

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024

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. 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: Mr. Ethan Bernstein, Superintendent, Telephone (845) 688-7169, E-mail Bernsteinethan1@gmail.com. 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. They are held on 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.

The Pine Hill Water District draws its water from "groundwater" sources. Groundwater or well water is stored below the surface of the earth in deep, porous rocks called "aquifers." Groundwater is purified naturally as it filters through layers of soil, clay, rock and sand. This process, known as "percolation" takes years to complete. As a result, groundwater requires less treatment than surface water. Our water source is the Bonnie View Springs. Treatment of the raw water from the springs consists of chlorination with sodium hypochlorite (bleach) for disinfection to protect against contamination from harmful bacteria and other organisms. Soda ash is added to the water for pH control along with zinc orthophosphate (a corrosion inhibitor) to protect piping and plumbing fixtures in the distribution system. Pine Hill Well #1 and Stanton Road Well serve as secondary water sources.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 478 people through 167 service connections. The total amount of water produced in 2024 was 17,162,100 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 50,300 gallons. Our single highest day was 110,700 gallons.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. In addition, we test 1 sample for coliform bacteria monthly. 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 845-340-3150.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. 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.

New York State has adopted the first in the nation drinking water standard for 1,4-Dioxane along with one of the lowest maximum contaminant levels for PFOA and PFOS. Public Water Supplies in NYS are required to test for PFOA, PFOS and 1,4-Dioxane. PFOA and PFOS have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) of 10 parts per trillion each while 1,4-Dioxane has an MCL of 1.0 parts per billion. Pine Hill Water District has completed its 4th quarter 2023 monitoring with no detects for PFOA, PFOS & 1,4-Dioxane.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2024, we were in compliance with the operating, monitoring and reporting requirements. We did not submit our lead line inventory to the state by October 2024 and were given a violation for that.

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) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is *primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing*. The Pine Hill Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, *Ethan Bernstein* (845) 688-7169 or E-mail Bernsteinethan1@gmail.com. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) requires every federally defined community and non-transient, non-community water system to develop a service line inventory (also called a lead service line inventory (LSLI)).

A Lead Service Line (LSL) is defined as any portion of pipe that is made of lead which connects the water main to the building inlet. An LSL may be owned by the water system, owned by the property owner, or both. The inventory includes both potable and non-potable SLs within a system. The Pine Hill Water District is in violation of federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) requirements for failing to provide a publicly accessible lead service line inventory and is required by New York State to provide an inventory of lead service lines, galvanized service lines and non-lead service lines. This will help determine what lines will have to be replaced.

When the inventory is completed it would be accessible at this website at:

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/service_line/NY5503381.htm

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

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.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

There were no capital improvements made to the system in 2024

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. Please call our office if you have questions.

Table of Detected Contaminants Pine Hill Water District PWS ID#NY4500187							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measure ment	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	N	11/30/22	25.4	µg/l	2000	MCL=2000	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	9/20/23	1.230 ¹	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
Range of values			0.165-1.400				
Lead		9/20/23	1.54 ²	µg/l	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Range of values			ND-12.6				
Nitrate	N	8/15/24	0.396	mg/l	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Haloacetic Acids	N	8/15/24	3.88	µg/l	N/A	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM]	N	8/17/21	6.36	µg/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.
Chlorine Residual (average) range	N	Daily	0.51 0.12-1.3	ppm	N/A	MCL=4	Water additive used to control microbes
Notes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 6 test sites. 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, 6 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the 5th sample with the second highest value (level detected 1.230 mg/l). The action level for copper was exceeded at 1 of the sites tested. 2. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of 6 test sites. 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 values detected at your water system. In this case, 6 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the 5th sample with the second highest value (level detected 1.54 µg/l). The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 6 sites tested. 							
Glossary <i>Non-Detects (ND)</i> - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present. <i>Action Level</i> - the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow. <i>90th Percentile Value</i> - The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90 th percentile. 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 90 th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system <i>Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)</i> - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000. <i>Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l)</i> - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000. <i>Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)</i> - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000. <i>Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)</i> - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water. <i>Maximum Contaminant Level</i> - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. <i>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</i> The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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. <i>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)</i> : 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. <i>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)</i> : 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. <i>N/A-Not applicable</i>							