

# *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008*

## *Revere Park Water District*

*Town of East Fishkill*

*Public Water Supply ID# NY1302798*

### **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Revere Park 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. During the period from 2004 through 2006, we conducted tests for over 85 contaminants. We detected 15 of those contaminants and only found 2 of those contaminants at a higher level than the State allows. Excess manganese was found in the water in 2006 and excess odor was found in the water in 2004. Excess manganese produces a brownish color in laundered goods and impairs the taste of tea, coffee, and other beverages. Odor has no health effects, but does affect the drink-ability of water. We are continuing to investigate the use of an alternative water source or the addition of treatment facilities to provide a long-term solution to the water quality issues. During 2008 we conducted tests for over 50 contaminants. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State. 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 **VRI Environmental Services, Inc. at (845) 677-3839**. 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 throughout the year.

### **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 a total of 77 homes. Our water source is from two drilled wells that draw from an underground aquifer along the Fishkill/Sprout Creek drainage basin. The water is disinfected with chlorine (sodium hypochlorite) prior to distribution. The Revere Park Water District Facilities produced nearly 5.8 million gallons of water for distribution throughout the year with an average daily production of approximately 15,800 gallons.

The New York State Department of Health completed a source water assessment of the water supply in 2003. The source water assessment has rated our water source as having a potential susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the reported proximity of the wells to permitted discharge facilities (facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) and the residential land use and related activities in the assessment area. The full results of this report are available from the Town of East Fishkill or the Dutchess County Department of Health. For questions regarding this report, please contact the New York State Department of Health at (518) 402-7713.

### **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, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented on the next page 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, might 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 Dutchess County Health Department at 845-486-3404.

**Table of Detected Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Chloride	No	9/04	175	mg/l	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Color	No	9/04	10	Units	N/A	15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand, and the presence of metals such as iron, manganese, and copper.
Odor	Yes	9/04	4	Units	N/A	3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources.
Mercury	No	9/07	0.0004	mg/l	.002	.002	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland.
Manganese (1)	Yes(1)	1/08	0.483	mg/l	N/A	.3	Naturally occurring. Indicative of landfill contamination.
Iron	No	1/08	0.010	mg/l	N/A	.3	Naturally occurring.
Barium	No	9/07	0.032	mg/l	N/A	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	No	4/08	2.93	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (2)	No	9/04	86.4	mg/l	N/A	N/A(2)	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Sulfate	No	9/04	32	mg/l	N/A	250	Naturally occurring.
Zinc	No	9/04	6	ug/l	N/A	5,000	Naturally occurring; Mining waste.
Copper	No	10/08	.219	mg/l	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	10/08	.007	mg/l	0	.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.

## Table of Detected Contaminants (Continued)

### Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	9/07	15.3	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's)	No	9/07	4.20	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfections needed to kill harmful organisms.

### Radioactive Contaminants

Beta particle and photon activity from man-made radionuclides	No	6/04 – 12/04	ND	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural deposits and man-made emissions.
Gross alpha activity (including radium-226 but excluding radon and uranium)	No	6/04 – 12/04	2.22 (Avg.) (ND – 2.47)	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined radium – 226 and 228	No	6/04 – 12/04	0.60 (Avg.) (ND – 1.07)	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

**Notes:**

(1) If the manganese levels continue to exceed the state limits, then treatment methods, new wells or an alternative water source will be provided.

(2) Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

**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.

**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).

**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.

## WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems in past years. Detected manganese concentrations exceeded the MCL. Excess manganese produces a brownish color in laundered goods and impairs the taste of tea, coffee, and other beverages. Concentrations may cause a dark brown or black stain on porcelain plumbing fixtures. Manganese may form a coating on distribution pipes. These may slough off, causing brown blotches on laundered clothing or black particles in the water.

We are addressing this issue by investigating the use of an alternative water source, drilling of a new well supply or

adding treatment facilities in order to provide a long-term solution to this issue.

Odor as measured by this standard procedure has no health effects; although several contaminants exert odors when they are present at levels near their MCLs. Odor is an important quality factor affecting the drink-ability of water.

### **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

During 2008, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements. According to our records, the majority water customers have water softeners installed. The Dutchess County Department of Health does not require monitoring of individual customers under the lead and copper rule for customers with softeners. If you do not currently use a water softener and wish to have the Town of East Fishkill perform lead and copper testing for you, please contact the East Fishkill Water Department at 221-2681.

### **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 10-15 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.
- ◆ Use low flow shower heads and faucets
- ◆ Water your lawn sparingly early morning or late evening
- ◆ Do only full loads of wash and dishes
- ◆

### **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 us if you have any questions.