #3 from the system and monitor Spring Houses #1 and #2 to see if they can keep up with the demand. Also Station Road well has final approval as a secondary source from the Ulster County Health Department and will be used as a back- up source should the demand arise.

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