

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023***  
***Village of Kenmore***  
***2919 Delaware Ave. Kenmore, NY 14217***  
***(Public Water Supply ID#1410142)***

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Kenmore, 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 the Village of Kenmore office at (716)873-5700 during regular business hours: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held on the first and Third Tuesdays of every month in the council chambers of the Kenmore Municipal Building.

## **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 Town of Tonawanda water source is drawn from the Niagara River through a seven-foot wide water intake connected to the Town of Tonawanda Water Treatment Plant, located at the foot of Sheridan Drive and River Road. During 2023, our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. Water purchased by the Village of Kenmore from the Town of Tonawanda is taken from five connections throughout our system. The Town of Tonawanda does issue an Annual Quality Report each year. Their 2023 AWQR is available for review at [tonwanda.ny.us/government/water-treatment.html](http://tonwanda.ny.us/government/water-treatment.html).

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

The Village of Kenmore water system serves about 15,205 people through over 5,500 service connections. The total water purchased from the Town of Tonawanda in 2023 was 463,604,000 gallons, of which 295,375,000 was metered. Firefighting, water main flushing, routine maintenance, and leaks accounted for 168,229,000 gallons of unmetered water. In 2023, water customers average

annual water charge per customer was \$5.25/1000 gallons. In June 2023 this increased to \$5.51/1000 gallons. \$35.00/first 8000 gallons or less.

## 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, haloacetic acids, radiological 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 Erie County Health Department at (716-961-6800).

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, turbidity, lead and copper and total trihalomethanes. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>DISINFECTION</b>							
Chlorine	No	Every Day	0.79/1.16	mg/L	N/A	4	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>TURBIDITY</b>	No	Weekly	0.09/0.54 <sup>1</sup>	NTU	N/A	None to exceed 1 NTU	Soil runoff
<b>DISINFECTION BY-RODUCTS</b>							
Total Trihalomethes	No	2/23 5/23 8/23 11/23	17-55	ug/L	N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	No	2/23 5/23 8/23 11/23	15-27	ug/L	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
<b>BACTERIOLOGICAL</b>							
Total Coliform	No	Weekly	0 (None Detected)	N/A		Any positive sample	Naturally present in the environment
<b>INORGANICS</b>							
Copper	No	6/10/2021	494 <sup>2</sup>	ug/L	1300	AL:1300	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	6/10/2021	2.74 <sup>3</sup>	ug/L	0	AL:15	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits

1 – Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We test it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Our highest single turbidity measurement 0.54 NTU for the year occurred on 1/03/23. State regulations require that turbidity must always be below 1 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU.

2 – 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. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

3 – 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 lead values detected at your water system. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

#### **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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)**: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Non-Detects (ND)**: Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)**: A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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).

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)**: A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

#### **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:

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Kenmore is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you

can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

During 2023, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

**Waivers** Our water system was issued a waiver for required sampling for asbestos since there is no asbestos cement pipe in our system.

## **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 FLUORIDE ADDITION**

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems 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 Town of Tonawanda before it is delivered to us. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at a properly controlled level. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the Town of Tonawanda monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis to make sure fluoride is maintained at a target level of 0.7 mg/l. During (year) monitoring showed that fluoride levels in your water were within 0.2 mg/l of the target level for 95% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/l MCL for fluoride.

## **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 firefighting 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 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.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

The Village of Kenmore maintains a vigorous and aggressive water line improvement program. Old water lines are replaced with new plastic lines throughout the village every two to three years. In 2023, 2,000 feet of 8-inch water line along with new hydrants and valves were replaced on Somerton Ave. Additionally, 6 new valves and 2 new hydrants were installed and 6 hydrants were rebuilt within the water system.

## **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.